



**Anchorage Advisory Committee
January 9, 2024
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery**

1. Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:08 pm.
2. Establish a Quorum: 11 Members.
3. Members Present:

Name	Present	Excused	Unexcused
1. Kevin Taylor	X		
2. Martin Weiser	X		
3. Willow Hetrick	X		
4. Joni Earp	X		
5. Scott Crowther	X		
6. Matt Moore		X	
7. Nicole Schmitt	X		
8. Bryce Eckroth		X	
9. Ernie Weiss	X		
10. Lynette Moreno Hinz	X		
11. J. R. Gates		X	
12. Joel Doner	X		
13. Ed Horton		X	
14. Kneeland Taylor	X		
15. Neil Dewitt	X		

4. List of User groups present: None.
5. Introduce Fish and Game staff present: Brittany Blain-Roth and Cory Stantorf.
6. Public present: None.
7. Approve the Agenda: Marty Weiser moved to approve the agenda, Neil DeWitt seconded, and it carried unanimously.
8. Cory Stantorf from ADF&G visited the Anchorage AC to discuss changes made by JBER Command for hunting on base. There have been recent changes to the way hunters can access JBER and there will be more changes upcoming as security is raised. This all pertains to the north side of the highway. The south side of the highway is remaining status quo (for now). ADFG has been able to fly most of 14C aerial moose surveys. In the eight years Cory has been here, this year was the best coverage ADFG has had.



9. Public testimony

10. New Business

- Prepare comments for Western Arctic/Western Region game proposals
- Prepare comments for Upper Cook Inlet finfish Proposals (if time permits). Upper Cook Inlet comments will be finalized at the February 6, 2024 meeting.

11. Adjourn: Martin Weiser moved to adjourn and Nicole Schmitt seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm

The next regular Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at the William Hernandez Fish Hatchery at 6 pm.

<u>Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals</u> <u>January 26-29, 2024 Kotzebue, AK</u>			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas		
Support	11	0	Support because there is no hunting opportunity in the area now and this would provide opportunity for Alaskans. Also support due to safety issues in the area related to small, skinny valleys and rifle hunting can be dangerous.
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow		
Support	11	0	Support because the herd is in peril and drastic decisions must be made to properly not only manage the herd but rehabilitate the herd. Females are dying faster than normal, and recruitment is below management parameters. Suggest ADF&G obtain accurate counts for the herd.
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A		
Support	8	3	Support because the maximum number of nonresident and non-rural harvesters is less than 1% of the herd. Oppose because



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			reduces opportunity and potential income into small communities from non-resident hunters.
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23, and reduce the bag limit		
Oppose	0	11	Opposed because the number of cows taken is too high to reach recruitment levels necessary to increase the herd population. This is less than current, but still too many caribou to sustain the herd. Because the weather is changing, more drastic measures, like proposal #2, must be taken. 1 abstain due to lack of local knowledge.
5	Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A, and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions		
Oppose	0	11	Like the idea of having nonresidents transfer from harvest ticket registration. However, as proposed, there is a large gap of hunting opportunity in the wintertime when snow machines are used as tools to provide for food insecure families and communities. Oppose because believe that this hunt should instead be a Tier 1 hunt and is similar to Proposal #2.
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18		
Support	11	0	Whereas this proposal was not well-written, the AC is strongly in support of the BoG, with Department input, take a hard look at this herd and institute strong measures to protect this resource for all Alaskans.
7	Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15		
No Action	--	--	See Proposal #8
8	Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18		
Support	11	0	Support because the Village of Kwinhagak has worked with ADF&G and has come together and suggested that they need additional time to provide for their community. With the reduction in caribou numbers available for the community, food sources. Opposed because there is a close neighboring unit as indicated where moose could be taken. Also, because moose are in the rut, and this is not a good time to take moose in general.



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9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18		
Support	11	0	Support because it will give residents more access to food opportunity and it will help with the area management. 1 abstain due to lack of knowledge about the local area needs.
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area		
Support	11	0	Support because the ADF&G is going to carefully monitor it with permits as described. Registration hunts allow for a tool for the ADF&G to properly manage in season.
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated.
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18		
Oppose	1	10	Support because this will reduce wanton waste of animals especially in an area that is liberalizing hunting and can assume that more people, potentially less experienced. Oppose because believe that a .243 is not a large enough caliber ammunition to kill the animal with the least amount of suffering. Suggest the ADF&G address this proposal and consider the appropriate caliber that lines up with similar regions. This really needs to be a statewide proposal.
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18		
Oppose	0	11	Oppose because this a large increase in birds hunted and with the cyclical nature of ptarmigan, this could later cause population implications.
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd		
Oppose	8	3	Support because musk ox can be dangerous. They can also provide an additional food source. Opposed because no scientific data and reluctant to open up hunting on a herd that has been recently established and not monitored by the ADF&G. There are federally managed musk ox hunts and believe that the feds can handle this situation. 1 abstain due to lack of knowledge of the local area and herd.
15	Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18		



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No Action	--	--	See proposal #14.
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30		
Oppose	3	8	Oppose because the IM of the area has not harvested many wolves and the wolves are not a high factor as a reason in the decline of the Mulchatna caribou herd. Support because there are too many wolves in the area and need to be managed to manage both the caribou and moose populations.
17	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18		
Oppose	2	9	Oppose because the ADF&G added bears to the predator control program and believe that there is really no good idea of what is going on in Unit 18 regarding brown bear. Suggest that the ADF&G conduct a brown bear survey of the area. Would support with additional data to support the argument. The timing of this proposal didn't lend itself to the first IM program in Unit 17 and Unit 18. Support because neonates of ungulates are targets of brown bears.
18	Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A		
Support	11	0	Support because it provides for more opportunity for harvest in the area.
19	Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated and would support traditional handicrafts.
20	Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years		
No Action	--	--	Defer to local AC.
21	Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st		
No Action	--	--	Defer to local AC.
22	Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B		
No Action	--	--	Trying to pick a caliber without saying, a minimum amount of energy is not going to be helpful. See proposal 12.
23	Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22		



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Support	6	3	Support for reasons stated. Oppose because think it's ok until proven otherwise by the biologist at the department. 2 abstentions.
24	Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A		
No Action	--	--	
25	Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C		
Support	11	0	Limits opportunity.
26	Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15		
Oppose	0	11	Do not support the earlier hunting time as proposed.
27	Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B		
Support	9	2	Support to reduce confusion as stated. It is a registration hunt so they can close it when they wish. Oppose because believe that 22D's season is too long and do not want 22E to mirror that length.
28	Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt		
No Action	--	--	
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits, or change DB685 to a registration permit		
No Action	--	--	
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A		
Support	9	0	Support to provide more economic and/or subsistence opportunity. Opposed because believe animals need a break as they are an important part of the ecosystem. 2 abstentions.
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area		
No Action	--	--	
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect		
No Action	--	--	
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years		



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Oppose	0	11	Opposed b/c believe non-residents should be put on a permit basis instead of reducing resident opportunity. Non-residents hunting numbers should be reduced first b/c reducing residents' hunters to every 4 years doesn't actually reduce the hunting pressure. Refer to Page 7 of the handy dandy where it says that if there is not enough resource, non-residents are the first to be limited in opportunity.
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area		
No Action	--	--	
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries, and expand the state hunt areas		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated.
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated.
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated.
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23		
Support	11	0	Support for reasons stated.
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season		
Oppose	6	4	Support to provide more predator control. Oppose because appreciate animals have a break to continue their lifecycle and bears are an important part of the ecosystem and provide for non-consumptive opportunity. 1 abstention.
40	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round		
No Action	--	--	See Proposal 39.
41	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round		
No Action	--	--	See Proposal 39.
42	Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit- wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit		



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Support	9	1	Support b/c it should be open in June/July that there are a lot of animals walking around that could be predated on by bears. Access to animals is so important and it is greatly compromised with a high number of predators. Oppose because the Noatak River is a heavily used float area and there are complaints that there is too much activity in the area. 1 abstension.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Willow Hetrick-Price

Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor

Date: 1/9/2024



BETHEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
ADFG BETHEL OFFICE
November 7, 2023; 6:30PM

CALL TO ORDER: 6:32PM

ROLL CALL/ ESTABLISH QUORUM: *Present:* Sam Hancock, Alissa Nadine Rogers, Jon LaValle, Michael Glore; *Absent:* Mike Riley; *Excused:* Lucinda Alexie; *Quorum Established*

INVOCATION: Moment of Silence In honor of late Robert Lekander.

ELECTIONS: 2026- Jeremy Brink; 2025- Cole Nance, Seth Madole, Travis Burkes; 2024- Kara Domnick

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- John LaValle, Unanimous Approval
APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Motion- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Mike Glore, Unanimous Approval

CHAIRMAN REPORT: Discussion and Action Item for the Mulchatna Caribou Predator Control Program

ADFG REPORTS:

2023 Kuskokwim Fisheries: Kuskokwim Area Assistant Management Biologist gave the report: Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #6; 2023 Preliminary Kuskokwim Management Area Season Summary; Released: October 27, 2023; Time: 1:30 p.m.

- Chinook Salmon: Total run estimate is 130,837
- Sockeye Salmon: No escapement goals for sockeye salmon were assessed in 2023
- Chum Salmon: No escapement goals for chum salmon were assessed in 2023.
- Coho Salmon: (Inadequate info to determine if escapement was met in 2023, due to run timing)

2023 Wildlife: West Mulchatna Caribou; Update as of 11/2023: Spring Since 2017= 12-13,000 range. 2023= 12507 population. Restore the Caribou population, Alaska Board of Game directive to conduct a predator control program to turn around calf survival. Removal efforts occur in a small area surrounded by healthy complete and intact systems that are on both state and federal lands.

- Bears Removed in 2023: 94 Brown, 5 Black
- Wolves Removed in 2023: 5 Wolves
- West Ration Long Term Average: 44 Calves to 100 Cows (Doubled calf to cow ratio; 1 year data)
- East Ratio Long Term Average: 32 Calves to 100 Cows (On track; 1 year data)
- 2014 Brucellosis- Disease in reproductive system (10 years: No longer a factor)
- Nutrition/ Habitat- Pregnancy and Birth Rates, upper 80% of calves being born. (Not a factor)
- ANS: 30, 000
- Minimum 3 years of the predator program for a success rate
- Caribou aren't typically giving birth until their 3rd year, 2023 calves will produce 2025-2026



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ALASKA BOARD OF GAME WESTERN ARCTIC/ WESTERN REGIONAL PROPOSALS			
PROPOSAL NUMBER	PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Support	Oppose	Comments, Discussion, (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
6	Close the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to Hunting for 5-10 years in Unit 18.		
Support as Amended- Close the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to hunting for 3 years in Unit 18; evaluate every 3 years prior to the Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/ Western Region cycle.	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Michael Glore <i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This proposal is following the success story of the Moose Moratorium that was a 5 year success on rebuilding the Moose population and is very well known for its success on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. To implement the moratorium will help increase outreach to all hunters within the Mulchatna Caribou Range. In addition to the Predator Control Program, we are also increasing awareness by implementing a Moratorium to assist in the restoration of the Mulchatna Caribou population.</p> <p>Motion to Amend: Seth Madole, 2nd- Travis Burks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change 5- 10 years to 3 years • Add: 3 year evaluation. <p>Additional Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Education and Outreach, which will be a higher success rate to increase awareness. <p>Motion to Support as Amended: Close the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to hunting for 3 years in Unit 18; evaluate every 3 years prior to the Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/ Western Region cycle.</p> <p>Question: <u>Support as Amended; Unanimously Approved</u></p>
7 & 8	[7: Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15] & [8: Extend season date for moose hunting RM617 in Unit 18.]		
Support	8	0	Motion to Support- Seth Madole, 2nd- Jon LaValle



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			<p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> Over the 4 years that the moose has been open, ADFG has extended for two years via emergency order; there is no biological harm at this point. By allowing the increased time for moose hunting both the hunters and ADFG Wildlife Management will be able to meet their quotas.</p> <p>Question: <u>Support; Unanimously Approved</u></p>
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Seth Madole, 2nd- Michael Glore</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> The current browse removal rate is currently too high and the percentage is at the point of harming the habitat. Keeping the language we are trying to prime the cow harvest. Folks who keep hunting in the September Moose hunt, we are trying to encourage more cow harvest.</p> <p>Ways to Increase Moose Harvest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Same day airborne during winter hunt for antlerless moose hunt.• Increase in Moose Bag Limit antlerless; Unlimited• Increase Moose Bag Limit; Cow Harvest <p>Question: <u>Support; Unanimously Approved</u></p>
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> The browse rate on the Kuskokwim is starting to peak at the area where we are going to need to start harvesting more moose to sustain the population that we need to sustain the population. Even though there are no biological concerns, we are concerned about keeping a stable moose population in both Zone 1 and Zone 2 on the Kuskokwim River.</p> <p>Suggested Amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Separate the 2 requests and amend if necessary to change. <p>Ways to Increase Moose Harvest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cow Hunting; Approaching due to Browse Rate• Winter Bull Hunt: Approaching the need• Support a Cow Hunt: Drawing Permit



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			Question: <u>Support: Unanimously Approved</u>
11	Reauthorization the Resident Antlerless Moose Season in Unit 18		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This proposal needs to be lifted in order to have a cow hunt. ADFG doesn't have any biological concerns with the antlerless moose hunts. If we are going to try to bring the moose population down, we are going to need the AC's to support this. The Bethel AC has supported an increase in moose harvest, we will need to get this supported.</p> <p>Question: <u>Support: Unanimously Approved</u></p>
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
Support	<p>7 Sam Hock, Alissa N Rogers Jon LaValle Michael Gore Jeremey Brink Travis Burks Kara Domnick</p>	<p>1 Seth Madole</p>	<p>Motion to Support- Jon LaValle, 2nd- Alissa Nadine Rogers</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> EMPHASIZED: THIS WAS PUT IN JUST FOR MOOSE. A lot of moose are being wounded from .223 of an AR 15 or bullet action. FMJ does a lot of damage, but doesn't kill them . Using the 243 or bigger caliber you can get 85-108 grain or bigger which has plenty of power. There are 5 moose that were wounded with small rifle gear. To effectively kill a moose the moose hunting cartridge needs to have a reasonable penetration and fire a bullet that will generally hold together at the velocity it leaves the muzzle. The bigger issue at hand is what is actually in the households of the village that own rifles to hunt moose with.</p> <p>Absent: Mike Riley, Excused: Lucinda Alexie,</p> <p>Question: Roll Call: Motion Passes: <u>7 Support, 1 Oppose</u></p> <p>Madole Opposition: It should be a .243 It should be a higher caliber. The minimum caliber should be a .308 caliber or 7.62 millimeters.</p>
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.		
Oppose	0	8	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> The original bag limit limitation was proposed by Kuskokwim & Bering Sea Coastal Students from the ONC Science & Culture Camp. The initial regulation</p>



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			<p>came about when the students in the villages had noticed the decline in ptarmigan returning back for winter and spring hunts between the coastal villages and up to the village of Kalskag. As a unanimous proposal by the students, they proposed to put a bag limit on the ptarmigan. Back in the 90's there was a lot of ptarmigan compared to what we are at now. There may have been an increase of ptarmigan these past years, but the population of ptarmigan isn't quite there yet to where we need to increase the population.</p> <p>Question: <i>Oppose: Unanimously Opposed</i></p>
14	Open a Hunt for Muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
Oppose	0	8	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Michael Glore</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> There is currently 174 Mainland Muskox, there is good calve rate, there is good production. But there isn't enough Muskox for them to open a hunt. ADFG has a minimum recommended number of 300, before an open hunt can take place. We are in agreement with ADFG's minimum number.</p> <p>Question: <i>Oppose: Unanimously Opposed</i></p>
15	Allow the subsistence take of a muskox in a portion of Unit 18.		
Oppose	0	8	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> Since the proposal was opposed for proposal 15 and the population isn't quite at the point of reaching harvestable numbers of 300. There is no biological reason to open the hunt at this point to any type of hunt regardless of state or subsistence hunting.</p> <p>Question: <i>Oppose: Unanimously Opposed</i></p>
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Michael Glore</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> To succeed in predator control to increase the Mulchatna Caribou Herd we do need to</p>



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			<p>successfully conduct the program over 3-5 years of predator control. There aren't many wolves in the calving grounds, but there are more wolves in the winter grounds where the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. There are no biological concerns and it simplifies regulations to match Unit 22,21,19, and 17.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aerial Wolf control, Active on Unit 17 & (2023- Unit 18), Chunk of State Land on Unit 18 by Kisaralik Lake,• Aerial Wolf control Tribal land along the rivers, Eek Lake and Eek (tribal land)• 50% harvest rate is maintaining population; canines rebound at a fast rate <p>Ways to increase harvest of wolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tribes and Corporations can put a bounty on wolves. <p>Question: <u>Support; Unanimously Approved</u></p>
17	Increase the Brown Bear bag limit in Unit 18.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Michael Glore</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> Increasing the bag limit will help the Mulchatna Caribou Herd population increase by harvesting more bears. There are no biological concerns with the Brown Bear harvest rate, even with the current predator control program. It will not negatively impact the population on Brown Bears by increasing the bag limit.</p> <p>Question: <u>Support; Unanimously Approved</u></p>
190	Antlerless Moose & Brown Bear Tag Fee Reauthorization for other Regions: 5 AAC 92.015. Brown bear tag fee exemptions		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to Support- Jon LaValle, 2nd- Alissa Nadine Rogers</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> It keeps the opportunity increase and more opportunity to the hunters.</p> <p>Question: <u>Support; Unanimously Approved</u></p>



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USFWS Office of Subsistence Management: Federal Subsistence Program 2024-2026 Wildlife Proposals: Yukon Kuskokwim Delta			
PROPOSAL NUMBER	PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Support	Oppose	Comments, Discussion, (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
WP24-19	Unit 18, Extend Moose Season to October 15 within the Kanektok and Arolik Drainages.		
Support	8	0	Motion to Support- Jon LaVallve, 2nd- Michael Glore <i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This proposal is expanding the refuge manager to reach the quota in order to sustain the population. More harvest opportunity, as it matches the States regulations. Question: <i>Support: Unanimously Approved</i>
WP24-20	Unit 18, Modify moose harvest limit and expand delegated authority for winter season.		
Support	5 Alissa N. Rogers Jeremey Brink Seth Madole Travis Burks Kara Domnick	3 Sam Hancock Jon LaValle Michael Glore	Motion to Support- Michael Glore, 2nd- Alissa Nadine Rogers <i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This proposal is expanding the refuge manager to reach the quota in order to sustain the population. The remainder of the quota that has not been met, will be opened in the Winter Hunt. This is in order to reach that quota. They're looking for more flexibility and opportunities to open it more. Question: Roll Call: Motion Passes; 5 Support, 3 Oppose Absent: Mike Riley, Excused: Lucida Alexie, Opposition: I do not like the language, "Expand the Authority. There would be no over sight, no check and balances.



BETHEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
ADFG BETHEL OFFICE
November 7, 2023; 6:30PM

			There is already a system in place to regulate Authority He is in support of modifying the moose harvest limits.
WP24-21	Unit 18, Include Kwigillingok, Kongiganak, and Quinhagak in 804 restriction for moose.		
DRAW: Propose Failed as it was a tie between Support and Oppose	4 Alissa Nadine Rogers Seth Madole Travis Burks Kara Domnick	4 Sam Hancock Jon La Valle Michael Glore Jeremy Brink	<p>Motion to Support- Jon LaValle, 2nd- Alissa Nadine Rogers</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This will allow more opportunity for those in the following villages of Kwigillingok, Kongiganak, Quinhagak, and Kipnuk.</p> <p>Motion to Amend: To include Kipnuk; Motion- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jeremy Brink; <u>Unanimous Support</u></p> <p>Question: Roll Call: Motion Failed; 4 Support; 4 Oppose</p> <p>Absent: Mike Riley Excused: Lucinda Alexie</p> <p>Oppose: All Federally Qualified Subsistence users ought to have this option. Not just a few communities. This is a resource for the Delta, all Delta communities deserve the opportunity.</p> <p>Support: Federal subsistence users should have priority, as this is a repopulating resource. With the salmon declines and caribou declined, moose is an additional resource needed as a food source.</p>
WP24-22	Recognize the customary and traditional use of muskox by residence of Unit 18 for the mainland area of Unit 18		
Opposed	2 Alissa Nadine Rogers Kara Domnick	6 Sam Hancock Jon LaValle Michael Glore Jeremy Brink	<p>Motion to Support- Jon LaValle 2nd.- Alissa Nadine Rogers</p> <p><i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> This is only to start the process of establishing a Customary & Traditional Determination, it doesn't establish a hunt. By definition of C&T, it will determine this to be under subsistence harvest.</p> <p>Question: Roll Call: Motion Failed: 2 Support, 6 Oppose</p> <p>Absent: Mike Riley</p>



BETHEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
 ADFG BETHEL OFFICE
 November 7, 2023; 6:30PM

		Seth Madole Travis Burks	Excused: Lucinda Alexie Opposition: Turning this animal into a subsistence animal is the first step of Federal overreach. It begins the allocation of this resource from one group to another. Such as Muskox on the Seward Peninsula or Caribou in the Kotzebue area. Our future Regional generations would suffer. Support: I would like to see that there is a C&T established for Muskox under which federally qualified users get priority when a hunt can be established. Once the Muskox has an established population that I'd like to see it opened up to All of Alaska.
WP24-23	Establish Federal hunt(s) for muskox in the mainland portion of Unit 18		
Opposed	0	8	Motion to Support- Jon LaValle, 2nd,- Alissa Nadine Rogers <i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> Due to the prior discussion of Muskox and our opposition to the ADFG Wildlife Proposal No. 14 & 15. Question: Oppose, <u>Unanimously Opposed</u>
WP24-38	Unit 18, (Kuskokwim River hunt area) closed to moose hunting except by residents of Tuntutuliak, Eek, Napakiak, Kasigluk, Nunapitchuk, Atmautluak, OScarville, Bethel, Kwethluk, Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak, Lower Kalskag and Kalskag		
Opposed	0	8	Motion to Support- Jon LaValle, 2nd,- Jeremy Brink <i>Discussion/ Justification:</i> Due to the discussion and argument that all Alaskan residents should be able to come hunting for moose on the Kuskokwim River. For the same principles that were opposing WP24-21, all Alaskan Residents should be able to hunt moose on the Kuskokwim River. Question: Oppose, <u>Unanimously Opposed</u>

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME: Kotzebue, January 26-29, 2024, Western Arctic/ Western Region, Kotzebue, National Guard Armory: Appointed: Michael Glore, Alternate: Jeremy Brink. Motion- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle, Support, Unanimously Approved.

OTHER BUSINESS: Letter of Support: Mulchatna Predator Control Program, Motion- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaValle, Support, Unanimously Approved.




BETHEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
ADFG BETHEL OFFICE

November 7, 2023; 6:30PM

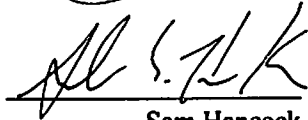
ADJOURN: 11/7/2023 @ 11:05PM Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Michael Glore

Meeting Minutes Taken By: _____



Alissa Nadine Rogers

Chairman: _____



Sam Hancock



BETHEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
ADFG BETHEL OFFICE
November 7, 2023; 6:30PM

November 7th, 2023

Bethel Advisory Committee,
ADFG Board Support
P.O. Box 1467
Bethel, AK 99559

Alaska Board of Game,
ADFG Board Support
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

RE: Letter of Support: Alaska Department of Fish & Game: Mulchatna Predator Control Management Program

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG) Bethel Advisory Committee (BAC) is the local group that meets to discuss fish and wildlife issues, provide a local forum for those issues, and make recommendations to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and game.

The BAC recognizes there is a need for support and continuation of the Intensive Management Mulchatna Caribou Predator Control Program. These programs are to allow for predation reduction of wolves and bears to increase Caribou populations that are needed for food sources for Alaskans. BAC also acknowledges that the calving grounds are in need of protection from bears and wolves, through research have been identified as important factors to low calf survival and potentially limiting the ability of the herd to increase.

In addition to support of the Mulchatna Caribou Predator Control Program the BAC has also taken up action on proposals that will ultimately increase the harvest and open up for more hunting opportunities for wolves and bears.

Proposal 6: BAC *Unanimously Supported as Amended*- Close the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to hunting for 3 years in Unit 18; evaluate every 3 years prior to the Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/ Western Region cycle.

Proposal 16: BAC *Unanimously Supported*- Lengthen the Wolf trapping season by one month to end April 30.

Proposal 17: BAC *Unanimously Supported*- Increase Brown Bear bag limit from 1 to 2.

After reviewing the population data, health of bears and wolves, as well as average harvest data the BAC is confident to support and recommend to the Alaska Board of Game the continuation of the Mulchatna Caribou Predator Control Program, authorizing regulations for Units 9B, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A and 19B, 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I. That contains detailed information about the predator control area established in GMUs 9B, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A and 19B, including delineation of the geographic area covered, background, status of the wildlife populations in question, objectives, and a management plan;

Since 2021, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been closed to hunting as the population plummeted from 200,000 to 12,000 and has remained in that range to this day. The population has declined a rapid 96% since 1997, because of this decline every year families will not meet their food security needs for close to 10 years. The yearly reported harvest on average was 4,770 harvested Caribou as food security for 48 Alaska communities. These communities recognize the value of Caribou as a resource to our region, the customary and traditional uses, traditional knowledge, historical meaning, and to undertake an effort to provide a secure food resource for Alaskans; especially with the decline of salmon.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the Bethel Advisory Committee recommendation.

Motion to Support Letter- Alissa Nadine Rogers, 2nd- Jon LaVallve; Supported; Unanimously Supported.

Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 12th & 13th

In person at the ADF&G office, 570 4th Ave. Bethel, Ak.99559

And by Teleconference or Zoom



AC 003
1 of 5

CBSAC called to order by Chairman David Carl @ 2: 24 pm. Invocation led by Joe Asuluk from Toksook Bay.

Chairman David Carl welcomed the board.

Roll call by Stan Atchak 8 present, and 6 absent. Quorum established.

The member who joined in by telephone was disconnected several times, but quorum was maintained with and without him.

Stan read the draft agenda. Jackie C. moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Stanley Tom. All approved. Motion passed.

David C. asked if we should read the last minutes. Since we have new members, it should be read. Jackie Cleveland read the last minutes from November 11 & 12, 2022.

Susie Walters made a motion to approve the last meeting's minutes. Jackie Cleveland made a motion to second the minutes. All approved, motion passed.

David Carl talked about the low per diem and has sent a letter to the Department of Administration commissioner Paula V. Joe Asuluk, Sr. stated that the per diem is too low for the meetings.

David Carl discussed that different areas of the meeting we had by helping with each other.

ADF&G Chuck Brazil reported on the Kuskokwim area fisheries report.

David Carl asked what size gillnets will be allowed for fishing during the next season.

There will probably only allow 4-6" gillnets for the entirety of the season when there is openings.

Joe Asuluk stated that he used to work with Fish & Wildlife service and he observed the hatchery and when the fish hatched he asked the biologist what they were going to do with the hatched fish.

He responded that they will be destroyed.

The Yukon report was given by Deena Jalen. All the Chinook salmon are really low this year.

Stan Atchak asked if the regulations will be the same as recent years in the Hooper Bay area.

F&G responded they will know by January or later on the upcoming season.

Shane Ransbury gave a report on the Yukon Fall season.

Keith Oster, Fish & Game reported about the Mulchatna caribou. If the population goes to 30,000 then the hunt will open. The current population is about 13,000.

Nelson Island has 530 musk ox

40 permits, 10 male 30 female, will be given in Newtok.

Jan. 17th at 6:00 am to give out permits.

345 pm break.



Board Support Savannah H. said on the elections for the CBSA she sent letters to the villages and got not too many responses on that. She asked especially the ones with no representatives. The ones with expired terms to ask the council members to keep you on the board show they could still go on.

26 to 28 March will be the Joint Board meeting.

Joint Board is half Board of Fish and half Board of game. Advisory Committees are able to send representatives.

David Carl suggested that members choose an alternate to get somebody that is not too old. He said that it will be good for the long run.

David Carl said that the letter sent to the DOA Commissioner will be reviewed by other people that are involved with the final decision. The price of food is getting too much and not matching our small per diem. The per diem is to reimburse for the food and other things spend while attending the meetings.

David Carl suggested that the Proposals are made mostly by the other people and they are not for them.

Meeting recess @5:56pm until 8:30am tomorrow morning.

Meeting reconvenes at 8:30am at the F&G offices.

Proposal #6-Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Jackie C. read the information on caribou information.

The Advisory Committee said that a period of ten years is too long. The rebounding of the caribou is slow and the current population is about 13,000.

The moratorium for the caribou is suggested to be 5 to 10 years with review every 5 years.

Stan Atchak asked the F&G biologist, Keith, how many offspring they have and how often.

Keith responded that usually they get a calf every year but, when the food source is not good they will skip a year or two.

Jackie Cleveland wants to amend the proposal with different ideas to make it better the proposal 6.

Jackie C. moved to amend the proposal 6 to say "request a moratorium be established for Mulchatna caribou herd for Unit 18 for up to 5 years until the population reaches the threshold of 30,000-60,000. To be reviewed every 3 years..."

Susie Walters made a motion to accept with additions, seconded by Janet Bavilla, All in favor, **motion to support with amendments passed**. Unanimous.

Proposal #7-Hunting season and bag limits for moose.

Lengthen the resident in Unit 18 to October 15 with registration to hunt moose. This will affect only the village of Quinhagak the RM617.

David Carl made a motion to accept the Proposal 7 the way it is, seconded by Joe Asuluk.

Motion to support passes, all in favor. Unanimous.

Proposal #8-Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

This proposal is the same as the Quinhagak proposal,

Susie Walters makes a proposal for **no action** based on action taken on proposal #7, seconded by Stan Atchak, motion passed, all in favor.

Proposal #9-Hunting season and bag limits for moose.

Stan Atchak made a motion to accept the proposal, seconded by Janet Bavilla, All in favor, proposal passed.

Support, unanimously.

Recess 10:30a-10:45a



Proposal #10 Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose on the RMU around the Bethel Area.

Tommy Kusaik made a proposal to take **no action** on the proposal, seconded by Joe Asuluk, Sr., question called by Stan Atchak, all in favor, motion passed.

Proposal #11-Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.

Stan Atchak makes a motion to **support** the motion, seconded by Janet Bavilla, motion passed.

Proposal #12-Unlawful methods of taking big game,

Established a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18 . F&G recommendation is neutral.

Stan Atchak stated that the hunters take their younger brothers or grandchildren that use smaller caliber than .243.

David Carl said that you need to be an accurate shot, must know your range and animal for smaller guns.

Tommy K. stated that he always tells his sons to use smaller than .243 for moose and bigger caliber for bears or other big animals.

Joe Asuluk, Sr. made to **oppose** the proposal 12, seconded by Susan Walters, motion to oppose, all in favor to oppose, motion passed.

Proposal #13-Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Increased the bag limits for ptarmigans in Unit 18.

Increase the bag limit of ptarmigans from 15 to 50 and from 30 to 100 in possession.

Joe Asuluk doesn't support the proposal. David Carl said he has been seeing less ptarmigan.

Joe Asuluk, Sr. make a proposal to **oppose**, seconded by Susie Walters. Question called, motion passed.

Lunch 12:15p. Reconvened at 1:15p by Chairman David Carl.

Proposal #14-Hunting seasons and bag limits for musk ox.

Open a musk ox in a portion of Unit 18 with residents only. This would be by registration only or permit drawing.

Joe Asuluk, Sr. asked F&G if they are able to survey how many wolves or bears are on Nelson Island. They can't do predatory control for Musk Ox. Need about 300 for an in-land hunt.

Stan Atchak made a motion to **oppose** it, seconded by Janet Bavilla. Motion passed to oppose the proposal.

Proposal #15-Hunting season and bag limits for musk ox.

Allow the subsistence take of muskox in for cultural use on the mainland. If Board of Game open it on the mainland, many people will apply for the permits and F&G says it will damage the muskox population.

Worried about food security, but also worried about depleting the herd.

Susie Walters made a motion to accept it, seconded by Joe Asuluk, Sr. Motion passed to **support** the motion.

Proposal #16-Furbearers trapping.

Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.

The wolves have about 10 to 12 puppies when they reproduce. There are not as many native trappers after the buyer quit. To help the Mulchatna caribou, but extending trapping season may not help.

Stan Atchak made a motion to accept it, seconded by Tommy Kusaik. Motion passed to **support** the motion.

Proposal #17-Hunting season and bag limits for brown bear.

Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18 from one to two bears.

Janet Bavilla, Platinum representative, stated that there has been many brown bears and they don't consume them. Only one person hunts for brown bear in Platinum.



Susie Walter made a motion to change the season dates to September 1st- August 30th. Janet Bavilla made a motion to support it with the amendment, seconded by Susie Walters. Motion passed to **support the motion with the amendment**. All in favor motion passed.

Federal Proposals:

WP24-19-Extend moose season to October within the Kanektok and Arolik drainages.

Susie Walters made a motion to **support** it, seconded by Janet Bavilla. Chairman asked for unanimous consent, all agreed. To align with the state and to support Quinhagak, our neighbors.

WP24-20-Modify moose harvest limit and expand delegated authority for winter season.

Tommy K. made a motion to **support** it, seconded by Janet Bavilla. Motion passed.

WP24-21-Unit 18, Include

Janet Bavilla made a motion to **support** it, seconded by Susie Walters, motion passed.

WP24-22-Established a customary and traditional use determination for mainland hunt for muskox.

F&G opposed with this proposal.

Janet Bavilla made a motion for no action, seconded by Susie Walters. Janet rescinded the motion.

Janet Bavilla made a motion to **support** it, seconded by Joe Asuluk, Sr., Question called. All in favor, motion passed.

WP24-23-Established for a mainland hunt for muskox.

Janet Bavilla made a motion to oppose it, seconded by Joe Asuluk, Sr., motion passed to **oppose** it.

WP24-24-Unit 18, (Kuskokwim River hunt area) closed to moose hunting except by residents of Tuntutuliak, Eek, Napaskiak, Kasigluk, Nunapitchuk, Atmautlauk, Oscarville, Bethel, Kwethluk, Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak, Lower Kalskag and Kaksgak.

No Action

Proposal 2-Uniform rules of operation

Require all advisory committee meetings to be accessible via call-in.

We can't use Zoom or a computer. **No Action**.

Proposal 3-Uniform rules of operation

Reduce the terms for advisory committee officers from two years to one.

Tommy Kusaik stated that it could be a hassle and it is too short of a term. He also stated that he was worried about a complete take-over of the leadership.

Stanley Tom made a motion to **support** it, seconded by Joe Asuluk Question called. All in favor, motion passed.

Proposal 9-Uniform rules of operation

Limit the numbers of consecutive terms advisory committee members can serve for 2 years

And 1 year off.

Janet Bavilla said it is already hard to find members and that it is tough in rural villages.

Janet Bavilla made a motion to proposal 9 to oppose it, seconded by Susie Walters., motion passed to **oppose** it.

Proposal 10-Uniform rules of operation



Designate one seat on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representative.

Janet Bavilla said, "In our village, everyone subsists." The AC agrees it would be hard to find this representative.

Janet Bavilla made a motion to proposal 10 to oppose it, seconded by Susie Walters., question called, motion passed to oppose it.

Advisory Committee To choose representative(s) to go to the meeting in Kotzebue on Jan. 25, 2024.

Motion made by Tommy Kusaia for the Chairman to choose the representatives to attend for the upcoming meetings. Motion passed.

The CBSA meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. by David Carl Chairman



Central Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 19th, Beginning at 12:00 PM, 2023
In Person at the Aniak Traditional Council, Community Hall Rd., Aniak, AK

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PRELIMINARY AND PARTIAL DRAFT MINUTES

Call to order: *Chair, Nick Kameroff.*

- I. **Invocation/ Moment of Silence**
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** *Chair, Nick Kameroff.*

	<u>Aniak</u> Nick Kameroff	<u>Aniak</u> Allen Simeon	<u>Chuathbaluk</u> Teresa Simeon- Hunter	<u>Chuathbaluk</u> Patricia Yaska	<u>Crooked Creek</u> Denny Thomas Jr.	<u>Crooked Creek</u> Tim Zuakar	<u>Lower Kalskag</u> Walter Morgan
Present	X	X	X				X
By Teleconference					X	X	
Absent				X			
	<u>Lower Kalskag</u> Darlene Heckman	<u>Upper Kalskag</u> No rep	<u>Upper Kalskag</u> No rep	<u>Undesignated</u> Doris Allain	<u>Undesignated</u> Chad John	<u>Alternate</u> Rebecca Wilmarth	<u>Alternate</u> Ricky Ciletti
Present					X		
By Teleconference				X			
Absent	X					X	X

- III. **Roll Call**
 - a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6; with 10 members
 - b. 8 members in attendance. Quorum established
- IV. **Welcome and Introductions:** *Chair, Nick Kameroff*
 - a. ADFG: Dave Runfola, Chuck Brazil, Josh Pierce
 - b. Other Agency Staff: YKDNR-Laurie Boeck, AWT-Sam Thorvilson
 - c. Members of the public: Rachel Donkersloot
- V. **Approval of Agenda:** Allen, Chad. Approved.
- VI. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** From April 13th, 2023- Allen, Chad. Approved
- VII. **Reports**
 - a. Chair's report Nick Kameroff welcomed everyone and told them about the bison meeting he had attended. The bison are not ready to hunt yet.
 - b. ADF&G
 - i. Fisheries Reports- Dave Runfola and Chuck Brazil gave report on Kuskokwim salmon runs and assessment projects.
 - ii. Wildlife Reports – Josh Peirce gave report on moose surveys in 19 A and E and harvest numbers from the Teir II hunt.
 - iii. Board Support Section Reports – Savannah Hollingworth updated members on terms and what elections need to be completed. She also talked about the Joint



Board meeting coming up. Savannah reported that Nick Kameroff had written a letter to the Department of Administration commissioner about per diem and a stipend and that it had been sent.

- VIII. Public Comment – Rachel Donkersloot spoke about North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the Board of Fisheries. There were some questions about the Board of Fish trying to incorporate Traditional Knowledge. Savannah offered to email information.
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business –
 - a. Board of Game Western Arctic/ Western Region Proposals
 - b. Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Proposals
 - c. Joint Board Proposals

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
Support	7	0	Allen, Walter.
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
Support	7	0	Allen, Teresa,
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
Support	7	0	Teresa, Allen.
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
Support	6	0	Out of concern for wounded animals. 1 Abstention
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
NA			



16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.		
Support	6	1	Predator control measure
17	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.		
Support	6	0	Doris Allain was unable to stay connected

Interior and Eastern Arctic Board of Game and Joint Board Proposals were also addressed at this meeting.

- XI. Decide which Board meetings to attend and Select representative(s) for board meeting
 - a. Motion made for the chair to select attendance made by Walter Morgan and seconded by Chad John
- XII. Set next meeting date – March by call of the chair.
- XIII. Other – Teir II App process proposal to be written by Walter Morgan
- XIV. Adjourn – 5:40 PM

Partial Minutes Approved By: Nick Kameronoff
Date: 1/12/2024

These are preliminary minutes that have not yet been approved by the Advisory Committee or Chair



Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee

December 13th, 2023, FAC Meeting Minutes

J.P. Jones Community Center

204 Rickert Street, Fairbanks, AK

I. **Call to Order:** Chair at 18:04

II. **Roll Call:**

	<u>CHAIR</u> John Siegfried	<u>VICE- CHAIR</u> Mark Richards	<u>SECRETARY</u> Austin Smith	Jeff Lucas	Gale Vick	Virgil Umpenhour	Mike Tinker	John Wisnieski
Present	x	x	x	x	x			
Absent								
Abs/Excused						x	x	x
	Levi Lewellyn	Warren Giuchici	Bill Larry	Mike Kramer	Chuck Derrick	Gabriel Davis	Lance Nelson	Joh Haddix (alternate)
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent								
Abs/Excused								
	James Paine (Alternate)							
Present								
Absent	x							
Abs/Excused								

III. **Fish and Game Staff Present:** Tony Hollis, Jeff wells, Bob Schmidt, Deena Jallen, Andy Gryska. Christy Gleason

IV. **Guests Present:** Betty Ross, Diane, and Lenny-Jules Jewkes, Forrest Bowers, Katie Harms, Jeff Adams, Eric & Molly Anslinger, Dave Lorrington, Jennifer Yuhas

V. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved by unanimous consent.

VI. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Austin Smith will go back and write up the minutes for AC meet (November 8th, 2023)

VII. **A. Chair's Report-** Chair and Vice chair attended the Delta AC meeting. Specifically asked the Delta area biologist Bob Shmidt to come to the Fairbanks Advisory Committee meeting to brief



on Delta bison issues. This was in conjunction with speaking with their AC to see what their concerns are in their area.

B. ADFG staff reports: Tony Hollis gave report. 20B moose survey, does not currently have numbers calculated. Preliminary numbers have showed a decrease in population. 20a HAD A 20% decline in moose population. It appears that the 20b population has had a 30% decrease in population. The positive is that there is a decent ~~the~~ bull:cow ratio of around 25:100. He believes the recovery is doing well with a 40:100 calf to cow ratio. Next meeting will have more specific numbers. Department has started to collar bull moose in Galena, McGrath, and Minto flats and are trying to look at the movements of the moose and to compare where they are during the hunting season and during the survey. (30 are currently collared in each area) These are all Satellite collars. Following discussion asked if this would modify the hunting allocations and if there were any other significant data that has come from the survey. Jeff Wells- reports that they are trying to treat new areas and are using a roller chopper to increase moose habitat and are utilizing Department of Forrest to do this. He offered up maps if anyone is interested. He reports good results in Tok, and Delta.

Delta Junction Bison Herd status & 2024-2025 hunt permit update- Bob Schmidt

Bob Schmidt Gives a brief history on the introduction of the Delta Bison project and some of the conflicts with the agriculture project over the last forty years. The Bison numbers have floated but the last decade have remained around 360. He reports that this has been a social carrying capacity and not an actual carrying capacity due to the agriculture project in Delta. He hopes that this will increase the herd size. Currently going into this hunting season there is a total of 479 bison. 377 adults, 102 Calves. This is a Bull cow ratio of 37:100 which is slightly below the objective. 2022/23 Season was curtailed to meet the 360 carrying capacity. He anticipates 100 percent success with 60 permits. As of March 2024, the anticipated number of bison taken into account natural mortality is 403 (40 Over objective) Estimates of 105 calves putting the herd at 509 (Pre hunt next fall) over the 360 in the objective. This will increase the supplement to harvest 90 cows and 30 bulls. Anticipated to have 373 Bison remaining after this upcoming hunting season. Mark Richards asked When does the Delta Bison Working Group meet again Bob Schmidt stated he is unsure and states the only thing that is written is that it is required to have a species management report plan. The Bison budget has been around 70-90k to manage the bison range with a staff of one person. There are 3000 acres that are cleared and only around 250 are planted for the bison on a rotation. John Haddix adds that from his time in the Delta Bison working group that if the 5-dollar tag go to 10 dollars they would not get the PR double and it was a conscious decision to not do that by the Delta Bison Working Group. Bob Schmidt- because of the bad winter there was a lot of public outcries that he reports was caused by people in Delta seeing the bison more and how terrible they looked. Soil and Water Conservation District got involved. Fish and game were involved to recoup PRF. He states that there is a hope to clear another 3000 acres throughout 2028 to help support the bison herd. Chuck Derrick inquired how much is maintenance a year and Bob Schmidt said 90,000. Mike Krammer asked is there 40,000 applications for Delta Bison tags or is that 40,000 individuals. Bob Schmidt replied that is 40,000 tickets in the hat. The last 3-4 years it has been 40,000- 45,000 tickets that are at 10 dollars apiece. Jeff Lucas- Asked if there



are any ideas on creating another working group? Bob Schmidt- Doesn't agree and to let the Advisory committee and Board of Game process to work it.

VIII. Dave Lorrington – Said he had just attended the Big Game Commercial Services Board and states they just gave up a wish list on what the guides, guide board, and transporters are wanting and wants to inform the AC.

- The board is going to sunset this spring and want to see an executive assistant added to help do their board work. He reports this will probably be added in the sunset package.
- They want to create a concession program for guides on state land (there is no limit on how many guides can be on state lands)
- They want to add two more positions to the guide board (going from 9 to 11)
- Change the regulations to make transporters an actual person and not just a license so an individual was identified.
- Provide for survivorship and emergency situations in regulation on what would happen if a guide was to pass away or if there was an unforeseen circumstance with their business.
- Work on updating the suspension triggers so if a guide was convicted in court to increase the fine listings.
- Wants to establish oversight on booking agents and hunting planners. Currently there is no oversight and there is some contention between hunt planners and guides.
- Update the regulation process to streamline to make it more efficient.
- Continuing education among the guides like a medical model like CME. (Continuing education)

Mark Richards AWT UPDATE- (Wildlife Troopers are not present) AWT Reports they have been monitoring the Steese highway and haven't noted any wildlife violations and have also been out on traplines.

IX. Old Business- None noted.

X. Game & Trap Subcommittee:

- I. Recommendations on Region V (northwest/arctic) BOG Proposals
- II. The following are dedicated to go to the full AC:

Proposal 2.) Comments:

Mark Richards- We have traditionally supported WACH WG and moved to vote to support proposal 2

Voted support by unanimous consent.

Proposal 3.) Comments:

Mark Richards- WACH Would like both proposals 2 and 3 to pass and he does not think the full AC would support removing nonresident hunters.



Jeff Lucas- One concern is that if the nonresident hunters take such a low amount, it shouldn't be supported. It is also around only 100 caribou by nonresident hunters.

Lance Nelson- They are only hunting single bulls, and this is a drop in the bucket compared to the 160,000 herd.

Mark Richards- Ask for unanimous consent to oppose proposal no 2

Unanimous consent to oppose proposal no 2. Rationale- Not a significant number of Caribou harvested.

Proposal 16.) (Extend the season for wolf harvest to April 30) Comments:

Mark Richards- The department did support this proposal.

Austin Smith- The ATA was on board with it with the rationale of allowing more opportunity to harvest.

Mark Richards- Ask for unanimous consent to SUPPORT proposal 16.

PASSED by unanimous consent.

Proposal 20.) Change the bag limit on tier 2 to one Muskox to every other year.) Comments:

Mark Richards- Some people have moved to Nome in the last 10 years are being looked over by the individuals who have lived there longer. The change to every other year it will give opportunity to the "newer" residents. **Mike Kramer-** Inclined to support and references the Nelchina caribou and states that the permits would go to the guys who claimed to live in the area for 40,50,60 years and it would end up going to the individuals who had longevity. He states this would be a good balance and is in support of the proposal. **Gale Vick** asked do we know why the Nome AC opposed it. **Mark Richards** said his contacts report members of the AC are beneficiaries of the current tier regulation. **Gale Vick-** Votes to abstain on this proposal. **Jeff Lucas-** Moves to support proposal 20. John Sigfried Seconds All support **Gale Vick** abstained.

Proposal 36.) comments:

Support 36 BECAUSE we have supported proposal 2.

Proposal 37.) comments:

Support unanimous consent.

Proposal 38.) Comments:

Oppose under unanimous consent.

Proposal 39.) Comments:

(Department supports it) Supported Unanimous consent.

Proposal 40.) Comments:

(Department supports) Unanimous consent to support.



Proposal 41.) (Department supports) unanimous consent to support.

Next Game trap committee for Region III proposals

January 22, 1730, location at the Department of Fish and Game conference room.

B. Fisheries Subcommittee report and action items:

Gale Vick: Fisheries Subcommittee met on Monday night. Most was centered around the lower Cook inlet board meet last week.

Proposal 43.) comments:

Gale Vick reports there's no other venue to create a public conversation about this and the Board of Fish has authority to amend hatchery egg production. There is tremendous support, for the entire AYK to reduce hatchery production as part of efforts to reduce all human affected impacts on salmon. Proposal 43 is that's going to be deliberated in February, and we will be preparing our testimony accordingly.

Proposal 59.)

Gale Vick states four members of the board voted to remove the proposal from the Kodiak proposal book. Gale Vick would like to have the Fairbanks Advisory Committee write a letter to the Governor and Commissioner requesting legal clarification on the action and to ask to reinstate the proposal 59 to the upper cook inlet meeting. Asks the full AC to support this action. She points out that there is no other venue to have open discussions on the hatchery concerns and our wild salmon.

Mark Richards asked if Gale Vick Could explain to the committee why the board deleted our proposal. Board support vetted the proposals and inadvertently took off the lettering of Kitoi bay hatchery and was put in the Kodiak book as a statewide proposal. The board support acknowledged this as an error on their part. The next objection was that it was not citing the correct regulation for the action. The reason is, is because we were trying to go after an allocation plan to reduce the egg production at Katroy Bay. Mark Richards and Gale Vick discussed the department's attorney's interpretation of the proposal removal and inquired on what appropriate steps should be taken. Gabriel Davis makes a motion to support a letter. Seconded by Lance Nelson propose to support an AC letter Unanimous consent PASSED.

Gale Vick- The DIPAC (DOUGLASS ISLAND PINK AND CHUM) asked for increase in net pens for a year rather than the current time they have from. Katie Harms with DIPAC reported that they had lost their storage facilities due to glacier outburst floods. Some land was taken out and we don't have a place for our net pens, and this is to amend the permit to allocate for storage. Gale Vick asked to ensure that this is specifically for storage of the net pens and not for any increase in capacity. Gale Vick would like to send in comments for the record and to NOT object and ask the AC to support this letter. Mark Richards- Motion to draft a letter on the permit request Seconded by John Sigfried (Moved by unanimous consent)

Andy Gryska Gave an update on Pike predation on salmon and that the short story is while pike due eat some salmon they are not a driven force among salmon, secondly in the interior pike



and salmon are not together in time and space to often. Mark Richards asked Andy Gryska what the outcome of the Chatanika Whitefish harvest was. He reported 642 White fish harvested on 300 permits which is 3.71 per permit which is a little bit down over the past two years. Participation was about average at 58%. Harvest goal is around 1000 and is not concerned.

January 8th for fisheries subcommittee meeting.

C. Select Representative for BOG Unit 19C Sheep Working Group:

Mark Richards Started the conversation on a Fairbanks AC representative by stating He wants to ensure that the delegate supports the Fairbank AC and not secondary interests. Mark Richards and Levi Lewellyn discussed what the parameters are going to be for this working group. To our knowledge there isn't a whole lot of information out just yet. Levi Lewellyn and Mike Kramer volunteer as representatives. Mark Richards makes a motion to support Mike Kramer as representative with Levi Lewellyn as alternate. Jeff Lucas made a motion to second. Passed by unanimous consent.

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting(s): BOF Upper Cook Inlet Feb 23-March 7th 2024

Fairbanks Advisory Committee Currently has Virgil Umpenhour for the BOF Upper cook inlet but will confirm in January.

XII. Set next meeting date: January 10th, 2024, Gale Vick-Fisheries Sub Committee will meet January 8th, 2024. Game/Trap Sub Committee will meet January 22nd, 2024.

XIII. Other

XIV. Adjourn: Chair at 2053

Minutes Recorded by Austin Smith



The Fairbanks F&G Advisory Committee met on December 13, 2023, with 13 members present.
All votes were unanimous, except for the vote on proposal 20, which had one abstention.

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals January 26-29, 2024 Kotzebue, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.		
SUPPORT as amended	13	0	AC OPPOSES ANY NEW BOW ONLY SHEEP HUNTS <i>Support with amendment to include all weapons, can be registration hunt with quota</i>
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>With the caribou herd declines, some resident bag limit restrictions are necessary and the taking of cows needs to be curtailed</i>
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>AC cannot support eliminating nonresident caribou hunting when the nonresident harvest is so insignificant in terms of overall harvest</i>
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.		
TNA			
5	Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions.		
TNA			
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.		
TNA			
7	Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.		
TNA			
8	Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.		
TNA			



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
TNA			<i>Note – nonres should generally not be allowed to participate in any-bull or cow moose hunts</i>
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
TNA			
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
TNA			
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>Fairbanks AC opposes minimum caliber regulations for moose and caribou. .223 is widely used across the state for moose and caribou.</i>
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>Increasing the ptarmigan bag limit this much may lead to overharvest</i>
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
TNA			
15	Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.		
TNA			
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>More opportunity. Department supports</i>
17	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.		
TNA			
18	Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.		
TNA			
19	Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts.		
TNA			
20	Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years.		
SUPPORT 12 yays, 1 abstention	12	0	<i>Same people getting permits every year, other locals who have moved to Nome more recently not getting permits 12-0-1 (1 abstention)</i>
21	Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.		
TNA			



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
22	Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>See comments on proposal 12</i>
23	Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.		
TNA			
24	Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A.		
TNA			
25	Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.		
TNA			
26	Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>Not necessary, only 10 tags, guides and their clients should not get special seasons</i>
27	Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.		
TNA			
28	Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt.		
TNA			
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits or change DB685 to a registration permit.		
TNA			
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.		
TNA			
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
TNA			
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsragmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
TNA			
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>No need to restrict resident opportunity</i>



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>See comments on proposal 1. Fairbanks AC opposes bow-only general hunts. If sheep hunting is opened in areas where it has been closed, there should be no weapons restrictions.</i>
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>AC supports matching boundaries and expanding state hunt area</i>
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>Refer to comments on proposal 2</i>
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>Refer to comments proposal 2</i>
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23.		
OPPOSE	0	13	<i>Refer to comments on proposal 3</i>
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>Based on Department support</i>
40	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>Based on Department support</i>
41	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year.		
SUPPORT	13	0	<i>Based on Department support</i>
42	Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.		
TNA			
209	Establish a target hunt for musk ox in Unit 23		
TNA			

Minutes Recorded By: Austin Smith

Minutes Approved By: Unanimous vote of the full AC

Date: 1/10/2024



**Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Game/Trap Subcommittee Meeting
November 15, 2023
Fish & Game Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order: 6:01 pm by Mark Richards
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Mark Richards, Austin Smith, Gabriel Davis, Jeff Lucas, Levi Lewellyn, John Wisniewski, John Siegfried, Lance Nelson, John Haddix, Mike Kramer
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Kyle Campbell
- IV. Guests Present: Nicole Schmidt, Jacques Etcheverry, Michelle Quillin, Casey Black (doing caribou research, asking for interviews with anyone who has hunted caribou)

Adjourn 7:22pm

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.		
SUPPORT as amended			AC OPPOSES ANY NEW BOW ONLY SHEEP HUNTS Support with amendment to include all weapons, can be registration hunt with quota
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
*FULL AC			SUPPORT lowered bag limit for residents as long as nonres bear brunt of these restrictions on resident bag limit; Proposal 2 & 3 must both pass as written (Note: see proposals 36, 37, & 38 that apply to Unit 23 only)



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
*FULL AC			
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.		
TNA			
5	Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions.		
TNA			
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.		
TNA			
7	Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.		
TNA			
8	Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.		
TNA			
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
TNA			Note – nonres should generally not be allowed to participate in any-bull or cow moose hunts
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
TNA			
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
TNA			
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
OPPOSE			Fairbanks AC opposes minimum caliber regulations for moose and caribou. .223 is widely used across the state for moose and caribou.
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.		
OPPOSE			Increasing the ptarmigan bag limit this much may lead to overharvest
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
TNA			
15	Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.		
TNA			
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.		



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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
*FULL AC			Concerns of take during denning season and when hides are not prime (Note: Dept. SUPPORTS)
17			Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.
TNA			
18			Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.
TNA			
19			Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts.
TNA			
20			Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years.
*FULL AC			Same people getting permits every year, other locals who have moved to Nome more recently not getting permits (Note: Opposed by Nome AC)
21			Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.
TNA			
22			Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.
OPPOSE			See comments on proposal 12
23			Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.
TNA			
24			Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A.
TNA			
25			Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.
TNA			
26			Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.
OPPOSE			Not necessary, only 10 tags, guides and their clients should not get special seasons
27			Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.
TNA			
28			Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt.
TNA			



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits or change DB685 to a registration permit.		
TNA			
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.		
TNA			
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
TNA			
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
TNA			
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.		
OPPOSE			No need to restrict resident opportunity
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area.		
OPPOSE			See comments on proposal 1. Fairbanks AC opposes bow-only general hunts. If sheep hunting is opened in areas where it has been closed, there should be no weapons restrictions.
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
SUPPORT			AC supports matching boundaries and expanding state hunt area
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
*FULL AC			Refer to proposal 2 & 3
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
*FULL AC			Refer to proposal 2 & 3
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23.		
*FULL AC			Refer to proposal 2 & 3
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season.		
*TNA			Revisit when Dept A&Rs are out (Dept. SUPPORTS)
40	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round.		



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
*TNA			Revisit when Dept A&Rs are out (Dept. SUPPORTS)
41			Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year.
*TNA			Revisit when Dept A&Rs are out (Dept. SUPPORTS)
42			Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.
TNA			
209			Establish a target hunt for musk ox in Unit 23
TNA			

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Mark Richards
Minutes Approved By: Full AC 12/13/2023
Date: 11/15/23



Koyukuk River Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, January 11th, 2024 at 6:30 pm by web/teleconference

Committee Members and community designations: Undesignated: Jack Reakoff (chair)
Huslia: Darrell Vent (vice chair), Jack Wholecheese
Allakaket: Vincent Simon, Charles Ned
Hughes: Hugh Bifelt
Alatna:
Bettles:
Alternates:

Members present: Jack Reakoff chair, Darrell Vent Sr., Jack Wholecheese, Vincent Simon,

Members absent: Charles Ned, and Hugh Bifelt (quorum of 4 to met)

Introduction of ADFG staff and public members.

The Chair laid out the primary reason for this meeting,

Setting a date for an in-person meeting in early February,

Deliberating the two caribou proposals clarified as #2 and #3 that the BoG will discuss in Kotzebue in late January appointment of the KRAC representative to the Western Arctic Caribou Herd work group.

Chairman Reakoff recognized Michelle Quillin from Hughes as an interested individual regarding the AC. The chair requested the members present to endorse the chair appointing Ms. Quillin as an alternate member of the KRAC. Unanimous consent.

The members discussed a date for the in person meeting, and agreed on February 9th, in Fairbanks.

Others present on the call were Olivia Erwin and Carl Frank from the Minto AC, Glenn Stout and Cade Kellum Galena AB, Mark Nelson and Jorden Pruzenski NE AB, John Wisniewski Fairbanks AC, Marcy Okoda Gates NPS, Denna Jallon DFG Yukon summer season, Christi Gleason Yukon Fall, Erin Julianus BLM, Jeramy Havener USFW, Elle Galena DFG office, Kyle Campbell Boards, Amanda Pope Yukon AC

Chair report; Listened to the BOG deliberation of the ACR to eliminate age count to take sheep action taken by the Board and clarification of the companion proposal 207 the Board will deliberate in March, also the Board formation criteria for the GMU 19C sheep committee, presentation to the Gates of the Arctic by Brad Wendling regarding the sheep collaring project in GMU24A/25A and in the Park, also the chair is on the Western Interior RAC which deliberated the two Western Arctic Caribou Herd proposals 2 and 3 with ADFG staff and Director Scott Ryan. The need to get tribal councils in the communities to elect people

Member expressed concerns:

Member Wholecheese would like an emergency petition to the BOG regarding an August moose hunt extension.

Member Simon was expressing concerns about environmental EIS work for the Ambler Road. Some work has been done on Federal lands, but is unclear what AIDEA work will be accomplished on state lands.



Member Vent who represented the AC at the WACH work group at the last meeting, expressed concerns regarding over harvest of large Bull caribou effects on reproduction and leading younger bulls.

Darrell Vent was designated confirmed by unanimous vote to Represent the KRAC to the WACH work group.

Proposal #2 Motion to adopt by member Vent, seconded by Member Simon

Support of proposal 2 with justification regarding need and area in GMU26A

The Committee took up the proposal submitted by the WACH work group to reduce the bag limit to 4 caribou annually, but no more than one cow.

During the deliberations the committee expressed concerns regarding the continual decline of the herd from 490K to 164K 2022 currently 152K. There is a serious need to reduce cow caribou harvest. Caribou cows only have one calf annually after the age of three years old. There is a need for clarification with rural members that think the 4 caribou bag limit is for the whole family. Each member of a household can take additional bag limits, example 5 family hunters X 4 caribou=20 caribou only 5 cows taken. The reduced bag limit would still provide plenty of meat per family, in conjunction with other resources harvest. Mr. Stout told the committee that department will request final action will be taken by the BoG at the March meeting. He also asked how we envisioned enforcement. Examples given of enforcement checking 2 hunters with 8 caribou there should only be 2 cows in possession. The Committee discussed the need to draw a line in GMU 26A, the Western Interior RAC considered this issue with ADFG Alex Hanson and felt the bag limit reduction should west of a boundary from Wainwright (160 W longitude) following discernable drainages. Season should remain the same to the east to allow harvest continued harvest of Teshukpuk and Central Arctic caribou in the eastern portion of GMU 26A.

Proposal #3 Motion to adopt the proposal by member Vent, seconded by member Simon

The Committee took up the proposal to eliminate Non-Resident harvest. Member Vent when attended the WACH work group meeting expressed concerns of add harvest of large bull caribou. Large bull caribou 5 years and older are the dominant breeders, in studies done in Denali Park an Scandinavian work. The WACH composition data in the future needs to have delineation of the bull caribou age classes, small (1-2 year old) medium (3-4 years) and large (5 years and older). Basically the large bull composition for sustained yield should be a minimum of 5-6: per 100 cows. Large bulls are NOT completely expendable. Significant take, although seemingly few of large bulls by non-residents, could exceed the sustainability, and exacerbate the decline, when combined with increased subsistence bull take. Melchatna, and Nelchina declines can be directly associated to the loss of the large bull component far below the sustainable large bull availability.

With the shift by regulation, if the proposal is adopted, would increase to 75% bull harvest. All available bulls will likely be needed to support sustained yield reproduction, and subsistence harvests.

The BOG needs to ask:

- 1) Can ADFG provide a scientific analysis from existing literature and analyses of caribou herds data that have dramatically declined with poor Bull:cow ratios, how many large bulls per 100 cows are needed for sustained yield?
- 2) Are there enough large bulls to support 75% subsistence bull harvest in addition to non-resident projected take from the WACH?



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	5	0	<p>During the deliberations the committee expressed concerns regarding the continual decline of the herd from 490K to 164K 2022 currently 152K.</p> <p>There is a serious need to reduce cow caribou harvest. Caribou cows only have one calf annually after the age of three years old. There is a need for clarification with rural members that think the 4 caribou bag limit is for the whole family. Each member of a household can take additional bag limits, example 5 family hunters X 4 caribou=20 caribou only 5 cows taken. The reduced bag limit would still provide plenty of meat per family, in conjunction with other resources harvest. Mr. Stout told the committee that department will request final action will be taken by the BoG at the March meeting. He also asked how we envisioned enforcement. Examples given of enforcement checking 2 hunters with 8 caribou there should only be 2 cows in possession. The Committee discussed the need to draw a line in GMU 26A, the Western Interior RAC considered this issue with ADFG Alex Hanson and felt the bag limit reduction should west of a boundary from Wainwright (160 W longitude) following discernable drainages. Season should remain the same to the east to allow harvest continued harvest of Teshukpuk and Central Arctic caribou in the eastern portion of GMU 26A.</p>
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
SUPPORT	5	0	<p>The Committee took up the proposal to eliminate Non-Resident harvest. Member Vent when attended the WACH work group meeting expressed concerns of add harvest of large bull caribou. Large bull caribou 5 years and older are the dominant breeders, in studies done in Denali Park an Scandinavian work. The WACH composition data in the future needs to have delineation of the bull caribou age classes, small (1-2 year old) medium (3-4 years) and large (5 years and older). Basically the large bull</p>



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>composition for sustained yield should be a minimum of 5-6: per 100 cows. Large bulls are NOT completely expendable. Significant take, although seemingly few of large bulls by non-residents, could exceed the sustainability, and exacerbate the decline, when combined with increased subsistence bull take. Melchatna, and Nelchina declines can be directly associated to the loss of the large bull component far below the sustainable large bull availability.</p> <p>With the shift by regulation, if the proposal is adopted, would increase to 75% bull harvest. All available bulls will likely be needed to support sustained yield reproduction, and subsistence harvests.</p> <p>The BOG needs to ask:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Can ADFG provide a scientific analysis from existing literature and analyses of caribou herds data that have dramatically declined with poor Bull:cow ratios, how many large bulls per 100 cows are needed for sustained yield? 2) Are there enough large bulls to support 75% subsistence bull harvest in addition to non-resident projected take from the WACH?

Minutes Recorded By: Jack Reakoff, AC Chair

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____

These are preliminary minutes that have not yet been approved by the Advisory Committee or Chair



Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday and Thursday, October 25 & 26th, 2023

Call to order: *Chair, Phillip Peter Sr..*

- I. **Invocation/ Moment of Silence**
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** *Chair, Phillip Peter Sr.*
- III. Roll Call
 - a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6; with 10 members; 7 were present to begin with. 6 members were present for the entire duration.
 - b. Present in Person:
 - i. Phillip Peter – Akiachak
 - ii. John Twitchell Sr. – Kasigluk
 - iii. Adolph Lupie – Tuntutuliak
 - c. Present by teleconference:
 - i. Earl Samuelson – Napaskiak
 - ii. Richard Larson – Napaskiak
 - iii. Stella Alexie – Eek
 - iv. Nicholai Stevens – Oscarville
- IV. Others Present
 - a. ADFG – Fisheries: Sean Larson, Dave Runfolo, and Chuck Brazil
 - b. ADFG – Wildlife: Pat Jones, Keith Oster
 - c. No other agency staff
 - d. No members of the public introduced themselves
- V. Approval of Agenda: Earl Samuelson made a motion, 2nd by Nicholai Stevens – unanimous approval
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From January 25-26th, 2023
 - a. Earl Samuelson made a motion; 2nd by John Twitchell Sr. – unanimous approval
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - i. Fisheries Reports – Chuck Brazil gave an overview of the 2023 fisheries assessment projects on the Kuskokwim River and the results as well as harvest numbers. AC members asked questions regarding fishing in the bay and close by commercial fisheries and trawlers.
 - ii. Wildlife Reports – Patrick Jones gave an overview of wildlife in Unit 18 and gave an update on Mulchatna caribou numbers, calf/cow ratios, and composition. Mr. Jones gave a summary of the predator control measures carried out this spring. Questions were asked about bear numbers and the program.
 1. Motion was made by Earl Samuelson for the Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee to support the Predator Control Program to protect the Mulchatna Caribou herd. 2nd by Adolph Lupie. Passed unanimously.
 - a. The AC supports the predator control program that will help bring back animals that were once here; caribou, moose, and others. People are not harvesting bears as much as they used to and the population is not declining. Roll Call vote taken. The AC supports the motion 7-0.
 - iii. Board Support Section Reports



1. Savannah Hollingworth gave updates on community elections in the Lower Kuskokwim area, spoke about alternates, and reminded the group that Joint Board would be meeting this year.

VIII. Public Comment - none

IX. Old Business - none

X. New Business –

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals			
January 26-29, 2024 Kotzebue, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.		
Opposed	2	5	Not is support because the proposal is too vague, and hunting is already closed. A moratorium would add more complication for managers. One AC member suggested better communication and getting the word out about the herd and the closure.
7	Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.		
Support	6	0	Amend to include Tuntutuliak There are often weather issues during the season and the moose population is growing. More opportunity and more time will not hurt. *Richard Larson's phone dropped and he did not sign back in to the teleconference.
8	Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.		
NA			
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
Support	6	0	Amend to lo limit the September 1-30 moose hunt 50 inch or less antlered bull. There is concern about non-resident hunters hunting in traditional hunt areas. Local area people have traditional hunting grounds that they always return to. Now non-locals are hunting those areas.



10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
Support	6	0	Earl Samuelson asked if they could have so many permits per village. Phillip Peter said they liked the idea of a winter cow hunt.
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
Support	6	0	
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
Oppose	2	4	This proposal would affect a lot of people, especially younger people. Those in support were concerned that animals that are shot and wounded and run away and die without being harvested.
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.		
Support	6	0	People do not see as many ptarmigan as they used to. Adolph Lupie feels that it is the wrong time and number for this proposal, but it would be good in the spring to stretch food stores.
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
Oppose	1	5	There are not enough yet.
15	Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.		
Oppose	1	4	1 Abstention: Member was undecided.
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.		
Support	5	1	This proposal would give more opportunity to harvest wolves that are hurting the caribou population. Could help caribou population to come back faster.
17	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.		
Support	4	2	This proposal would help reduce bear numbers and increase safety in the region and the caribou, but increasing the bag limit means they would be open to sell the hides. It could end up helping with income but could also bring hunters that shoot a lot of bears for money.



Day 2 – October 26, 2023

Call to order: *Chair, Phillip Peter Sr. at 9:00 AM*

XI. Roll Call

- a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6; with 10 members; 6 were present
- b. Present in Person:
 - i. Phillip Peter – Akiachak
 - ii. John Twitchell Sr. – Kasigluk
 - iii. Adolph Lupie – Tuntutuliak
- c. Present by teleconference:
 - i. Earl Samuelson – Napaskiak
 - ii. Stella Alexie – Eek
 - iii. Nicholai Stevens – Oscarville

Alaska Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Proposals

March 15-22, 2024 | Fairbanks, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
59	Lengthen the resident only Tier II moose hunt, TM680, in Unit 19A by opening the season five days earlier		
Support	6	0	
68	Allow moose registration permit RM682 to be obtained online		
Oppose	1	5	Locals already have trouble getting their moose. This proposal would be burdensome to the people up there. Not everybody has online, especially elders. There is unreliable internet and a lack of computers in the area. It is very expensive to participate in this hunt because of gas prices and the long trip to the village to get the permit.
69	Allow hunters that hold registration moose permit RM682 in Unit 19 to be eligible to hold other moose permits in the Kuskokwim River drainage		
Oppose	0	6	Too many people head up to the Holitna and Unit 19 A&E. Local people should have the opportunity.

**Alaska Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Proposals**

March 15-22, 2024 | Fairbanks, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
70	Make fifteen registration moose permits for the Unit 19E moose hunt available in Bethel		
Support w/ Amendment	6	0	Amend to 5 permits available in Bethel, instead of 15.
71	Eliminate the Holitna-Hoholitna Controlled Use Area in Unit 19		
Oppose	0	6	The controlled use Area helps with erosion control. Boats scare the moose. Out of respect for the local people we oppose this proposal.
72	Change the restrictions of the Holitna-Hoholitna Controlled Use Area by allowing outboards with greater than 40 horsepower to hunt a portion of the season		
Oppose	0	6	Animals are not scared of humans there.

Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting

March 25-28, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
5	Clarify the responsibilities for the officer position of secretary/recorder		
Support w/ amendment	6	0	Amended to say that the secretary shall be a state paid position. The secretary should be a paid position or positions that covers all ACs in the state.
9	Limit the number of consecutive terms advisory committee members can serve.		
Oppose	1	5	Earl stated this is an important proposal. Adolph added that the members we keep are the ones we trust to get our voice to and

**Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting**

March 25-28, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			should serve till they can't anymore.
10	Designate one seat on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representation.		
Oppose	1	5	It would be complicated to fill this seat. A person who would fit the description would be hard to find.
13	Clarify the process for declaring vacancies and filling expired seats.		
Support	5	1	This would give flexibility.
14	Adopt an absence policy allowing advisory committees to remove members who miss more than 50% of meetings without reasonable justification.		
Oppose	0	6	This proposal would be good if we could meet more, but we could only miss one meeting if this passed.
15	Allow advisory committees to provide additional recommendations.		
Support	6	0	Earl said he like it. We have RCs already, but he sees no harm.
18	Adopt a regulation or a Joint Board policy to limit certain types of amendments.		
			Tabled until next meeting. We would like to hear other board members opinions.

Federal Subsistence Management Program 2024-2026 Wildlife Proposals

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
WP24-19	Unit 18, Extend moose season to October 15 within the Kanektok and Arolik drainages.		



Support	6	0	This will help local people in that area with a longer season.
WP24-20	Unit 18, Modify moose harvest limit and expand delegated authority for winter season.		
Support	5	0	1 Abstention
WP24-21	Unit 18, Include Kwigillingok, Kongiganack, and Quinhagak in §804 restriction for moose.		
Support	6	0	As natives we support each other.
WP24-22	Unit 18, Establish a customary and traditional use determination for mainland musk ox.		
Oppose	0	6	We did not support on the state side. There are not enough.
WP24-23	Unit 18, Establish a hunt for mainland musk ox		
Oppose	0	6	Because of the action taken on WP-22
WP24-38	Unit 18, (Kuskokwim River hunt area) closed to moose hunting except by residents of Tuntutuliak, Eek, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Kasigluk, Nunapitchuk, Atmautlauk, Oscarville, Bethel, Kwethluk, Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak, Lower Kalskag and Kalskag		
Support	6	0	Including other villages.

- XII. Decide which Board meetings to attend and Select representative(s) for board meeting
- Motion was made by Earl and seconded by Stella for the chair to attend the January Board of Game meeting in Kotzebue.
 - Motion was made by Stella and seconded by John Twitchell Sr. to send Earl Samuelson to the March Joint Board meeting in Anchorage.
- XIII. Set next meeting date – In February by the call of the chair.
- XIV. Other - none
- XV. Adjourn

Adjournment:

Minutes Approved By: Verbal Approval of Chair
Phillip Peter Sr.

Date: 1/9/2024



MEETING MINUTES

Middle Nenana River Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 21st, 2023 at 6:00pm at the Tri-Valley Community Center in Healy, AK

I. Call to Order: 6:05pm by Allan Mortenson

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Allan Mortenson, Paul Van Dyke, Leroy Sutton, Andrew LaBar, Matt Nustvold, Coke Wallace, Alex Buetow, Paul Nyberg

Members Absent (Excused): Jacob Mattila, Jeremy Wolf

Members Absent (Unexcused): Erik Haugen

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6

List of User Groups Present: none

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Tony Hollis, Jeff Wells & Kyle Campbell

IV. Guests Present: Amanda Pope, Yukon Flats AC & Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Board Memeber

V. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve- Allan, 2nd- Coke, All in favor

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes, 4/1/23: Motion to approve- Coke, Leroy- 2nd, All in favor

VII. Reports:

- a. Chair's Report: Confirmed deadline for comment on proposals. Discussed potential for Nenana AC to offer participation in fisheries world.
- b. ADFG Staff Report, Tony Hollis: Moose- Unit 20A twinning rates at 8% after being 16% in '22. Target twinning rate is 20%. Moose survey in 20B currently ongoing.

Sheep- Unit 20A survey in '23 produced 327 sheep, 91 rams(5 legal) compared to '22 which produced 292 sheep with 83 rams. Harvest data from '23: 39 rams harvested. Breakdown of 20 residents, 15 non-residents and 4 unknown. In 2022 the harvest total was 36 rams. The long-term average for ram harvest in 20A is 100 rams. Fairbanks ADFG sealed 102 rams in '23 with six being sublegal rams.

Caribou- Composition count hasn't happened but 20 new satellite collars in the Delta Herd will help with future study of caribou in 20A. Harvest data from '23: 56 caribou harvested (55 is average).



Jeff Wells: Provided rundown of BOG committee established to create a new sheep working group composed of 1 McGrath AC member, 1 “other” AC member, transporter, guide, (unknown), resident, land owner and a non-user.

VIII. Public Comment: Amanda Pope said she was here to learn and provide help when applicable.

IX. Old Business: Paul brought up for discussion our need to schedule elections. Allan, Coke, Jeremy and John are up for reelection.

New Business:

Proposal 14: Motion to discuss - Allen, 2nd- Alex. Vote: 6-2

Proposal 16: Motion to discuss - Coke, 2nd- Matt. Vote: 8-0

Proposal 36&37: Motion to discuss - Leroy, 2nd- Coke. Vote: 7-1

Proposal 34: Motion to discuss – Alex, 2nd – Matt. Vote 6-1-1

X. Select representative(s) for board meeting

XI. Set next meeting date: 12/19/23

XII. Other: Elections to be held at next meeting

Adjournment: 7:42pm

Minutes Recorded By: Alex Buetow

Minutes Approved By: __Full AC____ Date:

__12/19/2023____



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1			Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.
2			Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.
3			Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.
4			Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.
5			Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions.
6			Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.
7			Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.
8			Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.
9			Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.
10			Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.
11			Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.
12			Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
13			Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.
14			Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.
SUPPORT	6	2	
15			Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.
16			Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.
SUPPORT	8	0	
17			Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.
18			Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.
19			Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts.
20			Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years.
21			Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.
22			Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.
23			Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.
24			Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A.
25			Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.
26			Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.
27			Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
28	Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt.		
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits or change DB685 to a registration permit.		
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.		
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.		
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area.		
SUPPORT	6	1	1 abstention
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	7	1	
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
SUPPORT	7	1	
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23.		
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season.		



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
40			Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round.
41			Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year.
42			Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.
209			Establish a target hunt for musk ox in Unit 23

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Alex Buetow

Minutes Approved By: ___ Full AC ___

Date: ___ 12/19/2023 ___



Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, December 8th, Beginning at 10:00 AM, 2023

In Person at the St. Mary's City Hall, St. Mary's, AK

Call to order: *Chair, Bill Alstrom @ 10:10 AM.*

- I. **Invocation/ Moment of Silence**
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** *Chair, Bill Alstrom.*

	<u>Mountain Village</u> Stanislaus Sheppard Alt. Mathew Waskey	<u>Andreafski</u> William Alstrom Alt. George Beans	<u>Marshall</u>	<u>Pilot Station</u>
Present	Stanislaus	William (Bill)	No rep	No rep
By Teleconference				
Absent				
Abs/Excused				
	<u>Pitka's Point</u> William Riley	<u>Russian Mission</u> Basil Larson Alt. Wassily Alexie	<u>St. Mary's</u> Peter Tyson Alt. Sven Paulkan	
Present	William		Peter	
By Teleconference		Basil		
Absent				
Abs/Excused				

III. **Roll Call**

- a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 4
- b. 5 members were present. Quorum established
- c. Alternates in attendance: Mathew Waskey, George Beans

IV. **Welcome and Introductions:** *Chair, Bill Alstrom*

- a. ADFG: Savannah Hollingworth, Keith Oster, Sam Decker, Deena Jallen, Christy Gleason, Shane Ransbury
- b. Other Agency Staff:
 - i. USFWS: Aaron Moses, Laurie Boeck
 - ii. AWT: Sgt. Blajeski
 - iii. YRDFA: Serena Fitka
- c. Members of the public who would like to introduce themselves.
 - i. Isaac Prince, Norbert Beans, Clint Nashoanaka, Andrew Journey, Duncan Okitkun, Dominica Strongheart, Willie Kamuck, Jennifer Afcan-Joe

V. **Approval of Agenda:** Stanislaus Sheppard made the motion, second by Peter Tyson. Unanimously approved.

VI. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** From November 17, 2023: Stanislaus Sheppard made the motion, second by William Riley. Unanimously approved.

VII. **Reports**

- a. **Chair's report-** Bill reported that there have been many years of fisheries closures. The salmon are slowly increasing but we have not met our fishing goals. There is a treaty with Canada that has not been met for the last couple years. There are many problems to



address. There is a conflict with Area M. The lack of fish is detrimental to our livelihood.

b. ADF&G

- i. Fisheries Reports – Deena Jallen gave a report on the summer Yukon fisheries season. Christy Gleason gave a report on the fall Yukon fisheries.
- ii. Wildlife Reports – Keith Oster gave a wildlife report. He spoke about moose, sports hunters and musk ox. Members asked about bison and said that they have been spotted by the mountain range but not here. They said they have seen more musk ox and wolves.
 1. William Riley spoke about his concern for sport hunters and said there is an abundance of trophy hunters that come to the area. He stated his concern that they will deplete the moose in the long run. William stated that some sports hunters were hunting on traditional hunting grounds and told locals to leave because they were hunting. He feels nothing will be done until it is a critical issue. William said that they have found bags of meat at the dump from people dumping what they did not want. Stanislaus Sheppard talked about his concern that people were taking hunters out and guiding illegally.
 2. Trooper Sgt. Blajeski details what is required to be salvaged as edible meat and discusses some of the cases that have been investigated in the past. He also spoke about illegal guiding and what the rules are. He said that he appreciates hearing reports from the local people about what is happening.
- iii. Board Support Section Reports
 1. Savannah Hollingworth talked about elections in the villages and expired seat terms. She also said there will be a Joint Board meeting this year to discuss AC regulations.

VIII. Public Comment

- a. Many members of the public came to comment on the Yukon Fisheries. Concern was heard for the people who live on the Yukon and the lack of resources that restrictions complicate further. Comments were given that speak on the hardships that have been caused by the declining salmon and the restrictions. Many commented on the Area M and Bering Sea fisheries and pointed out the inconsistencies of regulations, how the Yukon is restricted but the Bering Sea, intercept fisheries and commercial fishers are not. Habitat continues to be destroyed by trawlers. There were discussions about assessment projects, how accurate counts are, and if there were studies on the corporate fisheries as well. Co-management ideas and Working Groups with examples from other parts of the state and for other species was discussed. Many people are struggling. Many hold commercial permits they can't use. Disaster fund dispersal has not been fair with covid funds going to people based on catch meaning some people got nothing. Our livelihoods are our fish. Villages were built where they are because of the fish.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business –

- a. Board of Game Western Arctic/ Western Region Proposals



- b. Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Proposals
- c. Joint Board Proposals

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals			
January 26-29, 2024 Kotzebue, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
2-5	Motion made by Stanislaus Sheppard to take no action on proposals 2-5, second by Peter Tyson		
NA			By unanimous vote, no action was taken on Proposals 2-5.
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.		
NA			Motion made by William Riley to take no action, second by Peter Tyson. Unanimous. Caribou are already closed. The department will open when the numbers go up.
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by Peter Tyson
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
Opposed	2	3	Motion made by William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard Many people hunt with a .223 and it can put down a moose. We are worried about wounding moose, but younger kids use smaller guns.
13	Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard
14	Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.		
Support	5	0	We want to establish a hunt so that it can be opened once there is enough.



			Stanislaus said that the Elders say we must harvest some if we want them and if we do they will reproduce twofold.
16	Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by William Riley, second by Peter Tyson
17	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.		
Support	5	0	Because of the shortage of fish, bears have been seen in the dump more, attacking more often and eating more berries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program 2024-2026 Wildlife Proposals

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Committee and OSM

WP24-20	Unit 18, Modify moose harvest limit and expand delegated authority for winter season.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by Peter Tyson
WP24-22	Unit 18, Establish a customary and traditional use determination for mainland musk ox.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by Peter Tyson We want to establish a hunt so that it can be opened once there is enough.
WP24-23	Unit 18, Establish a hunt for mainland musk ox		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by Peter Tyson

Alaska Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Proposals

March 15-22, 2024 | Fairbanks, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
190	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley

Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting

March 25-28, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description
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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Require one-month public notice for advisory committee election meetings and 14 days-notice for regular meetings.		
Support	5	0	William Riley makes the motion to support, second by Peter Tyson
2	Require all advisory committee meetings be accessible via call-in option.		
Support	5	0	William Riley makes the motion to support, second by Stan Sheppard
3	Reduce the terms for advisory committee officers from two years to one.		
Oppose	0	5	Stan Sheppard makes the motion to oppose, second by William Riley
4	Clarify the responsibilities for advisory committee chairs.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard
5	Clarify the responsibilities for the officer position of secretary/recorder		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley
6	Allow advisory committees with community designated seats to appoint alternates for those communities.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley
7	Clarify the process for appointing advisory committee alternates, allow alternates for communities having more than one designated seat, and establish one year term limits for alternates.		
Oppose	0	5	Motion made by William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard
8	Allow advisory committees the discretion to set membership term dates.		
Support	5	0	Motion to support made by Stan Sheppard, second by Peter Tyson
9	Limit the number of consecutive terms advisory committee members can serve.		
Oppose	0	5	Motion to Oppose made by William Riley, Second by Peter Tyson
10	Designate one seat on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representation.		
Oppose	0	5	Stan Sheppard made a motion to oppose, second by William Riley



Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting			
March 25-28, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
13	Clarify the process for declaring vacancies and filling expired seats.		
Support	5	0	Motion made by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley
14	Adopt an absence policy allowing advisory committees to remove members who miss more than 50% of meetings without reasonable justification.		
Support	5	0	Motion to support made by William Riley, second by Peter Tyson
15	Allow advisory committees to provide additional recommendations.		
Support	5	0	Motion to support made by Peter Tyson, second by William Riley
17	Establish a process in regulation for developing board proposals.		
Support	5	0	Motion to support made William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard
18	Adopt a regulation or a Joint Board policy to limit certain types of amendments.		
Oppose	5	0	Motion to oppose made by William Riley, second by Stan Sheppard

XI. Decide which Board meetings to attend and Select representative(s) for board meeting
Peter Tyson made a motion to send Bill Alstrom, with Stan Sheppard as alternate to be sent to the Board of Game Western Arctic Western Region meeting. If needed the chair may choose someone to go in their place. Approved unanimously.

Stan Sheppard made a motion to sent William Riley to the Joint Board meeting in March in Anchorage, second by Peter Tyson. Approved unanimously

XII. Set next meeting date – December 8, 2024. Motion by Stan Sheppard, second by William Riley. Approved unanimously.

XIII. Other

- a. Stan Sheppard said that the Advisory Committee conducts state business but is not paid for their service, it is purely volunteer. He said OCS workers are paid, and Board of Fish and Board of Game members are paid. He asked why they are not equal. The AC agrees and feels that there should be some sort of compensation or stipend. Bill Alstrom talks about how hard it is to participate when people are missing out on wages and feels that there should at least be a small stipend to help people and for the work they do. William Riley suggested that Stan Sheppard write a letter to the legislature and Department of



Administration commissioner. Savannah Hollingworth said she would help distribute the letter. Stan agreed to write the letter.

- XIV. Adjourn – Stan Sheppard made a motion to adjourn, second by Peter Tyson. Unanimous consent.

Adjournment: 5:23 PM

Minutes Approved By: Stanislaus Sheppard, vice-chair MLY AC by email

Date: 1/12/2023



**North Slope Advisory Committee
November 21, 2023
Telephonic meeting/Utqiagvik**

I. Call to Order: 9:43 a.m. by Joseph Leavitt

II. Invocation – Billy Adams gave the invocation

III. Introduction of Guests:

Fish and Game Staff Present:

NSB Department of Wildlife Management: Raynita Hepa, Brian Person, Billy Adams, Quincy Adams, Jared Nayakik, Lucy Leavitt

ADF&G: Carmen Daggett, in person, TELECONFERENCE: Alex Sampson, Deb Lawton, Shawna Karpovich, Jordan Pruszenski, Mark Nelson, Christopher Ta, Savannah

Hollingworth: Leigh Honig – Office Of Subsistence Management, US Department of Interior
Sheila Burke, NSB Clerks Office

IV. Oath of Office: Sheila Burke, Borough Clerk administered an Oath of Office for new At-Large member – Caroline Cannon

V. Roll Call

Members Present:

Esther Hugo-Anaktuvuk Pass, Joseph Leavitt-Utqiagvik, Leonard Barger-Pt. Hope, Robert Lisbourne-Pt. Lay, Enoch Oktollik-Wainwright, Dorcas Nashoalook-Nuiqsut, Caroline Cannon/At-Large, Roy Nageak Jr., alternate/at-large

Members Absent (Excused): Wanda Kippi-Atqasuk, Lee Kayotuk-Kaktovik

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6

List of User Groups Present:

VI. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda was passed.

VII. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes for August 30, 2023 was tabled until the next meeting.

VIII. Old Business – Joseph Leavitt asked about if any terms were expiring in December of 2023. None are expiring.

IX. New Business – Proposals to the Alaska Board of Game



- X. Village Concerns: this was tabled until the next meeting
- XI. Set next meeting date – the next meeting will be determined by the NSB Department of Wildlife Management Staff
- XII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm

Alaska Board of Game Northern Meeting Proposals January 26-29, 2024 Kotzebue, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Support	Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
		Oppose	Support proposal 4
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
	Support		The committee fully supports this proposal, this would
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.		
	Support		The committee met in March of 2023 to submit this to the board of game and supports this proposal.
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
			The committee fully supports this proposal.
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
			The committee fully supports this proposal. The residents of Anaktuvuk Pass requested this change.
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
			The committee fully supports this proposal.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Tracy Stewart

Minutes Approved By: Joseph M. Lemm

Date: 12/19/23



Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee
11/7/23

Meeting Called to Order at 1:02pm

Roll Call

Nome: Charlie Lean- Present
Nome: Brandon Ahmasuk- Present
Nome: Jacob Mannix- Present
Nome: Drew McCann- Present
Nome: Kevin Knowlton- Present
Undesignated: Pat Knodel- Present

Undesignated: Tom Grey- Present (phone)
White Mountain: Davis Lincoln- Present (phone)
Wales: Clifford Seetok- Present (phone)
Shishmaref: Johnson Eningowuk (sp)- Present (phone)

Brevig Mission: Henry Olanna- Absent
Golovin: Jack Fagerstrom- Absent

Elim- Vacant
Teller- Vacant

Fish and Game Staff Present

Kevin Clark- Comm Fish
Luke Henslee- Comm Fish
Alicia Carson- Wildlife
Sara Henslee- Wildlife
Brendan Scanlon- Sport Fish (phone)
Chris Ta- Wildlife (phone)
Kristy Tibbles- Boards Support (phone)

Guests

Louie Stang- public
Luis Brizuela- public
Chuck Menadelook- Kawerak

Elections

Three seats were up for election:
Jacob Mannix- Nome
Andrew McCann- Nome
Vacant- Nome

Chair Lean called for nominations
Pat Knodel nominated Louie Stang for a Nome seat
Andrew McCann nominated Jacob Mannix and Luis Brizuela for Nome seats
Kevin Knowlton nominated Andrew McCann for a Nome seat



Results

Louie Stang- 8 votes
Drew McCann- 9 votes
Jacob Mannix- 8 votes
Luis Brizuela- 3 votes

Andrew McCann and Jacob Mannix keep their seats. Louie Stang fills the Nome seat vacancy.

Luis Brizuela- Alternate

Chair Lean asked Luis Brizuela if he would like to be an appointed alternate for Nome. He accepted.

Agenda was approved unanimously.

Tom Grey and Kevin Knowlton both brought up concerns over meeting notifications. They stated notifications had not been received at all in the past or not received until the day prior to the meeting. In person attendance is effected by poor notification. Drew McCann suggested updating contact information for the AC directory. Secretary Mannix will follow up by requesting updated contact information and preferred method of contact from AC members. Charlie Lean expressed concerns about teleconferencing issues discouraging participation.

Reports

Chair's Report

The Western Arctic Caribou Herd continues to decline which has led to multiple proposals submitted to the Board of Game to significantly reduce the harvest of caribou, with special attention to cow harvest. The Caribou Working Group submitted two proposals that the AC will consider today, those proposals are consistent with the WACH management matrix and the herds current abundance. Chair Lean has been attending the WACH Working Groups for several years and appointed himself to represent the AC there again this winter. No objections were heard. The AC needs to consider who they may want to send to the Board of Game meeting in Kotzebue in mid-January.

During the Board of Fish meetings Proposal 140 to establish stricter regulations for the Area M fishery was defeated by a 4-3 vote. There is still a lot of conversation around that proposal. Other topics frequently discussed are by catch in the pollock fishery and hatchery impacts. Bering Sea salmon stocks have been severely depressed for 4 years. There are several stakeholder groups that have been formed to discuss the pollock fishery bycatch, the directed chum fishery in Area M, and the carrying capacity of the North Pacific and Southern Bering Sea. There is a fair amount of discussion about the impacts from pink salmon hatcheries. A recent report from Russia has shown that Russian pink salmon stocks have also been in severe decline, especially this past year.

ADF&G Reports

Kevin Clark, Comm Fish Area Manager

Salmon runs are down. The pink salmon run this past season was about 2% of the recent average pink salmon run, numbers this low haven't been seen since the 1990's. Northern Norton Sound did better than Southern Norton Sound, meeting escapement goals in the Snake, Nome, and Eldorado Rivers. There was "decent" commercial fishing opportunity in District 1 this season although the runs were still weak compared to the 10 year average. Counting projects across the region were impacted by high-water, causing late set up of



projects and incomplete counts. Niukluk project in District 2 was impacted as well as Kwiniuk Tower (District 3), Inglutalik and Ungalik (District 4). When towers were operating the averages of chum salmon were about 20-30% compared to recent years and 2% for pinks. The Kwiniuk river had good initial escapements, comparable to recent years but after about 2-3 weeks into the season the counts dropped off significantly and commercial fishing was stopped until Coho. Elim met their 5,000 Coho escapement goal although catch rates were lower than expected when commercial fishing reopened.

The North River has an escapement goal for pink salmon of 25,000, only 11,000 were counted. There was a significant reduction in commercial fishing and reductions in subsistence fishing as well. Gear size was also limited to 6" or less to reduce King Salmon harvest. Participation in subsistence fishing may have also been impacted by weather. The weather throughout the season was poor and may have caused fewer people to go out subsistence fishing.

The Pilgrim River did not meet the escapement goal for sockeye salmon and subsistence net fishing was never opened. There were only about 1,600 sockeye past the weir. (The lower range limit of the escapement goal is 6,800).

There is good news for crab. There was a high crab CPUE and summer trawl surveys have shown good numbers. The current age cohort is still strong and there should be high numbers of legal-size crab. The one area of concern is that we weren't seeing very good numbers of pre-recruits. It is possible that they were missed in the surveys, but they did not walk off. NOAA and Fish and Game surveys and tagging projects don't indicate that crab leave the area. "The cohort of crab we have now are likely aging out".

Brendan Scanlon Sport Fish Report

Scanlon gave a brief report on a youtube Nome Road System fishing video that will be released to replace the Nome Road System Fishing Guide. Scanlon also responded to AC member comments on grayling populations on the Nome Road system. A grayling rehabilitation project for the Nome River was cancelled by Fish and Game after determining Sport Fish grant moneys should not be used to improve a fishery used primarily by subsistence users.

AC Comments on Fish Reports

Tom Grey: expressed concern over commercial fishing taking away opportunity from subsistence fishers and particularly expressed concerns over the use of aerial survey to measure escapement and manage fisheries. "Aerial surveys are not a good management tool for Fish and game to measure escapement and Fish and Game has said that aerial surveys should not be used to make management decisions". Subsistence catch on the Fish and Niukluk rivers has been very low the last two years and escapement for those rivers needs to be addressed.

Kevin Clark: Addressing escapement goals will have to happen in the next board cycle. This year commercial fishing in subdistrict 2 was more conservative. Chum catch rates were initially high and once we started catching the same number of silvers and chum commercial openers slowed down.

Brandon Ahmasuk also brought up concerns over aerial surveys being inadequate, specifically in reference to the Sinuk River. Ahmasuk referenced a previous ACR that he submitted to change the subsistence limit for sockeye salmon on the Sinuk River that was denied and brought up concerns about subsistence fishing pressure on the Sinuk increasing since the Pilgrim has been closed.



Charlie Lean commented that the salmon run on the Sinuk took 20 years to build up to over 1000 and it has crashed now but Tier II should be avoided. Lean also stated that NSEDC had made the decision to not buy commercial winter crab. The winter crab fishery has a high mortality rate due to handling and lack of any data on mortality caused by pot loss. Regarding crab, the AC should consider several proposals, determine who's responsibility it is to close the season when ice is poor. A second potential proposal is to raise the legal size of crab to 5 inches from 4 3/4 inches.

ADF&G Wildlife Report

Sara Germain, Area Biologist

Alicia Carson, Assistant Area Biologist

Moose abundance surveys conducted in November 2022 in 22D and 22E indicate stable moose populations. Harvests in this fall's hunt were all very near the quotas for 22C, 22B, and 22D Kuzi and remainder. The department is planning a musk ox survey in February through April of 2024. There will also be a moose browse survey conducted in 22A.

Moose Permits Issued in RY23: 524 Resident, 34 non-GMU 22 residents

RY23 Moose Quotas and Harvest:

22C Quota: 25 Harvest: 24

22B West Quota: 26 Harvest: 28

22D Kuzi Quota: 27 Harvest: 31

22D Remainder Quota: 17 Harvest: 17

Length of Moose Season RY23:

22C: 2 days

22B West: 9 days

22D Kuzi: 8 days

22D Remainder: 5 days

There have been 5 musk ox harvested during this season so far, 2 cows and 3 bulls.

The bear harvest in all of unit 22 was 109 bears.

The July photo census for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd showed 152,000 caribou, a continued decline from 164,000 in 2022 and down from 244,000 in 2018. There are no new indications of what is causing the decline, likely multiple different factors and the department is primarily focused on reducing cow harvest.

Proposals

Proposal #2- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, seconded by Jacob Mannix

Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A to four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow.

AC members Jacob Mannix and Tom Grey expressed concerns over the state of the herd and the need to protect the herd now and it is the responsibility of hunters and Fish and Game to properly manage it.

Kevin Knowlton called the question.

Proposal #2 Supported Unanimously

Motion carries

Proposal #3- Jacob Mannix motions to support, seconded by Kevin Knowlton

Close nonresident caribou season in units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.



Charlie Lean stated that the working group put this proposal forward according to the WACH Management Matrix.

Kevin Knowlton called the question
Proposal #3 Supported Unanimously
Motion carries

**Proposal #18- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, seconded by Pat Knodel
Open the caribou season in a portion of unit 22A in the Golsovia River drainages and north of the Klikitarik River for resident and nonresident hunters.**

Tom Grey stated that these animals are reindeer and that Fish and Game also considers them reindeer. He also expressed concern that the proposal may be coming from a guide to open the season to nonresident hunters.

AC members Ahmasuk and Mannix raised concerns over the animals being reindeer and that the proposal did not mention what the bag limit would be or under what hunt it would be administered.

Johnson Eningowuk from Shishmaref stated that if a hunt were to be opened, hunters can probably tell the difference between a reindeer and a caribou

ADF&G opposes the proposal based on the fact that the WACH is declining.

Pat Knodel called the question
None supporting all opposed
Motion fails

**Proposal #19- Pat Knodel motions to support, seconded by Tom Grey
Amended to eliminate the trophy destruction requirement for Tier II Musk Ox hunts.**

Charlie Lean discussed the history of Musk Ox hunting in Nome and how trophy destruction has gone back and forth. The original trophy destruction requirement was put into place during the tier I hunt as an attempt to emphasize the subsistence value and dissuade trophy hunting.

Brandon Ahmasuk shared those concerns and said the hunt was opened as a food resource, not a trophy hunt. Johnson Eningowuk said that people in Shishmaref participate in the hunt for the food regardless and removing the trophy destruction requirement wouldn't change that, they're going to look for one that's edible.

Jacob Mannix and Tom Grey both brought up points that eliminating the trophy destruction requirement does not reduce the subsistence value and allows people to fully utilize all of the animal. Tom Grey also mentioned that trophy destruction is micromanagement of a subsistence hunt.

Alicia Carson discussed the history of trophy destruction in the hunt and also brought up that under current regulations if there were to be an educational class utilizing musk ox horn, that group would need to put in for a cultural and educational permit and whatever was made during the class would not be able to be kept by the people making it. Eliminating the trophy destruction requirement would get rid of that requirement.

Pat Knodel called the question



Proposal #19 as amended to eliminate the Tier II Musk Ox trophy destruction requirement passed.

9 in favor

1 abstain

1 oppose

Motion carries

**Proposal #20- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, Drew McCann seconds
Change the bag limit for Tier II Musk Ox hunts in unit 22 to one musk ox every two years**

Sara Henslee with the department gave statistics on the permit award rate. Award rate for permits is 8%, 41% of permits have gone to the same households, some households have received as many as 9 of the 11 years of Tier II permits. The department is neutral.

Several AC members brought up that the Tier II system is not designed for equal distribution. It's designed to go to the people who score the highest. AC members also stated that they share their musk ox meat with others, so regardless of who gets the permit, multiple people benefit. Other comments were directed at the primary concern being a lack of oversight during the application process and that applications should be made public to dissuade false information on the applications.

Jacob Mannix commented that the proposal was driven primarily by public testimony that had been heard by the AC and frustrations or concerns that have been voiced by members of the AC over allocation of the resource in the past.

Pat Knodel called the question

2 in favor

9 opposed

Motion Fails

**Proposal #21- Jacob Mannix motions to support, seconded by Drew McCann
Change the seasons dates for harvest of cow musk ox to August 1st- October 31st.**

Jacob Mannix explained the reason behind the proposal was primarily due to the Department allowing the harvest of cows as part of a strategy to dissuade musk ox from the near Nome area. This proposal was to try and direct hunting pressure towards cows during the time of year that the musk ox seem to cause the most problems.

Other AC members stated that if the proposal called for the specific allocation of cow permits it might have an impact, otherwise there is no impetus to harvest a cow within the proposed season dates.

Pat Knodel called the question

Abstain- 1

Oppose- 10

Motion Fails

**Proposal #22- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, Brandon Ahmasuk seconds
Establish a minimum caliber for harvesting moose in parts of 22A and 22B as .243**

AC members generally commented that education and proper shot placement is crucial and enforcement is not practical.



Member of the public and Subsistence Director for Kawerak Chuck Menadelook also commented that education is a better solution.

Brandon Ahmasuk also commented that the proposal places an unfair burden on people who may only have smaller caliber rifles and they would be forced to buy new rifles and ammunition.

Pat Knodel called the question
None supporting all opposed
Motion fails

**Proposal #23- Jacob Mannix motions to support, Pat Knodel seconds
Revisit the Amount Necessary for Subsistence for moose in Unit 22**

Brandon Ahmasuk discussed concerns over the lack of time to get a moose under current regulations and the high amount of hunting pressure, calling it combat moose hunting. Ahmasuk also brought up concerns that many people in the area are not getting a moose, or can't take time off work to go moose hunting.

Jacob Mannix shared concerns over the short moose seasons but stated the outcome of the proposal, should it pass, is potentially a Tier II hunt. The Tier II hunt may address concerns about season lengths but it would take away opportunity from a large number of people who are able to hunt for moose currently, regardless of success. The proposal will not increase the number of moose on the land or the number of people putting moose in their freezer and it will hinder the cultural practice of hunting. There are also other potential tools for lengthening moose seasons, such as antler restrictions.

Charlie Lean shared concerns about the potential of the hunt going Tier II, and that in order to get a permit a hunter would need a lot of years of hunt history. When chum salmon was Tier II you needed 60 years of fishing participation to get a permit.

Tom Grey shared concerns over the amount of moose hunting pressure and stated that if the hunt did go to Tier II it could be a benefit and extend the season significantly.

Kevin Knowlton called the question
Support- 3
Oppose- 7
Abstain- 1
Motion Fails

**Proposal #25- Kevin Knowlton makes a motion, seconded by Pat Knodel
Close the nonresident moose season in unit 22C**

AC members commented that we are in a Tier I situation with limited opportunity for residents and none of the other moose hunts administered under RM840 have a nonresident season. Department staff said there isn't a biological need to restrict nonresident hunters currently.

Kevin Knowlton called the question
Support- 10
Abstain- 1
Motion carries

Proposal #26- Jacob Mannix motions to support, Pat Knodel seconds



Proposal to lengthen the nonresident moose season in 22E by two weeks to open August 15th.

Jacob Mannix commented that this would allow nonresident hunters to also harvest brown bear and it would disperse hunting pressure. Only 10 permits are issued regardless of season length.

Other AC members, Kevin Knowlton, Tom Grey, Brandon Ahmasuk and Charlie Lean raised concerns about increased hunting pressure and allowing nonresidents the first chance at moose. Opposition to the opportunity to harvest caribou and brown bear, as mentioned in the proposal, was also expressed.

Pat Knodel called the question

Oppose- 10

Support- 1

Motion Fails

**Proposal #27- Pat Knodel motions to support, Drew McCann seconds
Align resident seasons for Brown Bear in 22C, 22D, and 22E with those in 22B**

Department proposal to make regulations less confusing for resident hunters. No current biological concern because harvest numbers later in the season are very low.

Jacob Mannix called the question

Unanimous support

Motion carries

**Proposal #28- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, Brandon Ahmasuk seconds
Proposal to change the nonresident brown bear draw hunt in unit 22D and 22E to a general season hunt. Amended to allow the Department discretion to allow up to 40 raw permits as conditions allow.**

Jacob Mannix stated that turning into a general season hunt could increase hunting pressure. Kevin Knowlton stated that leaving it as a draw increases funds to the Department and Tom Grey stated that leaving it as a draw tag allows the Department more discretion over the management of the hunt.

Department staff stated they are opposed to the proposal and would amend it to leave the hunt as a draw hunt with the authority to issue up to 40 permits.

Drew McCann called the question to vote on the amended proposal suggested by the department.

Unanimous support for the proposal as amended by the Department.

**Proposal #29- Jacob Mannix motions to support, seconded by Kevin Knowlton
Increase the number of drawing permits available in unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits, or change DB685 to a registration permit. Amended to keeping the current hunt unit and giving discretion to issue up to 40 permits should opportunity permit.**

The Department is opposed as it creates an unnecessary regulatory burden on staff by creating two hunts where there is one and confusion for nonresident hunters.



Tom Grey commented that bear size is generally decreasing and guides are looking to increase opportunity which will only make smaller bears. A report on bear skull size should be present at the next AC meeting.

The Department would amend the proposal to allow for the authority to make in-season changes to the hunt and issue up to 40 permits if there were unsuccessful hunters.

Drew McCann called the question to vote on the amended proposal suggested by the Department.

Support- 10

Oppose- 1

AC supports department amended proposal

**Proposal #190- Kevin Knowlton motions to support, Pat Knodel Seconds
Reauthorization of brown bag tag fee exemption**

Tom Grey commented that having a brown bear tag fee could be a useful tool for tracking bear hunting effort.

Kevin Knowlton called the question

Support- 10

Oppose- 1

Motion - Passed

Final Comments

Charlie Lean mentioned several proposals submitted to the Joint Board of Fish and Game that would limit terms for all AC members and Officers. This would pose a problem in rural Alaska where participation is limited. There are also proposals to include non-consumptive user seats on all AC's.

This AC needs to decide on sending someone to the Board of Game meeting in Kotzebue and another meeting should be scheduled late winter to discuss crab proposals.

Drew McCann showed his support for NSEDC's decision to not buy winter crab for the season

Kevin Knowlton commented that historically Alaskans boast about the good job we do managing our Fish and Game Resources but now it's really time to practice that. There is a great need to manage ourselves and not take too much so there are resources for future generations. If you only put two fish in the freezer this year, hopefully it means you can put four in the freezer next year. Only take what you need.

Pat Knodel makes a motion to adjourn
Seconded by Brandon Ahmasuk
Meeting Adjourned at 5:40

signed November 10, 2023

Jacob Mannix, Recorder

Charlie Lean, Chair of Northern Norton Sound



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.		
N/A			
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
	11	0	
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
	11	0	
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.		
N/A			
5	Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions.		
N/A			
6	Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.		
N/A			
7	Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.		
N/A			
8	Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.		
N/A			
9	Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.		
N/A			
10	Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.		
N/A			
11	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.		
N/A			
12	Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.		
N/A			



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
13			Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.
N/A			
14			Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.
N/A			
15			Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.
N/A			
16			Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.
N/A			
17			Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.
N/A			
18			Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.
	0	11	
19			Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts.
* Amended	9	1	1 Abstain * See Minutes, page 5
20			Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years.
	2	9	
21			Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.
	0	10	1 Abstain
22			Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.
	0	11	
23			Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.
	3	7	1 Abstain
24			Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A.
N/A			
25			Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.
	10	0	1 Abstain
26			Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.
	1	10	
27			Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.
	11	0	



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
28	Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt.		
* Amended	11	0	* See Minutes, page 8
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits or change DB685 to a registration permit.		
	10	1	
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.		
N/A			
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
N/A			
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
N/A			
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.		
N/A			
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area.		
N/A			
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
N/A			
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
N/A			
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
N/A			
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23.		
N/A			
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season.		
N/A			



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
40 N/A			Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round.
41 N/A			Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year.
42 N/A			Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.

	INTERIOR AND EASTERN REGION PROPOSALS		
190			Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A
	10	1	



Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee
November 3, 2023 , 12:00 noon
Myles Gononganan Aaron Panek Memorial Hall
Unalakleet, Alaska
In-person and via Teleconference
Call 1-253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 495 277 1108 passcode: 1

I. Call to Order

Chair Jacob Ivanoff called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm.

II. Roll Call (7 quorum)

Jacob Ivanoff – Chair	Present
Renaë Ivanoff- Secretary	Present
Morris Nassuk – Vice Chair	Present
Wes Jones	Excused
Gary Eckenweiler	Present
Kelsi Ivanoff	Present
Matilda Hardy	Unexcused
Randy Takak	Unexcused
JD Richardson	Present
George Flynn	Present
Keasha Steve	Present
Dominic Richardson	Unexcused

III. Nominations and Officers Elections

Gary Eckenweiler nominated Clayton Mixsooke to be elected to the vacant Unalakleet seat.

JD Richardson moved, seconded by George Flynn to approve nominations and the election of Clayton Mixsooke. The question was called. There was no opposition.

IV. Fish and Game Staff Present: Sara Henslee, Alicia Carlson, Kevin Clark, Luke Henslee, Georgie Phillips, Shawna Karpovich

V. Guests Present: Clayton Mixsooke, Reese Huhta

VI. Approval of Agenda

Gary Eckenweiler made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Kelsi Ivanoff. There was no opposition.



VII. Review Previous Meeting Minutes: April 26, 2023

Gary made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes of April 26, 2023, during the next meeting, seconded by Renae Ivanoff. The question was called. The motion passed.

VIII. Reports

a. Chair's report

Gary Eckenweiler made a motion to approve Chair Jacob Ivanoff's verbal report, seconded by Renae Ivanoff. The question was called. The motion passed.

Jacob Ivanoff gave reminder updates on Board of Fisheries Summary of Actions that took place in February at the Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands and Chignik Area Finfish Meeting and action items that are current or have taken place following the failure to adopt proposal 140. He also informed the committee that there are several fishing vessels in Area M that were ticketed for "chum chucking" during the 2023 commercial fisheries season.

b. ADF&G staff reports

Kevin Clark summarized the commercial salmon and crab fisheries for the season. He noted mixed results for salmon, with overall poor escapement in eastern Norton Sound and adequate escapement in the northern subdistricts. He also gave insight to how seasonal weather patterns influenced salmon enumeration projects this season. There was discussion on depressed salmon returns relative to environmental conditions, heat stress, interception, bycatch, and high escapement pink salmon years. Suggestions were made regarding subsistence salmon openers; however, Kevin noted that Unalakleet and Shaktoolik would likely face more fishing restrictions in 2024 in efforts to conserve Chinook salmon. In addition, Kevin addressed regulation stipulations for opportunities to target pink salmon with beach seine gear versus set net openers.

Sara Henslee provided an update on moose surveys in GMU22. Upcoming aerial surveys are scheduled near Shatkolik and Koyuk and will be dependent on weather. It is anticipated that a browse survey will be completed during the spring of 2024 in the Unalakleet area with an abundance survey scheduled for 2025. There was discussion regarding the winter moose hunt in GMU22. The RM844 winter hunt opens December 1 – January 31 with a quota of 10 antlered bulls.

IX. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

X. Old Business

c. Area M Fishery Review/discussion



Jacob Ivanoff gave an update on the Agenda Change Requests (ACR) 2 and 3 to reduce commercial fishing time, repeal chum salmon harvest triggers, and reduce commercial salmon seine depth in Area M and noted that both ACR's failed during the Alaska Joint Board of Fisheries and Game work session that took place in October. In addition, he noted that there is currently one bill in the senate and one bill in the house to close the Area M June fisheries. There was discussion regarding triggers or caps and the political scrutiny this topic arises and ultimately a consensus that the advisory committee shall proceed in any positive way to continue to support this ongoing issue.

XI. **New Business**

d. GMU 22A, RM841 discussion of extension

There was discussion to modify seasonal dates in GMU22A for the RM841 hunt (currently September 1 – September 30) and the RM844 hunt (currently may be announced December 1 – January 31). This discussion outlined pros and cons with extending the RM841 hunt into October and a consensus was made that any remaining quota of antlered bulls after September 30 should roll over into the RM844 hunt.

e. Board of Game Proposals (refer to page 5-9 for further discussion taken on the following proposals)

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to support proposal 2. The question was called. There was no opposition.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Gary Eckenweiler to support proposal 3. The question was called. Kelsi Ivanoff, JD Richardson, and Gary Eckenweiler chose to abstain from supporting proposal 3. The question was called. There was no opposition.

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by JD Richardson to support proposal 18. The question was called. There was no opposition.

Renae Ivanoff moved, seconded by Gary Eckenweiler to support proposal 19 with amended language "The hunter does not have to submit any of the horn surrounding the eye socket to ADF&G." The question was called. There was no opposition.

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by Kelsi Ivanoff to support proposal 20. The question was called. There was no opposition.

Renae moved, seconded by JD Richardson to support proposal 22. The question was called. There was no opposition.



Kelsi moved, seconded by JD Richardson to support proposal 23. The question was called. Motion failed, 0 – 7.

Renae moved, seconded by JD Richardson to support proposal 24 with amended season dates for the GMU22A RM841 hunt (August 1- September 30) and the RM844 hunt (December 1 – February 28). The question was called. There was no opposition.

JD Richardson moved, seconded by Kelsi Ivanoff to support proposal 190. The question was called. There was no opposition.

- f. Joint Board Fisheries and Game Meeting Proposals (refer to page 10-11 for further discussion taken on the following proposals)

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Keasha Steve to support proposal 3. The question was called. Motion failed, 0 – 7.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by JD Richardson to support proposal 9. The question was called. Motion failed, 0 – 7.

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by Kelsi Ivanoff to support proposal 10. The question was called. Motion failed 0 – 7.

XII. Select representative(s) for board meeting(s)

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff for JD Richardson to attend the BOG meeting in Kotzebue occurring January 26 – 29, 2024 with Kelsi Ivanoff as the alternate. The question was called. The motion passed.

XIII. Next meeting date

The next meeting date is set for March 2024.

XIV. Other

Jacob Ivanoff gave an update on behalf of committee member Wes Jones to remind AC members that proposals for crab are due April 10. Action items for these proposals will take place during the next meeting scheduled for the spring of 2024.

XV. Adjournment

Gary Eckenweiler moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<p><i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i></p>			
1	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.		
No Action			
2	Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow.		
Support	7	0	With the Western Arctic caribou herd is continuous decline in recent years, effort to improve caribou survival, especially cow survival, by reducing human harvest is one way that the chances of a population rebound may increase.
3	Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.		
Support	4	0	<p>There was discussion that nonresident hunters are targeting large bulls over cows. With proposal 2 addressing efforts to improve caribou survival, especially cow survival, there was input that nonresident hunters do not play a significant role in the decline of the Western Arctic caribou herd.</p> <p>Following that discussion, the amount necessary for subsistence users for resident hunters was addressed and there was input that subsistence opportunities supersede any other harvest opportunities by nonresident hunters.</p> <p>Sarah Henslee gave some additional information stating that harvest for nonresident hunters was 300 caribou with an overall harvest of 12,000 caribou for both resident and nonresident hunters. She also gave insight that the Department is neutral on this proposal and there is not a biological concern in GMU22.</p>
4	Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23 and reduce the bag limit.		
No Action			
5	Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions.		



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action			
6			Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18.
No Action			
7			Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15.
No Action			
8			Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18.
No Action			
9			Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.
No Action			
10			Liberalize the moose bag limit in Unit 18 Kuskokwim hunt area.
No Action			
11			Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.
No Action			
12			Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.
No Action			
13			Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18.
No Action			
14			Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.
No Action			
15			Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18.
No Action			
16			Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.
No Action			
17			Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.
No Action			
18			Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.
Support	7	0	There was discussion that there is a residency of caribou outside of areas known and that some caribou herd populations have strayed into GMU22A. With small strays of caribou populations in this area, the biological concern conserving the overall Western Arctic herd population is very low as concentrations of the main herd is further north of the



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Seward Peninsula towards the Brooks Range. This proposal would prevent resident and nonresident hunters from being penalized for targeting caribou in GM22A.
19	Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts.		
Support as Amended	7	0	<p>There was continued discussion regarding the important aspect of subsistence hunting by using as much of the animal as possible. This proposal would allow subsistence users to make use of the horn for crafts and other personal significances.</p> <p>The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee passed a motion to support proposal 19 with the following amended language: <i>"The hunter does not have to submit any of the horn surrounding the eye socket to ADF&G."</i> In accordance with the following proposal, the hunter would still have to submit the jaw to ADF&G.</p>
20	Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years.		
Support	7	0	There was discussion on stipulations regarding the Teir II musk ox hunt as it is a weighted drawing based on a scoring system that awards subsistence permits to users that rank higher in the scoring system. This systematic hunt generally allows certain people to obtain subsistence permits year after year as they continue to secure their rank. This proposal would give a chance for other user groups to participate in the hunt that are less likely to obtain a subsistence permit even though applying year after year.
21	Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.		
No Action			
22	Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.		
Support	7	0	
23	Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.		
Oppose	0	7	<p>There was discussion that the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence uses for moose in GMU22A are being met and that this proposal does not pertain to all game management users in Unit 22.</p> <p>There was a consensus that moose from other areas are continuing to</p>



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			move into the area. This proposal should focus on specific regional game management unit areas instead of the game management unit as a whole.
24	Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A.		
Support as Amended	7	0	Sara Henslee gave background information on this proposal to remove the requirement for the Department to announce the winter moose season in GMU22A and would give the flexibility to administer the registration permit hunt RM844 during the full range of season dates. The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee passed a motion to support proposal 24 with the following amended season dates: RM841 hunt: August 1 – September 30 RM844 hunt: December 1 – February 28
25	Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.		
No Action			
26	Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.		
No Action			
27	Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.		
No Action			
28	Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt.		
No Action			
29	Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits or change DB685 to a registration permit.		
Support	7	0	There was a consensus that with the abundance of bears in the area, this would be beneficial to all user groups.
30	Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.		
No Action			
31	Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.		
No Action			
32	Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect.		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals

January 26-29, 2024 | Kotzebue, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
33	Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.		
No Action			
34	Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can take place in those areas.		
No Action			
35	Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries and expand the state hunt areas.		
No Action			
36	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
No Action			
37	Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow.		
No Action			
38	Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23.		
No Action			
39	Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season.		
No Action			
40	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round.		
No Action			
41	Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year.		
No Action			
42	Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.		
No Action			
190	Reauthorize the current resident tag exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23, and 26A.		
Support	7	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory committee supports this proposal submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.



Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting Proposals

March 25-28, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Require one-month public notice for advisory committee election meetings and 14 days-notice for regular meetings.		
No Action			
2	Require all advisory committee meetings be accessible via call-in option.		
No Action			
3	Reduce the terms for advisory committee officers from two years to one.		
Oppose	0	7	There was a consensus that it is difficult enough to fill election officer seats for rural advisory committees and reducing the terms from two to one years would not be beneficial.
4	Clarify the responsibilities for advisory committee chairs.		
No Action			
5	Clarify the responsibilities for the officer position of secretary/recorder		
No Action			
6	Allow advisory committees with community designated seats to appoint alternates for those communities.		
No Action			
7	Clarify the process for appointing advisory committee alternates, allow alternates for communities having more than one designated seat, and establish one year term limits for alternates.		
No Action			
8	Allow advisory committees the discretion to set membership term dates.		
No Action			
9	Limit the number of consecutive terms advisory committee members can serve.		
Oppose	0	7	There was a consensus that it is difficult enough to fill election office seats for rural advisory committees and limiting the number of consecutive terms members can serve would not be beneficial. This proposal should focus on regional specific locations.
10	Designate one seat on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representation.		
Oppose	0	7	There was a consensus that part of the roles of advisory committee members are to be knowledgeable regarding consumptive use that is relative to Board of Game regulations. Designating one season on each advisory committee for non-consumptive representation would not be beneficial without such knowledge.



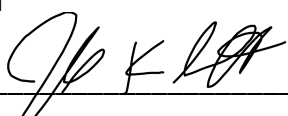
Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting Proposals


March 25-28, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
11	Designate non-consumptive user seats for the Anchorage, Cooper Landing, Fairbanks, Homer, and Matanuska Valley advisory committees.		
No Action			
12	Clarify the provision that advisory committees may not reject a nomination for an undesignated seat when membership is less than the number of members authorized.		
No Action			
13	Clarify the process for declaring vacancies and filling expired seats.		
No Action			
14	Adopt an absence policy allowing advisory committees to remove members who miss more than 50% of meetings without reasonable justification.		
No Action			
15	Allow advisory committees to provide additional recommendations.		
No Action			
16	Dissolve seven advisory committees in the Southeast Region due to inactive status.		
No Action			
17	Establish a process in regulation for developing board proposals.		
No Action			
18	Adopt a regulation or a Joint Board policy to limit certain types of amendments.		
No Action			
19	Redefine the boundaries for the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area.		
No Action			



Minutes By: Renae Ivanoff

Minutes Approved By: 

:  12/14/23

Date: November 16, 2023