

**Alaska Board of Game  
Statewide Regulations Meeting  
March 21 - 27, 2025 | Anchorage, AK  
Egan Civic & Convention Center,  
Anchorage, Alaska**

***Meeting Summary***

The Board of Game (Board) convened the Statewide Regulations meeting on Friday, March 21, 2025, in Anchorage at the Egan Civic and Convention Center. Seven Board members were present: Chairman Jake Fletcher, Vice-Chairman Stosh Hoffman, Allen Barrette, Dave Lorrington, James Garner, Jim Baichtal, and John Wood.

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, March 21, at 11:20 a.m. and concluded Monday, March 24, at 8:50 a.m. The Board heard from 90 testifiers which included 22 Advisory Committee representatives. (See Record Copy #167 for the complete list of testifiers.)

Board deliberations began Monday, March 24, at 9:00 a.m. following the conclusion of public testimony. The Board considered 87 proposals, adopting 32 including action on 16 authorization proposals for antlerless moose hunts and brown bear tag fee exemptions. Board action for each proposal is provided in the summary as: C =Carried; CA = Carried as Amended; F = Failed; or NA = No Action.

All meeting material including ADF&G reports, and comments on proposal from agencies, advisory committee, and the public are available on the meeting website at:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=03-21-2025&meeting=anchorage>.

To listen to board deliberations on proposals, each proposal section provides audio tracking information, which can be accessed at:

<https://adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/swf/2024-2025/swr-2025/index.html>.

**Migratory Bird Hunting (3 Proposals)**

***The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 24, at 09:03:40 AM.***

**F (2-5)**     **Proposal 85:** Change the definition for migratory bird hunting guide services to include transporter services.

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 86:** Require mandatory harvest reporting of sea ducks.

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 87:** Restrict the use of boats for hunting waterfowl.

**Hunter Education Requirements (3 Proposals)**

***The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 24, at 10:01:19 AM.***

**CA (4-3)**     **Proposal 89:** Require nonresident moose hunters to attend a hunter orientation course and be accompanied by a registered guide or resident family member within the second degree of kindred. *The Board amended the proposal to remove the guide/2<sup>nd</sup> degree kindred component of the proposal. The Board also clarified nonresident moose hunters are required to take the hunter orientation course, just once and not annually.*

- C (4-3)**     **Proposal 90:** Require all goat hunters to pass an online mountain goat quiz prior to hunting.
- NA**         **Proposal 91:** Require all goat hunters to pass an online mountain goat quiz prior to hunting. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 90.*

### **Sheep Hunting (10 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 24, at 11:29:39 AM.*

- CA (4-3)**     **Proposal 92:** Require sheep hunters to complete an online education course. *The Board amended the proposal to apply to the fall, general season harvest ticket hunts having full curl ram bag limits, effective July 2026.*
- F (0-7)**     **Proposal 93:** Change the sealing requirement for Dall sheep horns from permanent to nonpermanent.
- F (0-7)**     **Proposal 94:** Change the definition for “full-curl” ram.
- F (0-7)**     **Proposal 95:** Repeal the age criteria for the definition of full-curl horn ram.
- NA**         **Proposal 96:** Repeal the age criteria for the definition of full-curl horn ram. *The Board took no action due to action on Proposal 95.*
- C (6-1)**     **Proposal 97:** Lengthen the time period hunters are restricted from using aircraft for hunting sheep.
- F (3-4)**     **Proposal 98:** Lengthen the time period hunters are restricted from using aircraft for hunting sheep.
- F (1-6)**     **Proposal 99:** Shorten the time period hunters are restricted from using aircraft for hunting sheep and modify the use of aircraft restrictions.
- F (2-4-1)**   **Proposal 100:** Limit nonresident sheep hunting opportunity statewide so that nonresidents do not harvest more than 35 percent of total sheep harvest from any game management subunit.
- C (6-1)**     **Proposal 101:** Add sheep to the list of species identified as important for providing high levels of human consumptive use. *The Board requested the department provide data at the March 2026 meeting to assist the Board with establishing the annual historic human harvest levels, and to begin the regional determinations for population and harvest objectives.*

### **Unit 19C Sheep Hunting (19 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 24, at 04:37:34 PM.*

- CA (5-2)**     **Proposal 190:** Modify the resident and nonresident hunt structure for sheep in Unit 19C and establish a guide concession pilot program. *The Board amended the proposal to set the number of drawing permits at “up to 20”; 16 for residents, 3 for nonresidents, and 1 for nonresidents hunting with a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree kindred relative. (Note: The Board reconsidered this proposal on 3/27 at 08:33:40, and adopted findings related to this proposal under Miscellaneous Actions).*
- F (0-7)**     **Proposal 192:** Modify the resident and nonresident hunt structure for sheep in Unit 19C.
- NA**         **Proposal 102:** Reopen all Unit 19C sheep hunts. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*

- NA**      **Proposal 103:** Reopen Unit 19C to sheep hunting. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- NA**      **Proposal 104:** Reauthorize nonresident Dall sheep hunting in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- NA**      **Proposal 105:** Reopen Unit 19C to nonresident sheep hunters. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- NA**      **Proposal 106:** Reopen sheep hunting in Unit 19C to nonresidents. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- NA**      **Proposal 107:** Reestablish seasons and bag limits for sheep hunting in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- NA**      **Proposal 108:** Change nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 190.*
- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 109:** Reopen sheep hunting in Unit 19C to nonresidents, by bow and arrow only.
- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 110:** Change the sheep bag limit in Unit 19C for resident hunters to one ram with full- curl horn or larger every two regulatory years.
- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 111:** Set the sheep bag limit in Unit 19C for resident hunters based on the age of the ram harvested, for six- to eight-year-old rams.
- NA**      **Proposal 112:** Set the sheep bag limit in Unit 19C for resident hunters based on the age of the ram harvested, for six- to ten-year-old rams. *The Board took no action due to action taken on Proposal 111.*
- NA**      **Proposal 113:** Shorten the sheep hunting season in Unit 19C for residents and open a season for nonresidents in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action on Proposal 190.*
- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 114:** Change all sheep hunting in Unit 19C to archery only, and require future nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C to be by bow and arrow only.
- NA**      **Proposal 115:** Reopen the subsistence winter sheep hunts in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action because the season was not closed.*
- NA**      **Proposal 116:** Reopen the late season resident only subsistence sheep registration hunt RS380 in Unit 19C. *The Board took no action because the season was not closed.*
- NA**      **Proposal 117:** Modify sheep hunting opportunity in Unit 19C or other subunits in the western Alaska Range by implementing a sheep management plan. *The Board took no action due to previous actions and discussion.*
- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 118:** Close all nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19.

**Game Management Unit and Controlled Use Area Boundaries (4 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 25, at 11:40:04 AM.*

- F (0-7)**      **Proposal 119:** Change the boundary between Units 21E and 21D.
- C (7-0)**      **Proposal 120:** Change the boundary between Unit 25C and 25D.
- F (0-6-1)**      **Proposal 121:** Divide Unit 15C into two subunits.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 191:** Define the beginning and terminus of the Nine Mile trail in the Ladue River Controlled Use Area.

**Proxy Hunting (2 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 25, at 01:56:23 PM.*

**C (4-3)**     **Proposal 122:** Allow proxy hunting for plains bison statewide.

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 123:** Allow remuneration to be provided to proxy hunters

**Cultural Permits (1 Proposal)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 25, at 02:25:19 PM.*

**C (4-3)**     **Proposal 88:** Add wood bison to the list of game species allowed to be taken for cultural purposes under a permit issued by the Department of Fish and Game.

**Permits for Bear Baiting (2 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 25, at 02:25:19 PM.*

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 124:** Define the term “permanent dwelling” to “permanent domicile” for the purpose of bear baiting.

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 125:** Define "developed recreation facility" and "permanent dwelling" for bear baiting in Units 15 and 7.

**Unlawful Methods & Means (9 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 25, at 03:29:22 PM.*

**C (5-2)**     **Proposal 126:** Allow the use of electronically enhanced night vision and forward-looking infrared devices for taking furbearers statewide

**NA**           **Proposal 127:** Allow the use of electronically enhanced night vision and forward-looking infrared devices for taking furbearers statewide. *The Board took no action due to the action on proposal 126.*

**NA**           **Proposal 128:** Allow the use of night vision and thermal optics for taking furbearers Statewide. *The Board took no action due to the action on proposal 126.*

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 187:** Allow the use of night vision, thermal scopes, and artificial light to be used only for hunting predators.

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 129:** Establish a minimum standard of centerfire rifle cartridges for taking big Game.

**F (2-5)**     **Proposal 130:** Establish a minimum standard of centerfire rifle cartridges for taking moose.

**F (1-6)**     **Proposal 131:** Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares.

**F (1-6)**     **Proposal 132:** Prohibit nonresidents from using snowmachines to approach and pursue the take of wolves and wolverine.

**NA**           **Proposal 133:** Prohibit trappers from using snowmachines to approach and pursue the take of wolverine. *The Board took no action due to the action on Proposal 132.*

### **Hunting & Other Permits (7 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 08:33:36 AM.*

- F (0-6-1)**    **Proposal 134:** Allocate 90% of all moose drawing permits to residents.
- F (0-6-1)**    **Proposal 135:** Allocate 10% of the big game drawing permits to nonresidents.
- F (0-7)**        **Proposal 136:** Limit bison and musk ox drawing permit hunts to once in a lifetime and allow applicants to apply once per hunt.
- F (0-6-1)**    **Proposal 137:** Change the drawing hunt permit process.
- C (7-0)**        **Proposal 138:** Remove the requirement for a locking tag in subsistence hunts for musk ox.
- C (7-0)**        **Proposal 188:** Award DI403 and DI404 permit recipients whose tags were cancelled on July 24, 2024 the same hunting permits for an upcoming season, and develop a plan with ADF&G to ensure late season changes do not impact hunters. *The Board amended the proposal to allow the transfer of permits to occur over regulatory years 2026 and 2027. (The Board adopted findings related to this proposal, adopted under Miscellaneous Actions).*
- NA**            **Proposal 189:** Allow a permittee who had their Unit 20D bison permit revoked for regulatory year 2024, to have the permit transferred to regulatory year 2026 upon request or remove the lifetime and ten-year loss of eligibility for those hunters to apply. *The Board took no action due to the action on Proposal 188.*

### **Salvage, Sealing & Sale of Game (6 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 10:27:51 AM.*

- F (2-5)**        **Proposal 139:** Change the evidence of sex requirements for horned big game animals.
- F (0-7)**        **Proposal 140:** Eliminate the evidence of sex requirement for big game having bag limit restricted to one sex.
- C (7-0)**        **Proposal 141:** Allow the transfer of possession of game meat and game parts to be captured in a digital video format or on paper form.
- F (1-6)**        **Proposal 142:** Allow for the sale of legally harvested big game trophies without a permit.
- NA**            **Proposal 143:** Allow for the sale of legally harvested big game trophies without a permit. *The Board took no action due to the action on Proposal 142.*
- C (7-0)**        **Proposal 144:** Shorten the time period from six months to 60 days for taxidermist to obtain a permit to sell unclaimed furs, skins, and trophies.

### **Permits for Possessing Live Game (Clean List) (3 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 01:43:16 PM.*

- NA**            **Proposal 145:** Add Eurasian Eagle Owl to the list of animals allowed to be possessed in Alaska without a permit. *The Board took no action based on the request by the submitter to withdraw it.*
- F (0-7)**        **Proposal 146:** Exempt sterilized cats from the list of species prohibited from being released into the wild.

**C (6-1)**     **Proposal 147:** Delegate authority from the Board of Game to the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game. *The Board clarified adoption of this proposal applies to paragraphs a and b under 5 AAC 92.029.*

**Intensive Management (1 Proposal)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 02:40:19 PM.*

**F (0-7)**     **Proposal 148:** Impose certain conditions on the commissioner's ability to implement an intensive management plan following its adoption by the Board of Game.

**Advisory Committee Jurisdiction for Antlerless Moose Hunts (1 Proposal)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 02:55:23 PM.*

**CA (7-0)**     **Proposal 149:** Add the Nushagak and Togiak ACs to the applicable subunits for authorizing antlerless moose hunts and move the Stony/Holitna AC from the Western Region to the Interior Region. *The Board amended the proposal with RC 191 as substitute language which adds the Nushagak AC to Unit 17A.*

**Reauthorizations for Antlerless Moose Hunts and Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemptions (16 Proposals)**

*The audio for Board deliberations on this section begins March 26, at 03:02:14 PM.*

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 150:** Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Northeast Alaska.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 151:** Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 152:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6(C).

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 153:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twenty mile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14(C).

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 154:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14(C).

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 155:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 156:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 15C.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 157:** Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 158:** Reauthorize a fall antlerless hunt during September and a winter any-moose season during February in a portion of Unit 19D.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 159:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 160:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B.

**C (7-0)**     **Proposal 161:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20D.

**NA**     **Proposal 162:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20E. *The Board took no action due to the lack of support by the advisory committees having jurisdiction for the subunit.*

**C (7-0)**      **Proposal 163:** Reauthorize a winter any-moose season during March in a portion of Unit 21D.

**C (7-0)**      **Proposal 164:** Reauthorize a winter any-moose season during part of February and March in Unit 21E.

**C (7-0)**      **Proposal 165:** Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 26.

### **Miscellaneous Actions**

The Board held an executive session on 3/21/25, for the purpose of having a discussion about legal issues concerning litigation related to game.

The Board received a presentation from ADF&G regarding the Lower Tanana Wood Bison Management Plan. Afterwards, the Board voted unanimously to accept the management plan. *(The audio for this presentation and discussion begins March 27, 2025 at 09:26:44 AM.*

The Board adopted a finding of emergency and emergency regulations concerning intensive management for the Mulchatna caribou herd. *(The audio for the ADF&G presentation and discussion occurred March 27, 2025 at 09:04:42 AM, and at 12:45:58 PM.)*

The Board adopted findings (RC 231) providing direction to ADF&G regarding the distribution of RY 2024 hunting permits for Delta bison, as related to the adoption of Proposal 188.

The Board adopted findings (RC 238) regarding the implementation of the changes to sheep hunting in Unit 19C, based on adoption of Proposal 190 as amended.

### **Adjournment**

The Board adjourned the meeting on March 27, 2025, at approximately 1:00 p.m.

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**List of Oral Reports**

**March 21, 2025**

1. Agency Updates/Reports
2. Lower Tanana Wood Bison Management Plan Report – Darren Bruning, ADF&G (RC 4, Tab 1.1)
3. Unit 19C Sheep Working Group Report – Alistair Bath, Facilitator, and Designated Working Group Members (RC 007)

**March 27, 2025**

1. Mulchatna Caribou Herd - John Landsiedel, ADF&G (RC 234)