

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**  
**BOARD OF GAME**  
**March 21 - 30, 1998**  
**Fairbanks, Alaska**

**DESIGNATED REPORTER: Jim Marcotte**

*This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the Board's actions.*

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**PROPOSAL NO. 1**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 84.270(1). FUR BEARER TRAPPING. Remove the bag limit on beaver in Units 20A, 20B , 20C, 20F, and 25C.

**DISCUSSION:** The department presented information on low trapper effort for beaver with about 15 percent of trappers taking a full bag limit. The board indicated the bag limit change will not lead to overharvest and helps with accurate reporting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 2**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 84.270(2). FUR BEARER TRAPPING. No closed season and no bag limit on coyotes in Unit 20.

**DISCUSSION:** A motion to open the season October 15 to April 30 for Unit 20 was considered but withdrawn based on the board's action on proposal 77.

**PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 84.270(5). FUR BEARER TRAPPING. Extend trapping seasons for lynx in Units 12 and 20E to Nov. 1 - Mar. 15.

**AMENDMENT:** A substitute version clarifies the original intent of the proposal to change the hunting regulations, not trapping regulations.

**DISCUSSION:** The board indicated that the longer hunting season simplifies the regulations, benefits those wishing to cull predators, and is biologically justified at this point in the lynx cycle.

**PROPOSAL NO. 4**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 84.270(1). FUR BEARER TRAPPING. Open trapping season for marten in Unit 21 on October 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found that marten usually are not prime in October and are subject to a substantial increase in harvest due to their activity level and longer daylight periods. They also found that changing only the marten season is inconsistent with the effort to synchronize opening dates. Advisory committee opposition noted.

**PROPOSAL NO. 5**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.010. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BISON. Change the maximum number of permits for bison that may be issued in Unit 20D from 150 to 200.

**DISCUSSION:** The department is currently authorized to issue up to 150 permits, but sees the possibility of needing additional permits to maintain the herd at its population objective. The board found that the bison herd can sustain additional harvest and that an increase allows for additional hunting opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 6**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 19B to Sept. 1 - May 31.

**DISCUSSION:** The board chose a conservative action at this time based on a current harvest at or near sustainable levels at 5 percent of the estimated population. Board members noted season differences with other adjacent subunits such as Unit 17B and indicated advisory committee support for the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 7**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 19B to Aug. 25 - May 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 6.

**PROPOSAL NO. 8**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 19B to Aug. 20 - May 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 6.

**PROPOSAL NO. 9**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 19B to Sept. 1 - May 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 6.

**PROPOSAL NO. 10**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the bag limit for brown bear in Unit 19D to one bear per year for residents.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that a positive customary and traditional finding has already been made. This board found that the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence need is 2-6 brown bears after reviewing the limited information on bear use available. An increased harvest rate from 1-2 percent to 5-6 percent was found to be biologically sound, while providing for increased opportunity beyond subsistence needs. The board considered but did not act on adding Unit 19D to the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 11**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 20A to Sept. 1 - May 30.

**DISCUSSION:** The board considered applying the proposed earlier opening date to only that area east of Delta Creek, but voted against either area due to caution about increasing the bear harvest.

**PROPOSAL NO. 12**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates in Unit 20A to Aug. 10 - June 30.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 11.

**PROPOSAL NO. 13**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Change the brown bear season dates and bag limit in Unit 26C to Aug. 20 - May 31, one bear every four regulatory years.

**AMENDMENT:** Substitute language specified for Unit 26B resident hunters one bear every four regulatory years September 1 to May 31, nonresident hunters one bear every four regulatory years by drawing permit September 1 to May 20; for Unit 26C one bear every four regulatory years September 1 to May 31.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed interest in holding the harvest to lower level at first by not issuing permits during the first year.

**PROPOSAL NO. 14**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR, and 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Change the bag limit to one brown bear every two regulatory years in Unit 25D and remove the tag fee.

**AMENDMENT:** One bear every one regulatory year; require that the hides be sealed; the one bear per year counts toward a one bear every four years bag limit in other game management units.

**DISCUSSION:** The board indicated the increased bag limit allows for opportunistic harvests and that the sealing requirement is not burdensome. There is a low level of nonlocal take. Members expressed interest in reviewing an intensive management plan in the area at a later time.

**PROPOSAL NO. 15**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Set the brown bear season in Unit 26B to Sept. 1 - May 31 and designate a number of permits to be issued to nonresidents accompanied by registered big game guides.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 13.

**PROPOSAL NO. 16**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.020. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Begin the brown bear season on Sept. 1 in Unit 26B and reinstate nonresident hunters only on permit drawings.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 13.

**PROPOSAL NO. 17**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Provide additional caribou hunting opportunity in portions of Unit 12 for residents.

**DISCUSSION:** This department proposal was accepted by the board based on department information, advisory committee support, and board interest in increasing hunting opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 18**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Allow residents to take 5 caribou with no more than two bulls, and nonresidents to take one caribou, from Aug. 25 - Apr. 1 in Units 19A and 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members found that this proposal is the wrong solution to reported problems of wanton waste and hunting violations.

**PROPOSAL NO. 19**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Allow nonresidents to take one caribou in Unit 19B from Aug. 25 - Oct. 15.

**DISCUSSION:** The board rejected this proposal because the Mulchatna Caribou Herd size and range are both increasing and because the emphasis should be on enforcement.

**PROPOSAL NO. 20**

**ACTION: No Action**



**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Increase the number of drawing permits for caribou in Unit 20A to 100.

**DISCUSSION:** The board rejected this proposal because the department already has the authority to increase the number of drawing permits up to this level.

**PROPOSAL NO. 21**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Issue 250 drawing permits for bull caribou with more than 6 tines in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited concern with herd recruitment and department effort to bring the bull:cow ratio to 30:100. Because the department is currently authorized to issue up to 100 permits, raising the ceiling does not result in an increased number of permits available.

**PROPOSAL NO. 22**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Change the White Mountains caribou winter drawing hunt to a registration hunt.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited the department's information on low hunter effort, decreasing number of applicants, difficult hunting conditions, that many permittees do not realize hunting conditions before applying, and the lack of opposition to the proposal. The proposed change allows for increased winter hunting opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 23**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Establish a Tier II hunt in Unit 20D for the McComb herd during February and March.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted that the proposer withdrew its support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 24**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Increase the number of registration permits issued for caribou to 450 bulls in Unit 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed interest in keeping the Fortymile Caribou Management Plan in tact and noted the absence of advisory committee support for the proposal. See also discussion on proposal 107.

**PROPOSAL NO. 25**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.025. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Change the caribou season date to open August 1 in Units 25A, 25B and 25D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) information that hunting pressure is light and not believed to be affecting herd movements. Members said it would be a mistake to create the impression that this proposal is really effective and that it is currently within the power of local residents to not hunt early caribou if they find that hunting is a problem. Harvest data indicate low to nonexistent harvest.

**PROPOSAL NO. 26**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supports the reauthorization of the antlerless hunt for this isolated and small moose population in Berners Bay due to population stability. Harvest objective is six to seven cows annually and up to 20 permits are authorized. Only residents participate in this hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 27**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 5A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized the antlerless moose hunt for this remote Russell Fjord area because the low harvest rate is believed to be within harvestable limits. Harvest levels in recent years averaged 2 bulls, from an estimated population size of 50 moose. The board cited advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 28**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized the antlerless moose hunt for Units 6A East and 6A West. Despite hunt cancellations in recent years, the local advisory committees support keeping the hunt on the books to allow for opportunity in years when it is advisable to hold a hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 29**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6B and extend the season dates.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized the antlerless moose hunt citing local advisory committee support. Recruitment rate declined in this subunit and the 1997 hunt was canceled. Board members were informed about the airboat restrictions that resulted from a public review process.

**PROPOSAL NO. 30**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard information from the department that the harvest of antlerless moose is not expected to slow the population growth rate enough to preclude achieving the goal of 400 moose by year 2006. The hunt generally has a high success rate due to the access methods. The board noted local advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 31**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in a portion of Units 7 and 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized this hunt because recent moose census figures are higher than expected and because of advisory committee support. Board members asked about nonresidents participation and the effect of removing nonresidents from the hunt; the department reported a very low participation rate by nonresidents.

**PROPOSAL NO. 32**

**ACTION: Defer to Spring 1999**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Authorize an antlerless moose hunt in Unit 9B.

**DISCUSSION:** Because this proposal is for a new season and not a reauthorization of an existing season, the board questioned its fit within the call for proposals and deferred action until the Southcentral Region meeting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 33**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in a portion of Unit 9C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard information that the Branch River area moose population is about 1,000 moose and that harvest rates are low due to snow conditions and access. Nonresident hunter participation is minimal and the hunt allows for subsistence needs in light of poor salmon harvests.

**PROPOSAL NO. 34**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14A.

**AMENDMENT:** The board limited the hunt to residents only.

**DISCUSSION:** The department issued 520 permits last year and 470 permits this year for 200-225 cows allowable. Nonresident participation rates are higher in this antlerless hunt than other antlerless hunts because of access. The board asked for additional comments from the Anchorage Advisory Committee; this committee supports amending the proposal to restrict the antlerless hunt to residents only. Board members expressed interest in stopping nonresident participation before it increases.

**PROPOSAL NO. 35**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt on Elmendorf Air Force Base in Unit 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted differences between Elmendorf AFB's and the department's moose population objectives. Nonresident participation in the hunt is a stipulation of the Elmendorf AFB. The board noted advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 36**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in the Birchwood Management Area and the remainder of Unit 14C.

**AMENDMENT:** Remove nonresident hunters from the antlerless hunt only.

**DISCUSSION:** The Birchwood area was made an archery-only area in 1990 due to safety concerns by area residents and the hunt receives low participation by nonresidents. The board noted advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 36A**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in the Fort Richardson Management Area and the remainder of Unit 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted support for the proposal from the Anchorage Advisory Committee.

**PROPOSAL NO. 37**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in the Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area of Unit 15A.

**AMENDMENT:** Restrict nonresidents from the antlerless hunt.

**DISCUSSION:** There is a management agreement between the department and the USFWS. Current moose populations estimates are well above management objective; few if any permits are issued to nonresident hunters, and the number of moose taken is low. The board wants to stop a pattern of nonresidents taking antlerless moose before it gets started.

**PROPOSAL NO. 38**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in a portion of Unit 15C.

**DISCUSSION:** The department reported problems with moose starvation and overbrowsing during severe winters. The board discussed the contradictory recommendations from advisory committees in Unit 15C and received guidance from the Department of Law. The board approved the hunt and instructed the department and the Homer Advisory Committee to work together to establish conditions of a permit hunt. Subsequently, the Homer Advisory Committee recommended a smaller hunt area than in the past.

**PROPOSAL NO. 39**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Delete the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 15C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board rejected this proposal based on action taken on proposal 38.

**PROPOSAL NO. 40**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt on Kalgin Island in Unit 16B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard that the reporting information is questionable because of a different bag limit on Kalgin Island than on the mainland and that the island cannot support a high bull harvest given evidence of overbrowsing. The department urged caution on adjusting season dates at this time.

**PROPOSAL NO. 41**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Establish a general moose hunt in Unit 16B south of the Beluga River.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal was printed in error; the board acted on this issue during its April 1997 meeting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 42**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Extend the season dates for moose in Units 12 and 20E to open Aug. 15.

**AMENDMENT:** Add a November 1-30 drawing permit hunt for a portion of Unit 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board made a positive customary and traditional use finding for moose in Unit 20E and determined the amount necessary for subsistence as 50 to 75 animals. The board noted advisory committee and hunting group support for the proposal and hunter interest in the earlier hunting opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 43**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 19A.

**AMENDMENT:** Add Unit 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited the sustainable level of harvest in Units 19A and 21E and advisory committee support for the hunts. There are reports of hunters needing a more concise interpretation of the half-mile closure along the Yukon River given the number of enforcement warnings issued in the past two years.

**PROPOSAL NO. 44**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Change the moose seasons and bag limits in Unit 19A for residents and nonresidents.

**DISCUSSION:** The board indicated that the proposal does not directly address a wanton waste problem and that a 55-inch antler restriction adds confusion for hunters, which can add cost of education and enforcement. Board members indicated there may be detrimental effects due to a shift to warmer season.



**PROPOSAL NO. 45**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Open moose season in Unit 19B from Sept. 1-30; allow nonresidents one bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines.

**DISCUSSION:** Most moose hunters in Unit 19B are from outside the local area. Board members mentioned resistance in other parts of the state when similar antler restrictions are applied.

**PROPOSAL NO. 46**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5AAC85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Open season in Unit 19B from Aug. 25-Sept. 15; allow nonresidents one bull with 55-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 45.

**PROPOSAL NO. 47**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. In Unit 19B, allow residents one bull moose with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines.

**DISCUSSION:** The board was hesitant to redefine a legal moose for both resident and nonresident hunters following action on proposal 48.

**PROPOSAL NO. 48**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASON AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. In Units 19B and 19C, eliminate antler restriction for nonresidents and allow residents and nonresidents to take one bull moose.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited the need to take subsistence uses into account if an antler restriction is applied to the subsistence hunt. Also questioned was the frequency of burying moose with sub-legal antlers which were accidentally taken. Hunting opportunity by local area residents was not considered to increase because of access.

**PROPOSAL NO. 49**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members cited advisory committee support, continued ample opportunity, and generally high moose densities.

**PROPOSAL NO. 50**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Change moose season in Unit 20 to include four weekends in Sept., or three weekends in Sept. and one weekend in Oct.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that most accidental kills are calves and cows due to their prevalence in population. The board noted advisory committee opposition to the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 51**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Raise the brow tine requirements for moose in the Ferry Trail Management Area of Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board chose to keep the current brow tine requirements in place in order to give the recently-made change more time to take effect. The board also noted the lack of support from the local advisory committee.

**PROPOSAL NO. 52**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Shorten the moose season in Unit 20A east of the Delta Creek to Sept. 1 - Sept. 15.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated bull moose in that area during the season are moving through the area and that the population is managed on the basis of winter range. There is no advantage in aligning seasons in this case.

**PROPOSAL NO. 53**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard that the health and makeup of the moose population met objectives and that the bull:cow ratio is adequate to achieve a high cow:calf ratio. The board heard comments from advisory committees that both favored and opposed the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 54**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Delete the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20B, the Minto Flats Management Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that lone calves have a low survival rate and that relatively few cows are taken from the population so biologically there are no problems. Board members found that the ethic of avoiding the take of cows with calves is already followed, but suggested adding wording in the regulation booklet to discourage the occurrence. The board also cited enforcement concerns such as unintentional violations and making hunters very hesitant to shoot a cow.

**PROPOSAL NO. 55**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Clarify the bag limit for moose in a portion of Unit 20B as "one bull with spike-fork or greater antlers by bow and arrow only."

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed with the intent of restricting the harvest of calf moose. Members supported this proposal in an effort to clarify the definition of antler, and noted support by local hunting groups and advisory committees.

**PROPOSAL NO. 56**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Allow a bull moose season for bow hunters in a portion of Unit 20B, Sept. 16 - 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The department clarified that IBEP certification will not be needed, but made no recommendation because of the allocation issue. Some board members cited the low hunter success rate in Unit 20B and favored a shorter 5-day bow season. An amendment to specify a Sept. 16-20 season failed. Members mentioned that the amount of hunting effort, if adopted, is not known and that nothing precluded bow use in regular season.

**PROPOSAL NO. 57**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Allow a bull moose season for bow hunters in a portion of Unit 20B for residents from Sept. 16 - 25 and for nonresidents from Sept. 15 - 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted its discussion on proposal 56.

**PROPOSAL NO. 58**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Establish an antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board does not support increased hunting as a solution to this specific problem of crop destruction and noted advisory committee opposition, which precludes board authorization on antlerless hunts.

**PROPOSAL NO. 59**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide a moose hunt from Aug. 15 - 28 in Unit 20D.

**AMENDMENT:** Subsistence and general hunt within the Healy River drainage for one spike-fork bull August 15-28 or one bull January 1 to February 15.

**DISCUSSION:** The amended version was recommended by the local community residents and the Delta Advisory Committee as a way of meeting subsistence needs and reducing conflicts with waterfowl hunters. Board members found that the Healy River drainage is hunted primarily by Healy Lake Village residents due to the relatively difficult access. Board members found the community and staff cooperation in drafting the proposal a model process.

**PROPOSAL NO. 60**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide a Tier II moose hunt from Jan. 1 - Feb. 15 in Unit 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 59.

**PROPOSAL NO. 61**

**ACTION: Table**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide a subsistence-only moose hunt from Aug. 20 - Sept. 10 in Unit 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board received comments from the Department of Law that it is not legal to limit a hunt to only local residents. Board members cited high moose densities, high hunter success rates, and aircraft access restrictions as factors in providing a reasonable opportunity for subsistence needs. Land ownership status and consistency with federal hunting regulations were considered. Some members saw an advantage for hunters with season alignment because most moose are taken below mean high water mark where state regulations prevail. The board directed the department to work with FWP and the GASH Advisory Committee to clarify hunt area boundaries along the Yukon River half-mile area restriction.

**PROPOSAL NO. 62**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board relied on fall trend count data showing a healthy moose population as support of the proposal. Board members expressed appreciation for the quality of population and harvest data available and cited the importance of the moose population for meeting local subsistence needs.

**PROPOSAL NO. 63**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide an archery moose hunt in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that the areas bow hunters use is dependent on water level along the riverways. Inclusion of compound bows was discussed, as was the cost to the public. The board found that the subsistence hunt already provides opportunity for those choosing archery.

**PROPOSAL NO. 64**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide an archery moose hunt from Sept. 1 - 25 in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 63.

**PROPOSAL NO. 65**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Provide an archery moose hunt from Sept. 1 - 5 in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 63.

**PROPOSAL NO. 66**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Eliminate the restriction on the number of permits issued for moose hunting in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reviewed data from a post-season hunter questionnaire. The department requested board direction on how to destroy the value of the trophy, on the edible meat salvage requirement, and on the procedure for permit issuance. The maximum number of permits taken at any one time is 153, well below the maximum previously authorized by the board.

**PROPOSAL NO. 67**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Units 22B, 22D, and 22E.

**DISCUSSION:** The department recommended clarifying the hunt area description. The board considered specific regulatory wording but chose to direct its intent to the department. The board cited healthy moose populations, acceptable harvest levels, and economic importance of the hunt to local communities at this time of year.

**PROPOSAL NO. 68**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 23.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized this antlerless hunt based on moose densities and stable populations in three census areas and the hunt's importance in the local subsistence economy. Hunt area boundaries not changed.

**PROPOSAL NO. 69**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The board reauthorized this antlerless hunt based on moose population data and the hunt's importance in the local subsistence economy.

**PROPOSAL NO. 70**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5AAC85.045.HUNTING SEASON AND BAG LIMIT FOR MOOSE. Eliminate closed season and bag limit for moose in Unit 25A except one bull may be taken from Sept. 5-25 and meat must stay on the bone.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members expressed hesitation in eliminating season dates and bag limits. The board recommended considering the concepts in this proposal as part of discussions of proposal 79.



**PROPOSAL NO. 71**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.045. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Change season dates for moose hunting in Units 25C to Sept. 5 - 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board rejected this proposal citing the withdrawal of advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 72**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.050. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN. Create a Tier II subsistence hunt and a registration hunt for muskoxen in Unit 22.

**AMENDMENT:** Open a Tier II hunt August 1 to March 15 for Unit 22D west of Grantly Harbor, Imuruk Basin, and the Pilgrim River Drainage, Unit 22E, and Unit 23 west of and including the Buckland River drainage.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard a report on recommendations made during a previous muskoxen cooperators meeting. The department is expecting continued expansion of the herd and prefers easing into a harvest rate of 5 percent. Board members discussed the possibility of federal management and local concerns regarding state management. The board found that 100 animals were needed to meet the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence and that keeping trophies is not part of the subsistence use pattern.

**PROPOSAL NO. 73**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.050. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN. Create a Tier II subsistence hunt for muskoxen in Units 22B and 26C.

**AMENDMENT:** For Unit 26B west of the Dalton Highway, a September 15 to March 31 Tier II hunt; for Unit 26B east of the Dalton Highway, a Tier I (registration permit) hunt and a September 20 to October 10/March 10 to March 30 drawing permit hunt. Neither hunt area is open for nonresident hunters.

**DISCUSSION:** The department-led working group recommended a 5 percent harvest rate based on spring pre-calving populations. The board found the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence use to be 20 animals west of the Dalton Highway and 4 animals east of the Dalton Highway. Board members indicated that the residents-only decision is based on the limited hunting opportunity and the idea that it should be an Alaskan hunt because the herd growth is the result of a cooperative efforts of Alaskans. The actions taken are consistent with the North Slope Muskoxen Harvest Plan.

**PROPOSAL NO. 74**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5AAC85.055. HUNTING SEASON AND BAG LIMIT FOR DALL SHEEP. Eliminate closed season for sheep in Unit 25A; one full-curl ram may be taken from Aug.10-Sept. 20 and meat must stay on bone.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members indicated that the existing liberal seasons are currently providing for subsistence opportunity. The Department of Law questioned the constitutionality of placing limits on the ability to export game taken in a given management unit.

**PROPOSAL NO. 75**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.056. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR WOLF, and 5 AAC 84.270(13). FUR BEARER TRAPPING. Eliminate bag limit for wolf in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The Department of Law commented that the board is not authorized to allow any method of harvest given statutory restrictions such as no same-day airborne shooting of wolves. The board noted the lack of advisory committee support for the proposal. There is currently no bag limit on the trapping of wolves in Unit 21.

**PROPOSAL NO. 76**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.057. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR WOLVERINE. Change the season for wolverine to Aug. 10 - Mar. 31 in Unit 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated such action can result in a slight increase in harvest because of take during other hunting activity, but that the wolverine abundance is stable. The board considered also including Unit 19C because of the similarity of subunits. Members weighed the increased harvest opportunity with the lower value of the fur prior to trapping season and failed to approve the earlier season for either subunit.

**PROPOSAL NO. 77**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.060(1). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR FUR ANIMALS. Change the season and bag limit for coyotes in Units 12 and 20E to 10 coyotes from Aug. 10 - Apr. 30.

**AMENDMENT:** Expand statewide the extended season of September 1 to April 30. However, the board placed a 10 coyote limit with no more than two allowed to be taken before October 1 for Units 12, 19-21, 24, and 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board cited the abundant coyote population, a high repopulation rate, the absence of a trapping bag limit for coyote, and that fact that coyote are not easily hunted as factors in the longer hunting season.

**PROPOSAL NO. 78**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.065. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR SMALL GAME. In Unit 20, extend ptarmigan season to Apr. 30 and eliminate the 5-mile corridor.

**AMENDMENT:** An amendment clarified the regulatory wording for portions of Unit 20 to extend the hunting season through April.

**DISCUSSION:** The board indicated that there are limited ptarmigan hunting areas, that there is not a biological problem with the longer season, and that it results in increased hunting opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 79**

**ACTION: Defer to Spring 2000**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 85.XXX. NEW REGULATION. Establish a new regulation to allow village/community quota system for moose and caribou hunting.

**DISCUSSION:** The board had a thorough discussion of this proposal, and in the end, recommended the department work with the local communities to draft a more detailed proposal for future board consideration. The Department of Law noted that under the “all Alaskans” subsistence policy, the board is authorized to provide group permits provided that other groups are not excluded. Board members saw the need for more accurate harvest data and invited a revised proposal during the Spring 2000 meeting cycle.

The board also made a positive customary and traditional finding for moose in Unit 25B, with the amount necessary for subsistence needs as 15 to 37 moose, and a positive customary and traditional finding for moose in Unit 25C outside the non-subsistence use area, with the amount necessary for subsistence needs as 8 to 15 moose.

**PROPOSAL NO. 80**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, the Northwest Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, and the Chignik Brown Bear Management Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The department presented a summary of harvest statistics. Managers indicated that the tag fee exemption results in better harvest reporting. The board cited support from local advisory committees and the USFWS for the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 81**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in portions of Unit 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 82.

**PROPOSAL NO. 82**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in portions of Unit 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board approved the annual brown bear tag fee exemption for Unit 20D north of the Tanana River and east of the Gerstle River after making a positive customary and traditional finding for brown bear in Unit 20D. The board reviewed the available information on brown bear use and found that the amount necessary for subsistence opportunity is 1 to 2 bears.

**PROPOSAL NO. 82A**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in portions of Unit 13.

**DISCUSSION:** The department recommended this proposal to increase the harvest by an estimated 15 bears per year. The board noted that the harvest will be within sustained yield levels and that there is advisory committee support.

**PROPOSAL NO. 83**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Eliminate the brown bear tag fee exemption in Unit 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 82.

**PROPOSAL NO. 84**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Authorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in Unit 19D East.

**AMENDMENT:** Require any brown bears taken in Unit 19D be sealed within that subunit.

**DISCUSSION:** The board relied on the department's ability to monitor the hunt closely and noted the two-year board cycle before adopting this proposal. The board specified that a bear taken in this subunit applies to the one bear in four regulatory years and that the action taken applies to all of Unit 19D.

**PROPOSAL NO. 85**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Authorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in Unit 20A and replace with trophy fee.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed concern about the potential long-term effect of any overharvest. The Department of Law noted that neither the board nor the department are authorized to change fees.

**PROPOSAL NO. 86**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.015. BROWN BEAR TAG FEE EXEMPTION. Authorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in Unit 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that a tag fee exemption will not result in a significant difference in moose calf survival on Unit 20E and that current brown bear harvest is near or at the sustainable level. Board members noted the negative customary and traditional use finding and the concerns of advisory committees.

**PROPOSAL NO. 87**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.016. MUSK OXEN TAG FEES. Reduce tag fee in Units 22, 23, 26B, and 26C.

**AMENDMENT:** Waive the tag fee requirement for subsistence hunting of muskoxen.

**DISCUSSION:** Tag fee is waived for any subsistence muskoxen hunting area because the board determined that local, noncash economies are causing a problem for some hunters. Board also noted favorable public testimony.

**PROPOSAL NO. 88**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.046. PERMITS FOR TAKING INCIDENTAL OR STRANDED MUSK OXEN. Allow harvest of muskoxen in Units 24 and 26A.

**AMENDMENT:** Broaden that area where the department issues permits for taking muskoxen to all of Unit 26A and Unit 24 on state managed lands within two miles of the John River.

**DISCUSSION:** The department recommended the change based on local concerns of impact of muskoxen on caribou migrations, with the goal of diffusing potentially contentious situations. Board members support role of local residents in this area of muskoxen management, which may lead to greater acceptance of this species. The board's intent is to protect a subsistence livelihood in Anaktuvuk Pass where hunters critically rely on the caribou.

**PROPOSAL NO. 89**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.050. REQUIRED PERMIT HUNT CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES. Require nonresident and nonresident alien hunters to use a registered guide to hunt any big game animal.

**DISCUSSION:** The board was advised by the Department of Law that it lacks legal authority to require the use of guides. Board members also suggested that it is costly to implement.

**PROPOSAL NO. 90**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.052. DISCRETIONARY PERMIT HUNT CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES. In Unit 21B, require only proof of sex of animal taken under subsistence registration hunt.

**AMENDMENT:** Delete subsistence and general registration permit hunts for the Nowitna River drainage and replace with a one bull Sept. 5-25 resident hunt and 50-inch or four brow tine September 2-20 nonresident season.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed the registration hunt is no longer needed in light of recent hunting effort and moose abundance. Amended season dates bring state regulations in line with federal regulation.

**PROPOSAL NO. 91**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.052. DISCRETIONARY PERMIT HUNT CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES. Eliminate the restriction on the number of permits issued for moose hunting in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** Proposal is similar in intent as proposal 66, which also failed.

**PROPOSAL NO. 92**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.085. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING BIG GAME; EXCEPTIONS. Change the end of black bear baiting season to match the end of the period when the meat is required to be salvaged: May 31.

**DISCUSSION:** The board questioned whether the proposal fit the call for proposals and considered deferring the proposal to the next statewide meeting, but in the end decided to reject the proposal and let the proposer resubmit it at a future time.

**PROPOSAL NO. 93**

**ACTION: Fail**



**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Allow only snares with modified locks for breakaway of moose to be used in snaring wolf.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed problems with consistency in modifications, noting that some mechanisms are available but not all with proven results. Board members cited public testimony that the concept is good but the technology is not yet developed. The board noted the significant potential cost to trappers and chose to refer the idea to a best management practices discussion among trappers.

**PROPOSAL NO. 94**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Allow only sets of wolf snares with loops less than 40 inches above the snow surface.

**DISCUSSION:** The board understood the intent but did not see how it can work in practicality. The board notes that many advisory committees opposed it, that it causes problems in areas with rapid snow depth fluctuations, and that the practical cost of implementing it is too high.

**PROPOSAL NO. 95**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Allow only snares with wires equal to or more than Number 9 in size for snaring wolves.

**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that field research is not available to support this proposal. Board members fear that it locks trappers into a specific technology when it is not known what materials might be available in the future. The board also noted withdraw of support by the proposer and the potential cost to the public if implemented.

**PROPOSAL NO. 96**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Clarify regulation language regarding how width is measured on traps.

**AMENDMENT:** Language specifying how a modified trap is measured.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed whether problems could arise with the definition of a conventional trap if modifications are applied. The board found widespread support for this particular trapping proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 97**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Allow no more than two snares to be used in a single set; require sets be placed a minimum of 50 linear yards apart.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed conventional snaring practices and limits of defining specific practices. Members suggested the proposal addresses a problem that does not really exist, and if passed places a high cost to both the urban and rural trapper. Members cited extensive oral testimony by experienced trappers opposed to this proposal. The board considered, but did not adopt, an amendment to limit the number of snares to no more than 25

within an area within a radius of 100 yards from any given point. The board suggested most of the issue resulted from public misperceptions and that it is not really a biological issue.

**PROPOSAL NO. 98**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Eliminate the use of snares to trap wolves.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found no basis for eliminating snares and that trapping practices are based on respect for animals and the sustained yield principle. Board members indicated that snares are and have been an important tool for taking furbearers and that the data used to support this proposal is based on a specific department control program which was inaccurately extrapolated to apply to the state as a whole. The department presented information on how it conducted its control program in Unit 20A and how this program differs greatly from how a typical trapper operates. The board referenced public testimony and found no support for the proposal by trappers or those living in rural communities.

**PROPOSAL NO. 99**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Require every trap be marked with identification tag.

**DISCUSSION:** The trap tag idea generated lengthy discussion by the board. The department made no recommendation, though FWP supported the idea as a means of better enforcement in certain cases. The board expressed confidentially concerns, whether a driver's license number or the Alaska Public Safety Information System Number (ASPIN) is used. Board members also expressed concern about potential threats to trappers and malicious tampering with a trapper's sets. The board received considerable testimony on the cost to public and that trap ownership is generally common knowledge, particularly in smaller communities.

**PROPOSAL NO. 100**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Require every trap be marked with identification tag.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 99.

**PROPOSAL NO. 101**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Require traps be checked once every 24 hours.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found that such a requirement is inappropriate in Alaska and adds a significant burden to trappers. Board members cited extensive testimony from people who are expert in their field that this would add astronomical costs and an undue burden to trappers, particularly those using lengthy traplines.

**PROPOSAL NO. 102**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Require reporting of animals injured or killed by traps or snares.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found no advisory committee support for this proposal and pointed out the role of a trapper's Fifth Amendment rights in reporting unlawfully taken animals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 103**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Prohibit trapping within one-fourth mile of any moose, caribou or deer incidentally taken in a trap or snare.

**AMENDMENT:** The proposal was amended to read, "by placing or leaving any active trap or snare set on land within one-quarter mile of any moose, caribou, or deer taken by use of a trap or snare within the same regulatory year."

**DISCUSSION:** The department wants to offer consistent guidance to the public on what constitutes use of an incidentally taken animal for bait and submitted this proposal to clarify the distance. The Department of Law indicated that the new regulation does not preclude moving a carcass out of the trapping area if that is a trapper's choice.

**PROPOSAL NO. 104**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Allow use of aircraft for access to beaver trapping in the Minto Flats Management Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The department explained that this unique prohibition has been in effect since 1982. The board discussed Minto Flats beaver population levels and the possibility for user group conflict. Members mentioned the practice of letting beaver houses rest for a few years and referenced the Minto-Nenana Advisory Committee minutes which indicates there is still a conflict. Some board members saw a tremendous advantage a plane has over ground-based trappers and wanted to have more evidence before supporting the change, while other members did not see a rush given low beaver prices and wanted to support the increased harvest opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 105**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.125. WOLF PREDATION CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN. Implement a wolf predation control plan in Unit 20A to include same-day airborne hunting.

**DISCUSSION:** The Department of Law explained that such a program violates state statute and that the board does not have authority to authorize same-day airborne hunting unless there is a biological emergency. The board currently has a control program for Unit 20A with a land and shoot provision.

**PROPOSAL NO. 106**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.125. WOLF PREDATION CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN. Issue airborne hunting permits to applicants for wolf control.

**DISCUSSION:** See comments on proposal 105. State statute restrict practice to biological emergencies only.

**PROPOSAL NO. 107**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.125. WOLF PREDATION CONTROL PLAN. End Fortymile wolf control program.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members expressed support for the Fortymile Caribou Management Plan and indicated the grass-roots planning process is critical for developing public support. Department staff discussed caribou herd growth rates and reminded the board that the goal stated in the plan is to allow the herd to fill in the traditional range. Local advisory committees opposed the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 108**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.132. BAG LIMIT FOR BROWN BEARS. Change the bag limit to one brown bear every four regulatory years in Unit 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found that the resource will more than sustain the current one bear per year bag limit and noted advisory committee opposition to the reduced bag limit. The board expects the department to monitor bear population closely in this game management unit.

**PROPOSAL NO. 109**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.XXX. NEW REGULATION. Require sealing of sheep horns taken by nonresidents in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that harvest of sublegal rams in this area is not statistically significant. Board members saw no specific trend in horn size. If passed, the proposal will result in significant increased cost to individuals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 110**

**ACTION: Table**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Repeal the requirements to salvage the bones attached to the meat in Units 9B, 17, 19A and 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action due to action taken on proposal 112.

**PROPOSAL NO. 111**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Repeal the requirements to salvage the bones attached to the meat in Units 9B, 17, 19A and 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action due to action taken on proposal 112.

**PROPOSAL NO. 112**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Require meat be left on the bone until October 15 in Units 17 and 19.

**AMENDMENT:** Change the end date for the meat-on-bone requirement to October 1; clarify that the intent is to have regulation apply only where meat-on-bone regulation is currently required; substitute “those areas” for “the field” in 5 AAC 92.220 (d); specify that the intent is for meat to remain on the front quarter and hindquarters, excluding the ribs.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the role the regulation plays in preventing the waste of meat, and took action to delete the requirement for meat on ribs which it heard from hunters is the most burdensome part. FWP favors this provision from an enforcement standpoint.

**PROPOSAL NO. 113**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Require all edible meat be salvaged in Units 17 and 19.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on the action taken on proposal 112.

**PROPOSAL NO. 114**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Expand the salvage requirements for moose in Unit 21A.

**AMENDMENT:** Delete the requirement to keep meat attached to the ribs.

**DISCUSSION:** The board heard that McGrath is the main exit point for hunters in Unit 21A and that the meat spoilage is a local issue there, though the extent of the problem is not known. Strong support from the local advisory committee was taken into account. The board intent is to have the requirement apply to both moose and caribou meat. Deletion of the requirement for rib meat is consistent with board action taken on proposal 112.

**PROPOSAL NO. 115**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Require reporting of any illegally or incidentally taken game.

**DISCUSSION:** The board visited this issue at its January 1998 statewide meeting to gain additional public comment. The board discussed deletion of the affirmative defense section and compliance requirements. Board members indicated that the proposal may result in more problems that it seeks to resolve, particularly at a time when the hunting community is under more scrutiny than ever before. The board found that most of what the proposal is trying to do is already in place.

**PROPOSAL NO. 116**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.510. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING. Close a portion of Chena Hot Springs Road in Unit 20 to use of firearms.



**DISCUSSION:** The department stated that the Chena Hot Springs Road has one of the highest moose-vehicle collision rates in the Interior, and that it is essentially a safety issue. FWP indicated that the safety issue is one of perception primarily, and that they receive only a handful of calls. Department of Law explained that the board does not have authority to restrict means and methods to address only public safety concerns and urged the board to concentrate on conservation and development issues. The board concurred that the issue is primarily one of public safety issue based on comments heard during public testimony.

**PROPOSAL NO. 117**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.530. MANAGEMENT AREAS. Amend the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area to allow subsistence hunters to travel through corridor on snow machines.

**AMENDMENT:** Add “including the driveable surface of the Dalton Highway” in the management area; add “snowmachines may be used to transport game or hunters only for the purposes of a direct crossing through the corridor from east to west or west to east.”

**DISCUSSION:** The board examined the regulations which restrict passage across the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area and voted to allow passage across the management area to increase access thereby helping hunters in Unit 26. [Note: The Department of Law requested additional time to review this change before adding it to the codified regulation. The board will hear a report from the Department of Law at its Fall 1998 meeting.]

**PROPOSAL NO. 118**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.530. MANAGEMENT AREAS. Prohibit airboats in Minto Wildlife Refuge.

**DISCUSSION:** The Department of Law explained the board’s authority and limits in regulating means of access for game management purposes. The board found that the area is still open for all other non-hunting uses of airboats.

**PROPOSAL NO. 119**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.530. MANAGEMENT AREAS and 5 AAC 85.055. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR DALL SHEEP. Allow an archery hunt for Dall sheep in the Tok Management Area, Units 12, 13, and 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found that this management area, established in 1974, is intended to offer uncrowded hunt conditions, and that the 30-45 trophy sheep currently taken from the area annually is at the upper end of the allowable harvest range. Board members expressed that there is adequate opportunity for hunters using firearms and archery, and that the proposed change is not consistent with the goals and objective of the management area. They noted advisory committee opposition.

**PROPOSAL NO. 120**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS and 5 AAC 85.055. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR DALL SHEEP. Allow an archery hunt for Dall sheep in the Delta Controlled Use Area, Units 13 and 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The department explained that the controlled use area is intended to provide aesthetically pleasing hunt conditions, not maximum hunting opportunity. The board found that the proposal will result in an increased number of hunters, can reduce the hunt quality, and can create potential conflicts between rifle and bow hunters. In its deliberations, board members noted advisory committee opposition and encouraged bow hunters to use the existing drawing permits.

**PROPOSAL NO. 121**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Prohibit aircraft and airboats used for hunting in a portion of Unit 20B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board sees this as primarily an allocation issue and indicated that it did not hear enough reason to support the proposed change, particularly in light of the reported low rate of airboat use in the area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 122**

**ACTION: Table**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Prohibit airboats used for hunting and transporting game in a portion of Units 20 and 21B.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members recognize a conflict among hunters but did not find support for this specific proposal. The board expressed interest in having advisory committees and other groups, including local tribal groups and all stakeholders, continue a discussion of airboat use with the possibility of drafting a revised proposal. Members wished to avoid all-out prohibitions against any one method of access. The board did not establish details on how various perspectives should be brought into discussions, but did see the need for fresh ideas from the public.

**PROPOSAL NO. 123**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Amend the Delta Controlled Use Area so that motorized restrictions apply to big game hunting only.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took action to allow grouse hunters access without being bound by a non-motorized restriction which apply to big game hunting, in part because of support by hunting organizations. The board considered, but did not approve, an amendment to strike August 25 and add August 24 in order to allow motorized vehicles to assist in hunting for removal of game from area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 124**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Repeal the Nenana Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The department presented an overview on airboat use. The board inquired about current legal challenges to the controlled use area and commented that much of the public testimony addresses the use of airboats for hunting directly rather than for access to the general hunt area. The board took action on the Nenana Controlled Use Area under proposal 125.

**PROPOSAL NO. 125**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Allow use of airboats used for hunting in the Nenana Controlled Use Area.

**AMENDMENT:** Add a provision to allow airboats within the main channels of the Teklanika, Toklat, and Nenana rivers and at the public boat launch in Nenana.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members expressed support for allowing airboats for transportation purposes only within the main river channels. The difficulty with differentiating between traveling and hunting was mentioned. Allowing airboats in the main channels of the Teklanika, Toklat, and Nenana rivers is seen by several board members as good middle ground in a previously contentious issue. Including the Totatlanika and Tatlanika rivers on the list of open waters was considered but not adopted. Department of Law reminded the board that in no event can hunting take place from a moving vessel.

**PROPOSAL NO. 126**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Allow use of airboats used for hunting in the Nenana Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 125.

**PROPOSAL NO. 127**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Repeal the Nenana Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action based on action taken on proposal 125.

**PROPOSAL NO. 128**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Create a controlled use area in Unit 19A and restrict use of aircraft for hunting.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found the proposal a broad sweep for some very specific problems which are primarily enforcement issues. Department of Law reminded the board that its authority to reduce user conflicts should be based on how people use fish and game. Board members want to look at an overall picture of the application of controlled use areas for consistency. The board expressed interest in referring the issue back to the village councils and local advisory committees to look at other solutions.

**PROPOSAL NO. 129**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Amend boundaries of Upper Kuskokwim and Holitna-Hoholitna Controlled Use Areas in Units 19A and 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members suggested one solution is for the department to post signs to indicate to hunters in the field more precise locations of the game management unit boundaries. The old boundaries are established based on primary access methods, that is aircraft in Unit 19B and boat in Unit 19A. The board found the local advisory committee opposed changing the boundaries and further found that changing the boundary adds significant cost because of necessary adjustments in historic harvest and biological databases.

**PROPOSAL NO. 130**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Require salvage of hides of big game animals taken in the Holitna-Hoholitna Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board found the use of hides a matter of choice by individual hunters while recognizing that the use of hides is an important subsistence use for some hunters.

**PROPOSAL NO. 131**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Restrict use of Koyukuk Controlled Use Area to residents only.

**DISCUSSION:** The board considered, but did not adopt, an amendment to require nonresident moose hunters to be accompanied by guide or relative of second degree of kindred or to complete a hunter orientation program. The Department of Law indicated that many legislators consider the board without authority to place guiding requirements on hunters. Board members question how the proposal alleviates overcrowding and meat care issues. The board referred to questionnaire data showing a high hunter satisfaction level.

**PROPOSAL NO. 132**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Delete requirement that meat stay on the bone until transported out of the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board first implemented this regulation in 1992. Board members noted opposition from advisory committees closest to the hunt area. FWP's report indicated that compliance is excellent and that they find a much higher quality of meat coming out of this area and higher quality of meat given to locals from nonlocals. Board members recognize the excellent record of meat care.

**PROPOSAL NO. 133**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Prohibit use of airboats in portions of the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal failed because eliminating airboat use on the Yukon River is beyond scope of the board.

**PROPOSAL NO. 134**

**ACTION: Fail**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Expand the boundaries of the Koyukuk and Kanuti Controlled Use Areas.

**DISCUSSION:** The board spent considerable time discussing this issue and at first, approved an amended version, but later under reconsideration elected to not support the proposed expansion of controlled use areas along the Koyukuk River at this time. The department presented information on low moose densities and information that very few hunters report accessing the area by aircraft. Board members discussed which of the two controlled

use areas to extend, meat salvage requirements and permit requirements differ within each area. Board members discussed the use of controlled use areas in light of legislative oversight. When reconsidering the proposal, the board discussed the lack of aircraft landing sites along the highlands flanking both sides of the Koyukuk River in that area, the lack information linking aircraft use to low moose densities, and the potential harm to subsistence interests in other locations if the legislature rescinds the board's authority to establish controlled use areas altogether. These concerns were thoughtfully weighed against trying to provide an opportunity for local hunters to feed their families and being responsive to local requests for protecting hunting interests. The board intends to continue working with Koyukuk River moose hunters to assist in identifying other potential solutions.

**PROPOSAL NO. 135**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.540. CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Open the north end of the Wood River Controlled Use Area.

**AMENDMENT:** Add the area up to the east bank of Tatlinaka Creek to Ferry Trail Management Area.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members found it refreshing for advisory committees to request opening areas in their "back yard." The board discussed moving the northern area to the Ferry Trail Management Area but elected not to. The boundary is east bank of Tatlinaka Creek, the same boundary as the antlerless hunt. The Ferry Trail Management Area allows ATV use.

**PROPOSAL NO. 136**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.990. DEFINITIONS. Adopt definitions for the terms: "harvestable surplus," "harvest objective" and "population objective."

**AMENDMENT:** See Attachment A, "Proposal 136B"

**DISCUSSION:** The department outlined the approach in the current version of SB 250 of defining harvestable surplus. An amended version of proposal 136 speaks to board concerns about addressing predation in the framework for implementing intensive management. The board discussed authorizing predator control in areas where the administration has not taken steps to implement a control program. Members also discussed the use of habitat management as another tool for increasing productivity of prey populations.

**PROPOSAL NO. 137**

**ACTION: Pass as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC.XXX. IDENTIFIED BIG GAME PREY POPULATIONS AND OBJECTIVES. Identify ungulate populations that are important for high levels of human consumptive use.

**AMENDMENT:** List in regulation the herds with a positive intensive management finding.

**DISCUSSION:** The department presented biological and use information on the caribou and moose populations in the Interior Region. The board considered each population and made a finding on whether that population is important for high levels of human consumptive use. The board uses four criteria to determine intensive management findings: 1) historic harvest; 2) accessibility; 3) use for meat; and 4) hunter demand. Members decided to make the findings at this meeting, then receive input from advisory committees and the public before setting the population and harvest objectives for each herd. The board noted several factors in its discussions on how to identify and determine intensive management for each population: how to define the populations, land ownership patterns, customary and traditional use elements, feasibility of predator control in certain areas.



Following are the findings for intensive management for caribou and moose herds in Interior Region:

**BOARD OF GAME FINDINGS FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT (MARCH 1998).**

Caribou population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use		Population objective	Harvest objective	Board discussion
	positive	negative			
Beaver Mtn. Herd		negative			low harvest level
Central Arctic Herd	positive				access relatively good
Chisana Herd		negative			concern about fate of small herds
Delta Herd	positive		6000 - 8000	300 - 500	accessible, high hunter demand, control program
Denali Herd		negative			no harvest, calving grounds in Denali Park
Farewell/Big River		negative			low hunter numbers
Fortymile Herd	positive				existing management plan referenced
Galena Mtn. Herd		negative			almost no harvest
Macomb Herd	positive				small herd size, previously adopted intensive management, local importance
Porcupine Herd	positive		600 - 800	30 - 50	in Alaska, mostly on national wildlife refuge land
Rainy Pass Herd		negative			some board support
Ray Mtn. Herd		negative			low harvest, very poor access
Sunshine Mtn Herd		negative			low harvest level
Tonzona Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access
White Mtn. Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access
Wolf Mtn. Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access

Moose population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use		Population objective	Harvest objective	Board discussion
	positive	negative			
Unit 12	positive				land status in all but northwest corner preclude intensive management, local use important
Unit 19A	positive				high demand
Unit 19B	positive				non-resident hunter rate considered
Unit 19C		negative			lack of access
Unit 19D	positive		19D East: 6000-8000	19D East: 300 - 400	harvest primarily for food, subsistence needs not met
Unit 20A	positive		10,000- 12,000	300 - 500	very high hunter demand, good access
Unit 20B	positive				very high hunter demand, very good access, subsistence permit hunt
Unit 20C non-Denali	positive				access low in portions, high harvest
Unit 20D	positive		8000-10,000	240 - 500	92.125 (3) program in place, Previously adopted intensive management.
Unit 20E Fortymile/Ladue	positive				high hunter demand
Unit 20E Yukon River		negative			land ownership
Unit 20F		negative			low harvest numbers, locally important
Unit 21A		negative			land ownership, lack of access, some support
Unit 21B		negative			half of area in nat'l wildlife refuge, some support
Unit 21C		negative			poor access
Unit 21D	positive				important food source, high hunter demand
Unit 21E	positive				land ownership addressed
Unit 24	positive				important food source
Unit 25A		negative			remote
Unit 25B		negative			remote
Unit 25C		negative			poor habitat, national recreation land



Unit 25D	positive			chronic low density, permit hunt in portion, predator limited
Unit 26B		negative		recent population decline
Unit 26C		negative		small amount of moose habitat

(NOTE: the population and harvest objectives above were previously set and already appear in regulation):

**PROPOSAL NO. AA**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 84.270. FUR BEARER TRAPPING. Clarify land otter trapping in Units 12, 19-26.

**DISCUSSION:** This is a housekeeping proposal brought to the board's attention by the Department of Law. Through an error in the codified regulations, the season was incorrectly printed as Nov. 10 - Apr. 15. This proposal clarifies the season dates of Nov. 1 - Apr. 15.

**PROPOSAL NO. BB**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.095. UNLAWFUL METHODS FOR TAKING FUR BEARERS; EXCEPTIONS. Clarify the trap measurement for taking land otter.

**DISCUSSION:** This is a housekeeping proposal which gives guidance to trappers on how to measure the steel traps used in taking land otter. Specifically, the traps must have an inside jaw spread of less than five and seven-eighths inches during a closed mink or marten season in the same game management unit.

**PROPOSAL NO. CC**

**ACTION: Pass**

**DESCRIPTION:** 5 AAC 92.990. DEFINITIONS. Move the definition of field to the Definitions section of the codified regulations.

**DISCUSSION:** The definition of field appears in 5 AAC 92.220, but is only applicable to that section. By moving the term to the definitions section in regulation, the use of field throughout regulation is now consistently interpreted.

**OTHER ACTIONS**

- BOG Findings 98-119-BOG concerning trapping and snaring of wolves in Alaska: Attachment B
- BOG Resolution 98-120-BOG regarding the ballot initiative banning use of snares: Attachment C
- BOG Findings 98-121-BOG concerning HB 168, Traditional Access: Attachment D

**Future meeting dates set:**

- |                                  |                     |                                      |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| October 23-28, 1998, Ketchikan   | Southeast Region    | Proposal Deadline: August 7, 1998    |
| March 5-15, 1999, Kenai/Soldotna | Southcentral Region | Proposal Deadline: December 11, 1998 |
| October 22-26, 1999, Barrow      | Arctic and Western  | Proposal Deadline: August 5, 1999    |
| January 14-17, 2000, Anchorage   | Statewide Issues    | Proposal Deadline: October 29, 1999  |

ATTACHMENT A

**RC #99**

*[Spring 1998 Board of Game]*

**PROPOSAL 136B** - 5 AAC 92.990. DEFINITIONS. Adopt the following definitions to apply to implementation of AS 16.05.255(e)-(g):

"Harvest Objective" is the human consumptive use goal set by the board in consultation with the department, and means the number of animals to be made available for human harvest from a population or portion of a population on an annual basis.

"Population Objective" means the desired size of a population or portion of a population, set by the board in consultation with the department.

And amend the regulation adopted by the board in Bethel as follows:

(c) consider that depletion of a big game prey population or reduction of the productivity of a big game prey population has occurred when:

- (1) the number of animals, estimated by the department, that can be removed by human harvest from a population or portion of a population on an annual basis without reducing the population below the population objective, preventing growth of the population toward the population objective at a rate set by the board, or altering the composition of the population in a biologically unacceptable manner [HARVESTABLE SURPLUS] is less than the "Harvest Objective" for the population, and
- (2) the population size is less than the "Population Objective for the population;"

And add a new section to the regulation adopted by the board in Bethel as follows:

(f) utilize active management of habitat and predation as the major tools to reverse any significant reduction in the allowable human harvest of the population.

**FINAL ACTION:** Carries <sup>7 - 0</sup> **Fails**      **Tabled**      **No Action**      **See Prop. #** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSTAIN** \_\_\_\_\_

## BOARD OF GAME FINDINGS FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT (MARCH 1998).

Caribou population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use		Population objective	Harvest objective	Board discussion
Beaver Mountain Herd		negative			low harvest level
Central Arctic Herd	positive				access relatively good
Chisana Herd		negative			concern about fate of small herds
Delta Herd	positive				accessable, high hunter demand, control program
Denali Herd		negative			no harvest, calving grounds in Denali Park
Farewell/Big River Herd		negative			low hunter numbers
Fortymile Herd	positive				existing management plan referenced
Galena Mountain Herd		negative			almost no harvest
Macomb Herd	positive				small herd size, previously adopted intensive management, local importance, changed to positive on reconsideration
Porcupine Herd	positive				in Alaska, mostly on national wildlife refuge land
Rainy Pass Herd		negative			some board support
Ray Mountains Herd		negative			low harvest, very poor access
Sunshine Mountain Herd		negative			low harvest level
Tonzona Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access
White Mountains Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access
Wolf Mountain Herd		negative			low harvest, poor access

Moose population	Finding for high levels of human consumptive use		Population objective	Harvest objective	Board discussion
Unit 12	positive				land status in all but northwest corner preclude intensive management, local use important
Unit 19A	positive				high demand
Unit 19B	positive				non-resident hunter rate considered
Unit 19C		negative			lack of access
Unit 19D	positive				harvest primarily for food, subsistence needs not met
Unit 20A	positive				very high hunter demand, good access
Unit 20B	positive				very high hunter demand, very good access, subsistence permit hunt
Unit 20C non-Denali	positive				access low in portions, high harvest
Unit 20D	positive				92.125 (3) program in place, Previously adopted intensive management.
Unit 20E Fortymile/Ladue	positive				high hunter demand
Unit 20E Yukon River		negative			land ownership
Unit 20F		negative			low harvest numbers, short of 100, locally important
Unit 21A		negative			land ownership, lack of access, some support
Unit 21B		negative			half of area in national wildlife refuge, some support
Unit 21C		negative			poor access
Unit 21D	positive				important food source, high hunter demand
Unit 21E	positive				land ownership addressed
Unit 24	positive				important food source
Unit 25A		negative			remote
Unit 25B		negative			remote
Unit 25C		negative			poor habitat, national recreation land
Unit 25D	positive				chronic low density, permit hunt in portion, predator limited
Unit 26B		negative			recent population decline
Unit 26C		negative			small amount of moose habitat

March 1998 Board of Game Interior Region Advisory Committee Comments

Action	No.	TOPIC	Proposed by	ADF&G recommen- dation	Dept. of Law	Interior Advisory Committee														
						McGrath	GASH	Mid. Yukon R.	Koyukuk R.	Ruby	TRM	Minto-Nenana	Lake Minchumina	Mid. Nenana R.	Fairbanks	Delta	UT/Fortymile	Central	Eagle	Yukon Flats
p	1	Beaver bag limit		a				na	na		s	o		s	s			s		
f	2	Coyote season		dna							na									
p/a	3	Lynx 12,20E	UT/40Mile AC	aa										s		s				
f	4	Marten 21		dna				o		s	na									
p	5	Bison 20D	ADF&G	a										s	s	s				
f	6	Brown Bear 19B		dna																
na	7	Brown Bear 19B		tna																
na	8	Brown Bear 19B		tna																
na	9	Brown Bear 19B		tna																
p	10	Brown Bear 19D	McGrath AC	dna																
f	11	Brown Bear 20A		dna										s		o				
na	12	Brown Bear 20A		tna												o				
p	13	Brown Bear 26B	ADF&G	a/a																
p	14	Brown Bear 25D		dna												s				
na	15	Brown Bear 26B		tna																
na	16	Brown Bear 26B		tna																
p	17	Caribou 12	ADF&G	a												s	s			
f	18	Caribou 19A,B	Sleetmute TC	dna	*															
f	19	Caribou 19B	Sleetmute TC	dna	*															
na	20	Caribou 20A		tna										s						
f	21	Caribou 20A		dna																
p	22	Caribou 20	ADF&G	a							s	na		s				s		
f	23	Caribou 20D	Healy Lake TC	dna	*											o	t			
f	24	Caribou 20E		dna											t	o				
f	25	Caribou 25A,B, D	Yukon Flats AC	dna																
p	26	Moose reauth 1	ADF&G	a																
p	27	Moose reauth 5A	ADF&G	a																
p	28	Moose reauth 6A	ADF&G	a																
p	29	Moose reauth 6B	ADF&G	a																
p	30	Moose reauth 6C	ADF&G	a																
p	31	Moose reauth 7,14C	ADF&G	a																
defer	32	Moose reauth 9B	L. Iliamna AC	dna																
p	33	Moose reauth 9C	ADF&G	a																
p/a	34	Moose reauth 14A	ADF&G	a																
p	35	Moose reauth 14C	ADF&G	a																
p/a	36	Moose reauth 14C	ADF&G	aa																
p	36A	Moose reauth	ADF&G	a																
p	37	Moose reauth 15A	ADF&G	a																
p	38	Moose reauth 15C	ADF&G	a																
F	39	Moose reauth 15C close		dna																
p	40	Moose reauth 16B	ADF&G	a																
p/a	42	Moose 12,20E	ADF&G	a														s		
p/a	43	Moose reauth 19A	ADF&G	aa																
p	43A	Moose reauth 19/2E	ADF&G	a																
f	44	Moose 19A		dna												o				
f	45	Moose 19B		dna																
na	46	Moose 19B		dna																
f	47	Moose 19B		dna																
f	48	Moose 19B,C		nr										s						



March 1998 Board of Game Interior Region Advisory Committee Comments

Action	No.	TOPIC	Proposed by	ADF&G recommen- dation	Dept. of Law	McGrath	GASH	Mid. Yukon R.	Koyukuk R.	Ruby	TRM	Minto-Nenana Lake Minchumina	Mid. Nenana R.	Fairbanks	Delta	UT/Fortymile	Central	Eagle	Yukon Flats
p	49	Moose reauth 20A	ADF&G	a								na		s	s				
f	50	Moose 20		dna											o	o			
f	51	Moose 20A		dna										o					
f	52	Moose 20A		dna											s				
p	53	Moose reauth 20B	ADF&G	a							nr	s		s					
f	54	Moose 20B		nr							na	na		o	s				
p	55	Moose 20 FMA	ADF&G	a										s					
f	56	Moose 20B		nr							na				o				
f	57	Moose 20B		tna							na	o		s/a					
f	58	Moose cow 20D		dna											o	s/a			
p/a	59	Moose aug. 20D	Healy Lake TC	aa											a	s/a			
na	60	Moose Tier II 20D	Healy Lake TC	tna											a	s			
t	61	Moose Aug. 21E	Grayling	dna															
p	62	Moose reauth 21D	Mid-Yukon R. AC	a				s	s										
f	63	Moose bow hunt 21D		dna				o	o	o									
na	64	Moose bow hunt 21D		dna				o	o	o									
na	65	Moose bow hunt 21D		tna				o	o	o									
f	66	Moose 250 permits 21D		dna				o	o										
p	67	Moose reauth 22	ADF&G	a															
p	68	Moose reauth 23	ADF&G	a															
p	69	Moose reauth 24	ADF&G	a					s										
f	70	Moose open 25		dna	*														
f	71	Moose later season 25C	Central	dna														t	
p/a	72	Muskox Tier II 22	N. Norton Snd. AC	nr	*														
p/a	73	Muskox 26B	ADF&G	nr	*									?					
f	74	Sheep 25A		dna	*										o				
f	75	Wolf 21D		dna	*			o	o						s				
f	76	Wolverine 19B		nr											s				
p/a	77	Coyote 12,20E	UT/40M AC	aa								s/a		s	s	s	s		
p/a	78	Ptarmigan	UT/40M AC	aa											o	s			
defer	79	Community quota	Yukon Flats AC	defer	*								o	t					
p	80	Bear tag fee exempt	ADF&G	a				s	s					s					
na	81	Bear tag fee exempt 20D	Delta AC	tna										s	s	s			
p	82	Bear tag fee exempt 20D	ADF&G	aa										s	s	s			
p	82A	Bear tag fee exempt 13	ADF&G	a															
na	83	Bear tag fee exempt 20	Wildlife Alliance	tna											o	o			
p/a	84	Bear tag fee exmp 19D e	McGrath AC	dna							s/a								
f	85	Bear tag fee exempt 20A		dna	*										s	s/a			
f	86	Bear tag fee exempt 20E	UT/40M AC	dna											s	s			
p/a	87	Muskox tag fee	ADF&G	aa															
p/a	88	Muskox	NS Br. & ADFG	aa															
f	89	Guiding 19	Cent. Kusko AC	nr	*					o					o				
p/a	90	Moose permits cond. 19	T-R-M AC	aa						s/a	s/a			s					
f	91	Koyukuk CUA permits 250		dna				o	o										
f	92	Bear salvage		tna							s	s		s	s	o	o	s	
f	93	Snare breakaway	Ak Trap Assoc.	dna				o	o	s/a	na	na		o	o	o	o		
f	94	Snare 40"	Ak Trap Assoc.	dna				s	s		s			o	o	o	o		
f	95	Snare fastening	Ak Trap Assoc.	nr				s	s	s	na			o	o	s	o		
p	96	Trap size	Ak Trap Assoc.	a				s	s	s	na			s	s	s	s		
f	97	Snares per set	Wildlife Alliance	nr				o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	s/a	o		

March 1998 Board of Game Interior Region Advisory Committee Comments

Action	No.	TOPIC	Proposed by	ADF&G recommen- dation	Dept. of Law	McGrath	GASH	Mid. Yukon R.	Koyukuk R.	Ruby	TRM	Minto-Nenana Lake Minchumina	Mid. Nenana R.	Fairbanks	Delta	UT/Fortymile	Central	Eagle	Yukon Flats
f	98	Ban wolf snares		dna	*			o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o		
f	99	Trap tag	FWP	nr	*			o	o	o	o	o		o	o	s/a	o		
na	100	Trap tag		nr				o	o	o	o	o		o	o	o	o		
f	101	Trap check 24-hrs		dna				o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o		
f	102	Trap incidental		dna	*			o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o		
p/a	103	Trap bait	ADF&G	a	*			na	na	o	o	s	s	s/a	o	s	o		
f	104	Beaver Minto Flats	Fairbanks AC	nr								o		s	s				
f	105	Wolf control 20A		tna	*														
f	106	Wolf control 20		dna	*						s		s		s	s			
f	107	Fortymile plan end	Wildlife Alliance	dna							o		o		o	o	o		
f	108	Brown Bear 20	Wildlife Alliance	dna							o		o		o	o			
f	109	Sheep horns 20A		dna	*								o		-	o			
t	110	repeal meat/bone 9,17,19	Safari Club	nr										s/a	s				
na	111	repeal meat/bone		tna											s				
p/a	112	modify meat/bone 17, 19		nr															
na	113	repeal meat/bone 17,19		tna											s				
p/a	114	add meat/bone 21A	McGrath AC	nr															
f	115	affirmative defense	ADF&G & Law	aa	*						na			s/a	o				
f	116	closure Chena Ht Sp road		nr	*						s			t					
p/a	117	Dalton corridor	NS Br. & ADFG	a	*			s	s					o					
f	118	airboats Minto Flats		tna							s	s	o	t					
f	119	Sheep Tok Manag Area		dna										?	o	o			
f	120	Sheep Delta CUA		dna											o	o			
f	121	airboat 20B	Minto-Nenana AC	nr							s	s	o	o					
t	122	airboat 20,21	Tanana TC	nr						s	s	s		o					
p	123	Delta CUA	ADF&G	a											s				
f	124	Nenana CUA	Fairbanks AC	nr							o	o	o	s					
p/a	125	Nenana CUA	Fairbanks AC	tna							o	o		s					
na	126	Nenana CUA		tna							o	o		s					
na	127	Nenana CUA		tna							o	o		s					
f	128	new CUA	Sleetmute TC	nr	*														
f	129	boundary 19A/19B	Sleetmute TC	dna															
f	130	hides Ho/Holit	Sleetmute TC	nr										o	o				
f	131	Koyukuk CUA		nr	*			s/a	s/a		s/a								
f	132	Koyukuk CUA meat/bone	Fairbanks AC	dna				o	o	o	o			s					
f	133	airboats Yukon River		nr				s/a	s/a	s/a	s	na		o					
p	134	CUA 24	Alatna TC	nr				s	s		s			o					
p/a	135	Wood River	Mid-Nenana R. A	nr							s	na	s	s					
p/a	136	definitions	ADF&G & Law	aa				s		s		na		s/a	-				
p/a	137	Intensive Management	ADF&G & Law	aa				na	na			na	s	na	-				
p	AA	land otter																	
p	BB	otter traps																	
p	CC	"field" definition																	

a=adopt; aa=amend and adopt; dna=do not adopt; nr=no recommendation; tna=take no action  
na=no action; o=oppose; s=support; s/a=support as amended; t=tabled