

**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME**  
**Central & Southwest Region Meeting**  
**Best Western Lake Lucille Inn | Wasilla, Alaska**  
**January 10 – 15, 2025**

**Meeting Summary**

The Board of Game (Board) convened the Central and Southwest Region meeting on Friday, January 10, 2025 in Wasilla, Alaska at the Best Western Lake Lucille Inn. Six Board members were present: Chairman Jake Fletcher, Vice-Chairman Stosh Hoffman, Allen Barrette, Dave Lorrington, James Garner, and Jim Baichtal. Member Ruth Cusack was absent.

The meeting opened with introductions and Board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by agency reports. The list of agency reports is provided on page 8. Public testimony began Friday, January 10, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. and concluded Sunday, January 12 at approximately 11:00 a.m. The Board heard from 61 testifiers which included 11 advisory committee representatives. (See Record Copy #29 for the complete list of testifiers.) Board deliberations began Sunday, January 12, at approximately 11:35 a.m. following the conclusion of public testimony.

The Board considered 84 proposals, adopting 30. Board action for each proposal is listed in “roadmap order” of the deliberations and provided as: C =carried; CA = carried as amended; F = failed; or NA = no action.

The meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=01-10-2025&meeting=wasilla>.

**Regionwide & Multiple Units (4 proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins January 12, at 11:37:26 AM.*

- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 1:** Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemptions for the Central and Southwest Region Units.
- F (3-3)     **PROPOSAL 2:** Open two bear baiting seasons in Units 9, 11, 13, 14B, 14C, 16, and 17 where bear baiting is legal
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 3:** Allow the use of cellular cameras for the taking black bear and brown bear over bait in Unit 9, 11, 13, 14B, 16, and 17.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 4:** Establish general season, archery only sheep hunts in Units 9, 11, 13, 14A, and 14B

**King Salmon Area (20 proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins January 12, at 03:09:28 PM, following the management area overview presented by ADF&G.*

- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 5:** Reduce the nonresident bag limit for caribou in Unit 9D from two bull caribou to one.

- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 6:** Shorten the nonresident hunting season for caribou in Unit 9D.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 7:** Extend the fall Southern Alaska Peninsula caribou season for residents and nonresidents.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 8:** Clarify that hunting feral reindeer in Unit 10, Umnak Island, is allowed under the current caribou hunting regulations. *The Board adopted the option for defining reindeer on Umnak Island as deleterious exotic wildlife under 5 AAC 92.990.*
- F (3-3)     **PROPOSAL 9:** Lengthen the spring and fall brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 10:** Close Unit 9A to nonresident brown bear hunting.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 11:** Shorten the spring and fall brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9C by one week for residents and nonresidents.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 12:** Lengthen the fall brown bear hunting seasons in Units 9D and 9E for both residents and nonresidents.
- NA         **PROPOSAL 13:** Lengthen the fall brown bear hunting seasons in Units 9D and 9E for residents and nonresidents, and lengthen the nonresident spring hunting season. *The Board took no action due to the action on Proposal 12.*
- NA         **PROPOSAL 14:** Lengthen the fall brown bear hunting seasons in Units 9D and 9E for residents and nonresidents. *The Board took no action due to the action on the previous proposals.*
- C (5-1)     **PROPOSAL 15:** Lengthen the nonresident, spring brown bear hunting season in Units 9D and 9E.
- NA         **PROPOSAL 16:** Lengthen the fall brown bear hunting seasons in Units 9D and 9E for residents and nonresidents, *The Board took no action due to the action on the previous proposals.*
- F (3-3)     **PROPOSAL 17:** Lengthen the spring and fall brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9E for residents and nonresidents.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 18:** Shorten the spring and fall brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9C for residents and nonresidents, and convert to drawing permit hunts. *Note: the Board reconsidered Proposal 18 on January 13, at 11:25*
- CA (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 19:** Establish a hunting season and nonresident bag limit for Arctic fox on the Pribilof Islands in Unit 10. *The Board amended the proposal to set the season dates at 9/1 – 4/30, the nonresident bag limit at two, and no limit for residents.*
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 20:** Establish a nonresident bag limit on Arctic fox trapping on the Pribilof Islands in Unit 10.

- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 21:** Remove the two per day bag limit for beaver when taken by firearm during April 15–May 31 in Unit 9.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 22:** Shorten the season for hunting wolverine in Unit 9 for both residents and nonresidents.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 23:** Lengthen the nonresident hunting season for Emperor geese in Units 9 and 10, and increase the number of permits allocated to nonresident hunters.  
*(Deliberations on this proposal occurred January 12 at 03:48:19 PM.)*
- C (4-2)     **PROPOSAL 24:** Close the season for Alaska hares in Units 9 and 17.

**Dillingham Area – Unit 17 (14 proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins January 13, at 03:01:16 PM, following the management area overview presented by ADF&G.*

- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 25:** Increase the number of moose drawing permits issued to nonresidents for Unit 17A.
- C (4-2)     **PROPOSAL 26:** Lengthen the nonresident, fall moose hunt in Unit 17A.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 27:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 17A.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 28:** Reduce population and harvest objectives for moose in Unit 17B.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 29:** Review the population and harvest objectives for the Mulchatna caribou herd.
- F (1-5)     **PROPOSAL 30:** Implement a three-year moratorium on caribou hunting in Units 9, 17 and 19.
- NA         **PROPOSAL 31:** Close the resident caribou season in Units 9B, 17 and 19. *The Board took no action because the season is already closed.*
- C (5-1)     **PROPOSAL 32:** Allow the year-round take of brown bear in Unit 17.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 33:** Allow same day airborne take of brown bear and wolves Unit 17.
- NA         **PROPOSAL 34:** Allow the same day take of brown bear in Unit 17. *The Board took no action due to the action on Proposal 33.*
- CA (4-2)     **PROPOSAL 35:** Shorten the trapping seasons for wolverine in Units 9 and 17, to the last day of February. *The Board amended the proposal to exclude Unit 18.*
- F (3-3)     **PROPOSAL 36:** Shorten the hunting season for wolverine in Unit 17.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 37:** Remove the two per day bag limit for beaver when taken by firearm and allow the use of firearm from October 10 – May 31 in Unit 17.

CA (6-0)    **PROPOSAL 38:** Lengthen the permit dates to access Walrus Island State Game Sanctuary for hunting. *The Board amended the permit dates to September 1 – October 20.*

**Glennallen Area – Units 11 & 13 (25 proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins January 14, at 08:50:08 AM, following the management area overview presented by ADF&G.*

C (5-1)    **PROPOSAL 39:** Reduce population and harvest objectives for moose in Unit 13B. *Note: This proposal was reconsidered January 15 at 4:08:50 PM.*

C (4-2)    **PROPOSAL 40:** Change the population objective for moose in Unit 13C.

C (5-1)    **PROPOSAL 41:** Reduce harvest objectives for moose in Unit 13C.

C (5-1)    **PROPOSAL 42:** Reduce harvest objectives for moose in Unit 13E.

NA        **PROPOSAL 43:** Establish an antlerless moose season in Unit 13A. *The Board took no action due to not having approval by the advisory committees for that unit as required by Alaska Statute.*

NA        **PROPOSAL 44:** Establish an antlerless moose season in Unit 13C. . *The Board took no action due to not having approval by the advisory committees for that unit, as required by Alaska Statute.*

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 45:** Add a five-day archery only season for hunting moose in Unit 13.

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 46:** Change the Unit 13 community subsistence moose hunt to a registration hunt with additional conditions and restrictions.

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 47:** Open a late season archery only drawing permit hunt for any bull moose in Units 13E and 13B, along the Denali Highway.

NA        **PROPOSAL 48:** Modify the intensive management plan for Unit 13 to include Nelchina caribou. *The Board requested a feasibility study from ADF&G to be presented at the Southcentral Region meeting in March 2026.*

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 58:** Reduce the minimum wolf population in the Unit 13 Intensive Management Plan for wolves.

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 49:** Eliminate the harvest of Nelchina caribou.

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 50:** Change the sheep draw hunt DS165 in Unit 13D to a general season hunt.

F (0-6)    **PROPOSAL 51:** Open a resident only sheep hunt in the Chitina River drainage in Unit 11.

- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 52:** Create a new management area around MacColl Ridge in Unit 11, open to resident sheep hunting by registration permit only.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 53:** Establish a resident, archery only sheep drawing hunt in Unit 13D.
- C (5-1)     **PROPOSAL 54:** Change the bag limit for the Unit 13D sheep drawing hunts, DS160 and DS260.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 55:** Divide the goat drawing permit hunt DG720 into three separate permit hunts.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 56:** Establish an archery only registration goat hunt in Units 13D and 11.
- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 57:** Increase the bag limit for brown bear in Unit 13.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 59:** Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 11.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 60:** Lengthen the coyote trapping season in Unit 11.
- C (4-2)     **PROPOSAL 61:** Change the start date for the ptarmigan hunting season in Unit 13B.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 62:** Extend the spring hunting season for ptarmigan in Units 13A, 13C, and 13D.
- NA         **PROPOSAL 63:** Require a registration permit to hunt ptarmigan in Units 13B and 13E. *The Board took no action based on the request of the sponsor to pull it.*

#### **Palmer Area - Units 14A, 14B & 16 (21 proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins January 15, at 09:08:04 AM, following the management area overview presented by ADF&G.*

- C (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 64:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose draw permits in Units 14A and 14B.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 65:** Decrease the number of antlerless moose permits for Unit 14A.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 66:** Open a fall, archery only moose hunt in Units 14A and 14B.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 67:** Open a fall, archery only moose hunt in Unit 16A.
- F (0-6)     **PROPOSAL 68:** Change the bag limit of the fall, Tier II moose hunt in Unit 16B.
- CA (6-0)     **PROPOSAL 69:** Shorten the season for the Tier II moose hunt in Unit 16B. *The Board amended the proposal to close the season on the “last day of February” and clarified implementation will be in the following year due to permits already being awarded for the upcoming hunting season.*
- NA         **PROPOSAL 70:** Extend the hunting season for brown bear in Units 14A and 14B. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 71.*

- CA (5-1) **PROPOSAL 71:** Extend the brown bear hunting season in Unit 14B. *The Board amended the proposal to include Unit 14A.*
- NA **PROPOSAL 77:** Extend the brown bear season in Unit 14B, *The Board took no action due to action on Proposal 71.*
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 72:** Eliminate the harvest ticket requirement for hunting black bear in Unit 16.
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 73:** Change the bag limit for sheep in Unit 14A draw hunts to any ram.
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 74:** Establish a resident, archery only, sheep drawing hunt in Unit 14A.
- C (6-0) **PROPOSAL 75:** Add Department removal of wolves, brown bears, and black bears to Unit 16 Intensive Management Plan.
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 76:** Allow the take of brown bear in Unit 16, the same day airborne.
- NA **PROPOSAL 78:** Allow the same day airborne take of wolves in the active, Unit 16 Intensive Management Plan. *The Board took no action due to having limited authority under AS 16.05.783.*
- CA (6-0) **PROPOSAL 79:** Extend the wolf trapping season in Unit 14A. *The Board amended the proposal to restrict the use of steel traps and snares to 3/32-inch diameter or smaller during the months of October and April.*
- C (6-0) **PROPOSAL 80:** Require sealing of beaver taken in Unit 16.
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 81:** Require traps and snares set within two miles of publicly maintained roads in Unit 14A be checked at least every 36 hours.
- CA (6-0) **PROPOSAL 82:** Establish 50-yard trapping setbacks along specific trails in Unit 14. *The Board amended the proposal to define “enclosed” as provided for in PC 8, page 10, allowing for 3-inch diameter openings.*
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 83:** Extend the spring hunting season for ptarmigan in Unit 16.
- F (0-6) **PROPOSAL 84:** Extend the spring hunting season for ptarmigan in Units 14A and 14B.

#### **Proposals Outside the Board of Game’s Authority**

*The Board did not discuss the following proposals.*

**PROPOSAL 167:** For Unit 17, exempt residents who have a Tribal ID card from having a hunting or trapping license.

**PROPOSAL 168:** For Unit 17, exempt residents who have a Tribal ID card from having a hunting license for taking small game.

**PROPOSAL 171:** All domestic animals on lands designated as refuges, critical habitat areas, ranges and parks in the Central & Southwest Region, must be physically restrained by a tether.

**PROPOSAL 174:** Pause Predator Control program in Unit 17 until ADF&G can come up with a population assessment of bear density.

**PROPOSAL 184:** Establish a 4-zone management approach in Units 17A, 17B, 17C, 9B, and Unit 18.

### **Miscellaneous Actions**

The Board assigned member Barrette with drafting findings for consideration of safety issues of types of trapping methods preferred with congested trail use. The findings are expected to be reviewed at the Statewide Regulations meeting scheduled for March 2025. *(The audio for this discussion occurred January 15, 2025 at 04:42:24 PM.)*

The Board adopted a positive finding for customary and traditional take of black bear in Units 9A and 9B. The Board deferred developing the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for these units to the next Central Southwest Region meeting. *(The audio for this discussion and the ADF&G report occurs on January 12, 2025 at 11:42:16 AM.)*

The Board adopted findings (RC 39) providing a management recommendation to ADF&G for Dall sheep in Unit 13D. *(The audio for this discussion occurs January 15, 2025 at 04:44:54 PM.)*

### **Adjournment**

The Board adjourned the meeting on January 15, 2025, at approximately 5:00 p.m., two days ahead of schedule.

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**January 10 – 15, 2025**  
**List of Oral Reports**

**Reports provide January 10, 2025**

1. Agency Updates/Reports
2. Central & Southwest Region Overview for the Division of Wildlife Conservation– Tim Peltier, ADF&G
3. Overview of the ADFG Foraging Ecology and Wildlife Nutritional Analysis Lab – Kristin Denryter
4. Population Status of Arctic Hares – Chris Barger, ADF&G
5. Subsistence Overview – Lauren Sill and Jackie Keating, ADF&G

**Reports Provided During Deliberations** *(See the dates and times for the audio provided for each proposal section on the previous pages.)*

**Regionwide and Multiple Units**

- Customary and Traditional Use Worksheet Presentation, Black Bear, Unit 9 – Lauren Sill, ADF&G

**King Salmon Area**

- Management Area Overview (Unit 9) – Amy Vande Voort, ADF&G

**Dillingham Area**

- Management Area Overview (Unit 17) – John Landsiedel & Evelyn Lichwa, ADF&G
- Mulchatna Caribou Herd Intensive Management Report – John Landsiedel
- Mulchatna Caribou Herd Nutrition and Disease Study – Kristin Denryter, ADF&G

**Glennallen Area**

- Glennallen Area (Units 11 & 13) – Heidi Hatcher and Jack Cornish, ADF&G
- Unit 13 Intensive Management Report, Heidi Hatcher, ADF&G

**Palmer Area**

- Palmer Area (Units 14A, 14B & 16) – Chris Bockman & Gerrit VanDiest, ADF&G
- Unit 16 Intensive Management Report – Chris Brockman & Gerrit VanDiest, ADF&G