

**Findings for the Alaska Board of Game
2006-165-BOG**

**Unit 12 and 20E Intensive Management Supplemental Findings
May 14, 2006**

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by department staff and residents and users of moose in Units 12 and 20E. These findings are supplemental to the findings set forth in 5AAC 92.108, in the Units 12 and 20E predation control implementation plan in 5 AAC 92.125 and in Board of Game Findings 2006-164-BOG.

1. The Fortymile Caribou Herd population size, currently estimated to be 40,000-42,000 caribou, is less than the population objective of 50,000-100,000 caribou. The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last 30 years.
2. The Fortymile Caribou Herd harvestable surplus, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), currently estimated at 840-880 bulls, is less than the harvest objective of 1,000-15,000 caribou. The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 30 years.
3. The moose population size in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E, currently estimated to be 4,300-5,200 moose, is less than the population objective of 8,744-11,116 moose (derived from the combined Units 12 and 20E objectives based on proportionate area). The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last 20 years.
4. The harvestable surplus of moose in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), currently estimated at 135-201 bulls, is less than the harvest objective of 547-1,084 moose (derived from the combined Units 12 and 20E objectives based on proportionate area). The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 20 years.
5. The Fortymile Caribou Herd and the moose population in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E are, thus, depleted and reduced in productivity, which has already resulted in a significant reduction in the allowable human harvest of the population.
6. Enhancement of abundance or productivity of both moose and caribou in this area is feasibly achievable utilizing the recognized and prudent active management technique of predator control.
7. The Board has repeatedly, since 1976, been required to significantly reduce the taking of Fortymile caribou by restricting harvest, seasons and bag limits as compared to the level and timing of hunting opportunity that was previously allowed when the population was not depleted and reduced in productivity.

8. The Board has, since 2000, been required to limit the taking of moose in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E by restricting harvest, seasons and bag limits as compared to the level and timing of hunting opportunity that was allowed when the population was not depleted and reduced in productivity.

9. The population and harvest objectives for both moose and caribou in this area have not been achieved, at least in part, because wolf and brown bear predation have been important causes of mortality in the populations, to the extent that the populations are unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved, in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.

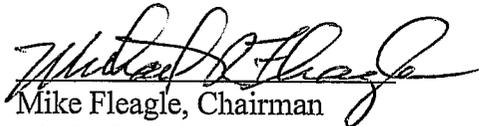
10. Reducing predation can reasonably be expected to aid in achievement of the caribou and moose population and harvest objectives.

11. A person who has been airborne may on the same day take a brown bear with the use of bait or scent lure as authorized under a permit provided by the Department, providing the permittee is at least 300 feet from the airplane at the time of taking.

Vote: 6-0-1

May 14, 2006

Anchorage, Alaska



Mike Fleagle, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game