

Alaska Board of Game

Nelchina Caribou and Bear Trapping Regulations

October 8-12, 2010

Advisory Committee Comment Index

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SUMMARY OF VOTES FROM JUNEAU-DOUGLAS F&G ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR SOUTHEAST REGION BOARD OF GAME MEETING IN KETCHIKAN
NOVEMBER 5-9, 2010

October 6, AC meeting:

PROPOSAL 10 - 5 AAC 92.051. Discretionary trapping permit conditions and procedures.

Designate a Juneau area in Unit 1C under discretional permit conditions for trapping:

8 OPPOSE 1 SUPPORT 1 ABSTAIN

[FAILED]

PROPOSAL 11 - 5 AAC 92.550(1)(F). Areas closed to trapping. Add the Treadwell Ditch Trail to the list of trail areas closed to trapping in Unit 1C:

5 SUPPORT 4 OPPOSE 1 ABSTAIN

[FAILED]

PROPOSAL 12 - 5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions. Allow the use of snare for taking wolves in Unit 1C:

6 SUPPORT 3 OPPOSE 1 ABSTAIN

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 13 - 5 AAC 92.510(a)(3)(B)(i). Areas closed to hunting. Clarify the area closed to hunting in Unit 1C:

10 SUPPORT

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 14 - 5 AAC 85.020. Hunting season and bag limits for brown bear. In a portion of Unit 1C, extend the season and modify the bag limit for residents and nonresidents:

AMENDED LANGUAGE: 7 SUPPORT 3 OPPOSE

PROPOSAL AS AMENDED: 6 SUPPORT 4 OPPOSE

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures. Require GPS coordinates for baiting black bears in Unit 1D:

NO ACTION

PROPOSAL 16 - 5 AAC 85.040. hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Change the registration hunt to a drawing permit hunt for goat in Unit

1C:

INITIAL VOTE: 10 SUPPORT

REVISITED PROPOSAL # 16 at OCTOBER 14th MEETING DUE TO DEPT. CHANGE IN RECOMMENDATION

REVISITED VOTE: 2 SUPPORT 6 OPPOSE

1 ABSTAIN [FAILED]

PROPOSAL 17 – 5AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Align Unit 1D mountain goat archery only season near Skagway with season dates for adjacent hunt area(s) RG024:

NO ACTION

October 14th

meeting:

PROPOSAL 18– 5AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping; and 5 AAC 92.170. Sealing of marten, lynx, beaver, otter, wolf, and wolverine. Modify wolf regulations in Unit 2 to: 1) Reduce annual bag limit for wolf trapping from unlimited to 10 wolves/season; and 2) Require sealing within 14 days of harvest:

6 SUPPORT 5 OPPOSE

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 29 – 5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer Trapping. Change the opening date for beaver trapping from December 1 to November 1 in Units 1-5:

8 SUPPORT 2 OPPOSE 1

ABSTAIN [SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 30 - 5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer Trapping. Open trapping season for fisher in Southeast Region Units:

8 SUPPORT 2 OPPOSE

1 ABSTAIN [SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 32 - 5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game. Modify the hunting season date for waterfowl in the Southeast Region:

11 SUPPORT

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL33 - 5 AAC 92.200. Purchase and sale of game. Prohibit black bear trapping and the sale of black bear meat, hides, skulls and other parts in the Southeast Region:

NO ACTION

PROPOSAL 35 – 5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear. Reduce resident black bear bag limit from 2 to 1 bear per year in Units 1-3 and 5:

3 SUPPORT 6 OPPOSE 2

ABSTAIN [FAILED]

PROPOSAL 36– 5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear. Consider making one or more of the following changes to the black bears seasons in Units 1-3, and 5:

CLARIFYING ORDER: 10 SUPPORT 1 OPPOSE

CLARIFIED PROPOSAL: 11 SUPPORT

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 37 - 5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear. Open a nonresident permit hunt for black bear in for Units 1, 2, 3 and 5:

NO

ACTION

PROPOSAL 38 - 5 AAC 92.044(12). Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures. Require GPS coordinates for bear baiting

stations in Units 1 -5:

11 SUPPORT

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 41– 5 AAC 92.010. Harvest tickets and reports. Replace the deer hunter survey with deer harvest reports in Units 1-5:

10 SUPPORT 1 OPPOSE

[SUPPORT]

PROPOSAL 46 -5 AAC 92.050. Required permit hunting conditions and procedures.

Re-adopt regulations establishing a bonus point system for some drawing hunts:

NO ACTION

Juneau-Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee

October 14, 2010

Egan Lecture Hall

7 00 PM: Call to order/introduction of AC Members

Greg Brown: Non-Consumptive - Business

Forest Wagner: Alternate

Mike Peterson: (Chair), Personal Use/ Hunting/Sport Fish

Mike Bethers: Sport fish/ Hunting/ Personal Use

Bill Bahleda: Sport Fish/.Hunting/Personal Use

Barry Brokken: Trapper

Jason Kohlhase: Processor

Jenny Pursell: Non-Consumptive

Mark Stopha: Commercial fishing

Todd Wicks: Charter Fishing- Saltwater

Invited Guests:

Ryan Scott, Fish and Game Wildlife Biologist

Lt. Steve Hall- Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Approximately 20 members of the public, including Scott Crass of Board Support.

Chair: Any changes to the agenda?

J. Kohlhas: Talked about Black bear snaring, Proposal #33, abbreviated conversation, readdress before it gets to the board again in two years.

B. Brokken: We can consider tabling it, as Board may not be receptive at this time.

J. Pursell: We could ask Ryan Scott what he believes, what procedures he believes that the Board of Game will use in addressing Proposal # 33 & # 34, which has to do with proposal submitted by Ketchikan in prohibiting trapping of black bear, selling meat, hide. I was wondering Ryan, committee to be congruent in how Board of Game handles issue J. Kohlhas brought up?

R. Scott: Proposal 33 is the sale of black bear meat only during trapping season. All the proposal's before the board will be interior South Central base. Cannot tell how exactly it is going to go. Nothing focused in SE. Focused up north in the Spring of 2012. Same rationale for proposal #34

Chair: Any objection in deleting #33 from any further discussion?

J. Pursell: For the record, there could be a note regarding why the committee decided to table this, and I am wondering, on the side of Proposal's # 33 and # 34, if we were to put "No Action" at this time?

Chair: For the record, # 34 is not on agenda. Let the record show that this AC chose to not discuss Proposal # 33, consistent with the Board of Game's decision to defer discussion until it's Spring 2012

Meeting. Is there any objection?.....done.

No further changes to Agenda.

Chair : This AC has two open Commercial Fishing seats. One expires 12/31/10 and the other 12/31/12. Criteria to hold the seat-: Must be an active commercial fishing permit holder or crew member.

Chris Miller(audience): "I am interested in the 2012 seat. I have commercial fished 12 years: gillnetting, shrimping, trolling.

T. Wicks: permit holder or crew member?

C. Miller: crew member.

B. Bahleda: and you work the season?

C. Miller: yes

Chair: Mr. Miller meets our established criteria. (to audience) Any one else interested in the seat?

(no response).

J. Kohlhasse: without any objection, I ask for unanimous consent.

Chair: unanimous consent. Chris Miller now hold's the Commercial Fishing seat until 12/31/2012.

Chair: There is a clarification to Proposal # 16, which we voted to support at our October 6th meeting.

At that meeting, the Dept. had supported Proposal # 16. Then, within the next day or so, the Dept. changed position, which they have the right to do. Mr. R Scott, would you please explain?

R. Scott: I went back after this AC's October 6th meeting and had some spirited discussion about mountain goat around Juneau. Internally, we went back to do numbers, surveys, areas around the proposal, looking at more involved research. The goat population as a whole in Northern SE, some are doing fine, a lot declining. On Tuesday, October 12th, we issued an Emergency Order and closed Eagle River and Davis Creek due to a decline in goats. One out of 4-5 significant. Numbers of goat in area is roughly 55 goats between the boundaries of McGinnis, South Side of the river. Do we want to inject into the system that it is doing okay at this point? 55 is not a lot to begin with. Benefits of potentially

throwing a wrench, knowing what is going around it may not be worth it at this time. Did try to get a hold of proponent, currently out right now.

J. Pursell: wondering then, so what is the Department's position on 16 because last week (10/6) Dept. position was to allow a limited permit hunt and I thought the comment or the assessment was made that the population of goat could bear minimum permit hunt? What is Dept. now saying to that particular location?

R. Scott: Do Not Adopt.

B. Brokken: out of big respect, why did Mr. White earlier feel that up to 5 permits and now (not clear what was said)

R. Scott: Mr. White was never in favor of this proposal. Mr. White adamantly opposed. Appreciate his input.

B. Brokken: He carries a lot of weight

J. Kohlhas: under impression to wait for biological memo? Has something changed in those details, draw hunt in population of goats, do not have biological threshold?

R. Scott: Without hunter goat threshold. When we do get to 100 goats, will be the first to bring it

M. Bethers: Goat population going down a bit more that you thought it. Suspecting anything causing declines?

R. Scott: Winters. Weather. Not all goat pop are having a hard time, some places in SE doing well, some hard time

G. Brown: (to Chair) Is it appropriate to open for voting with new information?

Chair: based on Dept. recommendation last week, we unanimously supported proposal. With new information, we can put #16 back on the table to vote on it. Any objection? Okay, lets do that.

Chair: is there any further discussion? go right to the vote.

All those in favor of proposal #16 with the new information bag limits for goats, all in favor, raise hand:
2: support, 6 opposed., 3 abstain

Chair: Proposal #18

Chair: Public comment?

None

M. Stopha: a few questions: this harvest down to 18 wolves, what was the catch per unit? Is that the same amount?

R. Scott: don't know

M. Stopha: I don't think it is. . . why would they implement a reduced bag limit when cap is 45 and took 18 last year,? Why restricting when not taking the number anyway? Traps with gear \$150 a piece, no one leaving traps in the field. Numbers don't make sense to want to put a restriction,

J. Pursell: in strong support of proposal and the dept's position on proposal. Particular perspective on emphasis in support has to do with the likely possibility if there are not conservation measures put in place Alexander Archipelago wolf that inhabits Prince of Wales, may be listed as endangered. A petition under the endangered filed in 1993, during that period of time no conservation measure to address this being a unique sub species of Alexander Archipelago, state does not need another endangered listing such as the polar bear, cook inlet beluga whale, these kinds of listings impacts all user groups and state of Alaska and so again in strong support of prop.

M. Bethers: if not reliable population information, any project trying to figure that out, too many unknown to support, what do you have going to figure out population to a consider proposal like this?

R. Scott: lots of discussion on how to go about doing that and when. Important: symbolic to go to 10 bag to open. Indicators on the ground problem, state to take it. ANR list trappers operate under Federal guidelines and regulations, State does not have anything to say about it, State conservation issues there, keeping an eye on it.

B. Brokken: recall in years past, the season liberalized and since reduced at state level, Feds most of the areas/peoples, subsistence trapping rules, required to under Fed or just go out and trap?

R. Scott: don't know

B. Brokken: that the feds would be the first one to institute something like that, state other than input at that point on federal level

M. Peterson: units 1, 3 and 5 no limit: is that because pop doing well? What is it about Unit 2 that make that unit appears to be unhealthy?

R. Scott: no conservation concerns for wolfs in other units, Alexander Archipelago wolf has some hold, identified unique specie, dramatic decline at this point, modest step to identify that there is a concern.

G. Brown: support it also, want to point out 4-5 month season, 30 days a long time, 14 day ceiling, to make proper decision

J. Pursell: first thing wanted to mention, I have worked with Dave Pearson re Douglas Island wolf management plan, wolf express on Alexander Archipelago wolves. The reason this is a rare sub specie is because this specie does not leave the island. Other wolves swim island to island. Concern about endangered species.

Call for question

Proposal #18: 6 support, 5 opposed,

Proposal #29:

Public comment: None

B. Brokken: 11/10 coincides with wolverine opening, concerns with enforcing, regulating trap sizes which this would not affect, small traps out of field. Little open field trapping. Would not be opposed to taking month off at tail end of season, but if there's population concern on overabundance in closing, support proposal

J. Purcell: oppose proposal to extend beaver trapping season for one month, 7.5 month with no bag limit except in all of SE for Mitkoff Island, one of the primary reasons and the dept states concerns with flooding, very important to understand that flooding is not just caused by beaver dams, inadequate culverts cause flooding, roads and trails that needs restoration cause flooding, to put the decrease of flooding on the backs of beavers, will not resolve the problem to begin with. If that is a significant reason for proposal that will not resolve the problem and I reject that.

Call question

8 support/ 2 oppose/ 1 abstain

Proposal #30:

B. Brokken: (author of Proposal) I would like to open up fisher season and work with department, sampling, data provided, would like to see something like this go through

R. Scott: establish fisher season bag limit Units 1-5, department recommendation: Do Not Adopt. Department's big picture view: Juneau only place where fisher occur. No harvest report in other areas, does not mean it does not happens, just don't know about it. There is potential that they could establish themselves and be viable. Extreme range of fisher habitat. Know that they only occur in Juneau. May be coming out of Taku, Canadian biologist: 13 fisher taking on Canadian side of Taku River w/o bag limit.

fisher could establish here, don't want to bring attention. Feel like dept have a feeling on movement, not prudent to open season and bag limit on fisher.

Chair: Public comment?

C. Schulz(audience): designation not indigenous, natural movement of the population?

The point here, fisher competing with Martin for food, native pop moving in with native pop. Against proposal.

R. Scott: natural movement

M. Bethers: 6 fisher caught here? If in fact this work could be supported, would every trappers set more?

R. Scott: no don't think so, don't think people would target them.

M. Stopha: what kind of traps?

B. Brokken: incidental to martin, wolverine sets, good luck in going after fishers

M. Stopha: support this proposal.

G. Brown: oppose, natural migration of animals something to relish, so few and not enough information to study, give department of fish and game time to study the movement, sustainable pop that could be maintained.

F. Wagner: isn't part of the argument to develop data?

B. Brokken: absolutely, get all the data that the trappers could support, don't know what sort of records are kept, compliance would be 100%. Point of proposal to give the Dept all available information of

By-catch.

R. Scott: collect carcasses, provide to museums, hides used for educational materials. Agree with Mr.

Brokken, will get 100% compliance. Concern: continue down the road, not just going to find out about it. That's something to be weighed.

J. Pursell: with the understanding that at this time it is believed by the Dept to be a small pop of fishers naturally migrated from the upper Taku River system, Proposal # 30 supported a method to collect more info about this particular species, however, if this proposal was supported, that in itself may promote more trapping targeting this specie, less animals to be able to receive and analyze data from, and so want to put that point out.

F. Wagner: unclear, so the trapping is incidental, will happen whether legal or not, supporting may or may not provide more data, unclear about what the negative is in argument

J. Purcell: point wanting to make was that the adoption of this proposal may encourage more trapping of this specific animal, one of the aspects of this proposal, could assist in collection of data, however if more are being trapped that in itself may diminish the population to study.

M. Peterson: if Proposal passed, would new traps need to be invested in?

B. Brokken: vast of majority of trapping is for martin traps which will take fishers, no retooling, don't tend to get a lot of trappers in this area, has own area, own lines, roam same area. Would not require retooling.

M. Peterson: any value in skins

B. Brokken: \$50 fisher, Martin \$60-\$100

R. Scott: didn't find anything in auctions, \$41.70 fishers, top 56, Martin high end, \$95 less depending on quality

G. Brown: in regard to trapping fishers, will there be more trapping if legal than illegal.

Lt .Hall: don't believe so, will get more reported

Call question: 8 support/ 2 oppose/ 1 abstain

Chair: Mr. Casipit, author of Proposal # 32 in audience. Would he like to speak to proposal?

Calvin Casipit: Proponent of proposal submitted, do a lot of water fowl hunting in September with daughter. Trading this quality time in Sept with better weather for what he regards as low quality for eating, bad trade. Would like to see it go back to September 1st opening.

R. Scott:: Dept: no recommendation, water fowl come before the board many times, based on surveys directed to conduct in SE, comes down to hunters' preferences, concern state has is splitting SE into two zones, Fish & Wildlife may not entertain that at all.

M. Stopha: wasn't there a opening date change in 2008?

R. Scott: 9/1 opening moved to 9/16 which extended closing to 12/31.

Ms. Brown (audience): unclear of the intent of proposal, extend hunting by one month, want to express concern

Simon (audience): it does sound like, opening earlier would result in more waterfowl being eaten, less edible, bringing earlier close, open would make sense.

R. Scott: 107 days automatic in season duration

J. Kohlhasse: I would trade 2 weeks in December for two weeks in September, don't know migratory pattern, conservation concerns, nothing

R. Scott: different species will move through areas at different times

J. Kohlhasse: is there more concentration of fowl early Sept than later

R Scott: more early in Sept, no conservation concern

J. Pursell: believe Mr. Simon's point in audience is a well-taken point for me that in extending the season to 12/31 because last two weeks get more foul tasting dinner birds, being wasted, know of many birders in Juneau-Douglas area very concerned when this regulation came into play in 2008, geese, Vancouver Geese as winter gets on used Mendenhall refuge to rest and feed, 500 of geese, Canadian Geese use the refuge, birders are concerned that the season was moved to end of December.

Call question: 11 support/ 0 oppose.

Chair: Proposal #35,

R. Scott: recommendation Adopt, this is a Dept proposal.

Chair; Public comment? (none).

M. Stopha: Dept stance put an area wide bag limit even in areas that are healthy, why was it not done for the whole region, why difference in Department approach?

R. Scott: focused more in black bear, going into more black bear proposals. Effect will be minimal, very few hunters take more than 2 Intent and focus, particular segment that take black bear in the region, very few take bear and utilize it as food source.

M. Stopha: not comfortable in reducing bag limit. Hate to set precedence.

B. Bahleda: would it be fair to say that the concern is a lot of pressure on Prince of Wales bears?

R. Scott: fair, but not limited there.

B. Brokken: non-resident big factors, majority in 1C, residents 34-46 bears, non-resident 60-65, unit 2: since 2002-3: residents :18-31 bears, non-residents, 330-425 staggering, 90% by non-resident, limit to a draw, more control with how many tags out there. Option 5 to kick around

B. Bahleda: Prince of Wales has big bears, lot of guided non-resident activity there, amount of money generated is about what number in comparison to dollars generated by residents?

R. Scott: as a whole, no idea. Residents: \$25, non-resident \$85, \$225 locking tag for bear.

B. Bahleda: 75% gets to work from non-resident fees, important that non-resident continue to come.

R. Scott: not at the expense of bears.

J. Pursell: is it the department's experience that tapering back on bag limit for a particular specie that the department experiences migration into another game managed unit where more liberal bag limit allowances are in place, has that been a significant phenomena?

R. Scott: no experience with that. Concern, don't want to shift focus in another location.

M. Peterson: why is it non-resident are included in 36 and not 35?

R. Scott: intended stand-alone for non-resident, #35 is a Department proposal and it focuses on resident portion of harvest, #36 is a shopping cart approach.

Call question: 3 support, 6 oppose, 2 abstain

Proposal #36:

R. Scott.: Adopt.

Public comment: none

M. Stopha: for others, how may bears that can be taken by region, or is it by population?

R. Scott: that is an exercise that the department is going through right now, to identify, estimate, habitat model as a group: identify what level to allow harvest, then resident non-resident, then permits for drawing

M. Stopha: how do you know there's a problem to begin with? Why are we having to do this in the first place? Why is there no registration hunt?

R. Scott: originated out of Prince of Wales area. Harvest skyrocketed and now declining. Number of bears not there, biologist asking to look at it. Southern unit 1C: harder to find bears. Harvest in 1C same as unit 2, decline, steep decline. Don't have hard pop. numbers, based on harvest information, observations as well. Unit 1C: concern Taku River south, where non-resident harvest has occurred, why not registration permit? problem at a point beyond registration permit, need to stop it, drawing permit we know numbers we can live with, black bear harvest ticket for everybody. Only knew harvested bear information. Started to collect other data as well.

G. Brown: clarification, \$125 million for Alaska from hunters, \$581 million from wildlife viewers and growing.. Anyone looking into bringing income to Alaska or concerned with species declining should pay attention to these numbers. Who would be making the decision on behalf of the economy?

R. Scott: commissioner's office to start with.

B. Bahleda: support for implementing draw as an option, and similar procedures for Brown bears.

Scott: Brown bear registration process, black bear lottery. Should not be overlooked in stand-alone: black bear

B. Bahleda: don't think unreasonable for residents to harvest black bear.

R. Scott: went to data, looked at sex of bears lower 1C unit 3 and unit 2 non-resident, residents take a few bears,

B. Brokken: Brown bear for non-resident requires a guide, don't know about overlapping if successful or not, in the regs a tag for one species can be used for any other with lesser monetary value. If someone purchases a tag; say Goat or Brown, under the draw would there be language that would separate that option from the tag, could they then use goat tag in lieu of ?

R Scott: they have to be drawn for a permit.

J Kohlhase: how many black bear taken with guide? More than 50 %

R. Scott: more than 50%.

J. Kohlhase: how many guides are directly affected?

R. Scott: significant.

J. Kohlhase: support proposal

M. Peterson: very ambitious proposal, five items, who makes decision which one of the five to implement?

R. Scott: made by Board of Game, options listed, don't assume all will be adopted, listed in preferential order. Require some work on the part of the department with the guides. Closing fall hunting season: female affected, not male. June portion for non-resident now will do much. Can't take female with cubs. Extend use area: 2008 established use area, motor vehicle not used, females taken. When implemented the control area, shifted to October. Close bear bating: not allowed in 1C. Black bear meat specie up there. Trophy hunt in area and other places. May go away. Draw hunt for non-resident has some drawback's, give stopgap, give numbers that dept can live with. Looking at board to adopt one option.

G. Brown: if you make all non-resident have guides, brings money into the system; was it considered?

R. Scott: guide requirements is a statute, beyond purview of Board of Game.

M. Bethers: support draw for non-resident, how many permits would be issued? would it cut the harvest in half? 2/3?

R. Scott: do not have a good answer, don't where it will fall out. Juneau area: Taku Inlet to south. averaging 47 bears annually, need to bring it down.

M. Bethers: estimate to what number ?

R. Scott: to low 30s, to do that put out x number o permits, some people will not come, don't know where that number will be. Don't have a lot of guides working Chilkat area. Low 30s below Taku inlet, how many permits to offer? not sure.

M. Bethers: would you anticipate movement of guides, would they apply to other areas with more opportunities?

R. Scott: expect some of that. Drawing from Ketchikan to Yakutat, there might be a little of moving but not a lot.

M. Stopha: draw hunt by unit?

R. Scott: specific by unit

M. Stopha: could a hunter apply to six draw hunt, unit specific?

R. Scott: have not spent a lot of time breaking it down at this point.

B. Brokken: suggest that we vote in the department preferential order.

Chair: if we are going to vote on 1 we should vote on all 5 or entertain a motion to support one or another.

T. Wicks: if we vote to support this Proposal, we would be agreeing to support this order of preference, so don't see a need to vote separately.

G. Brown: concur with Mr. Wicks, we don't have enough detailed information to make a distinction.

J. Pursell: the department would appreciate the advisory committee identifying preference within the five methods selected. If we vote as Mr. Wicks suggested, then that would by default identify the first method as our preference.

G. Brown: if we vote the department could choose one or more and not in that particular order

R. Scott: presented to the Board of Game, identified desires, Board of Game will make that overall decision.

B. Brokken: Make motion that we prefer Proposal in sequential order.

Pursell: second

Chair: Discussion

M. Bethers: if we support would we not be doing that anyway?

J. Pursell: number 1 would have the most impact in addressing the problem. 5 methods listed in terms of preference by the department however, understood Mr. Brokken's motion to be different. I support identification of number 1 as the one chosen.

B. Brokken: not singling out one solution, for clarification that we are in fact of the same motion, only issue, it comes up in more of a discussion

J. Pursell: acquiesce to the motion.

Call question on motion: This AC supports Proposal # 36 with our preference being that the order in which the changes are listed, is our priority. vote on motion: 10 support/1 oppose

Call question Proposal # 36 as amended: 11 support/0 oppose

Proposal # 37

Scott: Proposal 37: Recommends No Action. allocated to non-resident: guided vs non-guided, looking at non-resident across the board instead of guided and non-guided.

Public comment: none

J. Pursell: need to think very carefully, initial thought was – appreciate the association's submission of proposal, addresses conservation. Other components: along with drawing hunt, some educational approaches: teach non-resident hunters about wanton waste law and education toward non-resident hunters to identify the different genders, support that particularly. Wounded loss law, if you shoot a bear, but don't it down—that's bag limit. Often enough the non-resident will just go and shoot another bear.

B. Brokken: it is great testimony for the professionalism of this group, wounded loss law: this one singles out the non-guided, the non-guided is not the only real problem.

R. Scott: procedurally, supporting 36 implementing draw on non-resident shrunk 37, black bear quagmire with the board, guides will be well-represented at upcoming Board of Game meeting

G. Brown: wounding animals happens. How many conviction's of non-resident violating the law wanton waste?

Lt. Hall: pretty rare

M. Bethers: do you get much info from residents on wounded animals? Any difference?

Lt. Hall: no difference..

Call question #37: 2/ support 4/ oppose/ 5 abstain

Chair: five minute break

On Record:

G. Brown :make motion and suggestion to revisit Proposal # 37 and ask for unanimous consent to take No Action, much more viable.

seconded

Chair: objections to motion? (none)

#37: revisited

G. Brown: I make a motion to take No Action; saying we oppose it sends the wrong message, we all encourage game, looking at taking no action

Call question: 10 in favor, 1 oppose to take no action on 37

R. Scott: Proposal # 41- Adopt.

Public comment: none

M. Stopha: what is this harvest requirement?

R. Scott: harvest tickets, report card that comes with tickets to be returned, collect information, how you got there, number of days, report on number of hunt.

M. Stopha: will it be like in deer harvest survey, amount of time spent if did not harvest a deer?

R. Scott: yes, it is a harvest report, no legal penalty if you don't do it. Different from drawing or registration report.

B. Brokken strongly support this, for obvious reasons. This AC was involved with federal subsistence issue and any data that Department lacks is used against them and our position, particularly the Hoonah deer closure, the arguments of the reporting from various users and communities was 2%. Data collection is a really important tool for them(Dept).

T. Wicks: deer harvest report voluntary?

R. Scott: that's what it will come down to, to encourage you to get it in.

T. Wicks: what Mr. Brokken said would not make sense.

B. Brokken: voluntary surveys are randomly sent out to 1/3 of hunters. This will go out to all hunters who pick up tag. If 60% compliance out of 100, huge increase.

J. Pursell: in hearing no penalty for not filling out report card, wonder if department can give incentives in some manner to those that fill them out since information is important to manage deer better for all user groups

Call question: #41 10/ support/1 oppose

Proposal #46:

R. Scott: this proposal was put back in because it was a board request from a prior meeting and will lapse if not included again. Desire to discuss based on some additions to it. Proposal is a place holder for board.

Public comment: none

M. Peterson: if not dealt with, it will go away. Its my desire to introduce language guarantees on a bonus system to be a youth hunt, concern was and is: a year or two down the road, difficult to enter youth hunt language into bonus point system.

F. Wagner: briefly what are the changes you would like to include?

M. Peterson: modified point system to include youth hunt 13-17 years old, hunter's safety course, hunter's license, person 25 years of age accompany, no more than 2 youth.

M. Bethers: would that change statute on age of licensing?

R. Scott: legislative.

J. Pursell: would a No Action from the AC lend itself to the possibility of that insert being placed within 46 at the Board of game meeting?

M. Peterson: I will be speaking as private citizen to this proposal.

B. Bahleda: attractions for non-resident to come to Alaska, they either get a permit or they don't. Alaska unique. Don't want negative connotation.

B. Brokken: motion to take no action on Proposal # 46, seconded. No objections

New Business:

Chair: We did not get to seat criteria discussion. I would like to e-mail AC members to see if we can schedule a meeting before November 5th. I believe this AC would be well served to discuss seat criteria. I will email committee members and find out what date will work.

9:45 PM :Adjourned

J-D Fish & Game Advisory Committee

meeting held at DIPAC on October 6th 2010.

Discussion of selected 2010 Board of Game Wildlife Proposals.

Meeting started at 7:20 after several attempts to connect with teleconference failed.

Members present- Mike Peterson (Chair); Chris Conder (Vice-Chair); Bill Bahleda; Jenny Purcell; Jake Carte; Mike Bethers; Barry Brokken; Chris Casey; Greg Brown; Jason Kohlhouse.

There is a quorum.

Guests included: Ryan Scott - F & G Wildlife Biologist; Sgt. Matt Dobson – F & G Wildlife Enforcement Officer; Mr. Kevin Conrad – Gastineau Humane Society Animal Control Officer.

Approximately 20 members of the public in attendance.

Call was put out to the attending public of two vacant (Commercial Fishing) seats on the AC.

Criteria to hold these two seats are: Must be an active commercial fishing permit holder or crew member. There were no responders.

Please note: This AC did not have a minute taker for this meeting.

Therefore no deliberations, discussions, or public comments were captured. A small recording device failed splendidly.

However, the votes for the following proposals were noted:

Proposal # 10: 8 oppose/1 support/1 abstain Proposal # 11: 5 support/4 oppose/1 abstain Proposal # 12: 6 support/3 oppose/1 abstain Proposal # 13: 10 support Proposal # 14: Amend proposal to read “one brown bear every FOUR years”...

Amended language vote: 7 support/3 oppose

Amended Proposal vote: 6 support/4 oppose Proposal # 15: No Action Proposal # 16: 10 support

Proposal # 16 was revisited at our October 14th meeting, after Fish and Game Staff changed their recommendation from “ADOPT” to “DO NOT ADOPT”. Further explanation is in the

Minutes for the October 14th Meeting Proposal # 16(2nd vote October 14th): 2 support/6 oppose/3 abstain Proposal # 17: No Action Next meeting October 14, to be held at Egan Lecture Hall on UAS Campus, at 7 PM.

9:50 : Meeting adjourned

From: "Camille Stephens" <cstephens@gci.net>
To: mp1@gci.net
Date: 10/04/2010 06:24:10 AKDT
Subject: **Regulation Proposals 10 and 11**

Juneau-Douglas Fish & Game Advisory Committee
c/o Mike Peterson, Chair

Re: **Proposal 10:** Juneau Area Unit 1C: Discretionary Trapping Permit **SUPPORT**
Proposal 11: Add Treadwell Ditch Trail to Areas Closed to Trapping **SUPPORT**

Dear Members of the Juneau-Douglas Fish & Game Advisory Committee:

The Capital Kennel Club of Juneau (CKCOJ) supports PROPOSALS 10 and 11.

Proposal 10 would give the Department of Fish and Game authority to set discretionary trapping permit conditions and procedures in the Juneau area of Unit 1C. CKCOJ supports giving the Department of Fish and Game this discretionary authority for the Juneau area in order to prevent or ameliorate future conflicts between trapping and other user groups in the densely populated land area of Juneau. This proposal would give the Department the necessary tools to hopefully prevent a recurrence of the tragic incident 2 years ago where a basset hound was killed in a trap along a popular trail. CKCOJ SUPPORTS THIS PROPOSAL.

Proposal 11 would add the Treadwell Ditch Trail area to the list of trails closed to trapping in Juneau. Many Juneauites of all skill levels, ages, and interests are hiking this trail with their dogs. The Treadwell Ditch Trail is being upgraded. As more segments of the trail are rehabilitated and improved, even more people will use the trail. The trail is close to residential areas for most of its length. The Board of Game can prevent future conflicts between trapping and other uses of this trail by limiting the amount of trapping permitted in the area immediately adjacent to the trail. CKCOJ SUPPORTS THIS PROPOSAL.

CKCOJ believes these proposals are reasonable, will benefit the public, and will not adversely interfere with trapping in the Juneau area.

CKCOJ, established in 1989, is a non-profit organization which offers dog training in Juneau and sponsors canine performance and obedience activities in Juneau.

Sincerely,
/s/
Camille Stephens
President,
Capital Kennel Club of Juneau

From: "Paula Terrel" <pterrel@gci.net>
To: "Mike Peterson" <mp1@gci.net>
Date: 10/03/2010 11:00:56 AKDT
Subject: **BOG trapping proposals**

To: Juneau Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee

From: Paula Terrel
5025 Thane Road
Juneau, AK 99801

Date: October 2, 2010

I understand that the Advisory Committee will be taking up Board of Game Proposal #10 and #11 at its October 6 meeting and I would like to express my support for both proposals.

Juneau citizens are fortunate to have so many trails and areas for recreation and yet, given our geography, there is the potential for conflicts with those who engage in trapping. Adopting procedures and regulations that will allow both trapping and recreational uses to share our limited space will benefit the public and would not restrict the trapping activities.

The Treadwell Ditch area (Proposal 11) is one of the most widely used trails by bikers, hikers, dog walkers and the like and it seems only reasonable that it should be included in the list of trails that are currently closed to trapping.

Proposal #10 is a precautionary proposal in that it allows the Department of Fish and Game to exercise its discretion to place conditions and restrictions on permits should the Department consider this necessary as a means of ensuring the public safety. It does not do anything at this time but -as I understand it - provides the Department with the tools to act without going through a lengthy regulatory process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paula Terrel

From: "Schrader" <schrader@gci.net>
To: mp1@gci.net
Date: 10/03/2010 09:27:17 AKDT
Subject: For the AC - Regulation Proposals 10 and 11

Hello Mr. Peterson:

Please relay the following comments to the F&G Advisory Committee for their Oct. 6th meeting. I urge the AC to support both Proposals 10 and 11.

Proposal 10: **5 AAC 92.051. Discretionary trapping permit conditions and procedures.** Designate a Juneau area in Unit 1C under discretional permit conditions for trapping.

Given the heavy use of the Juneau area trail system by all types of recreationists, we are fortunate to have had very few conflicts between trappers and other users. Unfortunately, when problems do arise, they can be serious, resulting in death or injury. As a precaution to address potential conflicts BEFORE they occur, proposal 10 offers a common sense approach. By allowing the Dept. of Fish and Game the discretion to place conditions and restrictions on permits as needed and as appropriate to protect all users, we can help ensure that any future conflicts that may arise will be handled in a timely manner. Please recommend to the Board of Game that this proposal be adopted.

Proposal 11: **5 AAC 92.550(1)(F). Areas closed to trapping.** Add the Treadwell Ditch Trail to the list of trail areas closed to trapping in Unit 1C under 5 AAC 92.550(1)(F).

Within the past few weeks, a new bridge has been installed along the Treadwell Ditch Trail over Lawson Creek. This installation is just one of many improvements slated for this popular Juneau trail that will undoubtedly lead to more use. Due to its proximity to many neighborhoods, the Ditch Trail is enjoyed by growing numbers of users, including families with children and dogs. For the safety of all recreationists, I urge the AC to recommend to the Board of Game that this proposal be adopted.

~~~~~

Susan E. Schrader, D.V.M.

P.O. Box 240325

Douglas, AK 99824

home: 907-789-1269

# Yakutat Fish and Game Advisory Committee

*October 19th, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the high school auditorium.*

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Chairman C. Mapes calls to order at 7:10 pm.

Roll call, D. Stone- Present

G. Dierick- Present

Jerimiah Pavlik- Present

G. Gray - Absent

W. Gray - Absent

Johnathan Pavlik- Absent

B. Fraker - Present

J. Fraker - Present

H. Holcolm - Present

R Kerkovich- Absent

C. Mapes- Present

S. Chadwick- Present

Also present was District F& W Trooper, Biologist Ryan Scott, and Susan Oehlers.

First order of business consider changes to proposition 47. We considered having uniform no trapping distances to ease enforcement, we considered again including large leghold traps to the off limits list. It was unanimously decided to leave it as it has been proposed, with no changes.

Mr Ryan Scott then explained a few other proposals and their potential impact on the community. The board took the following actions;

Motion was made and seconded to support proposition 38, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to support proposition 29, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to support proposition 31, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made to oppose proposition 35 based on no biological need for game unit 5 to be included in the reduction. Seconded. Much discussion, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to oppose unit 5 being included in prop 36 based on lack of biological need or supporting harvest increase data. Discussion, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to oppose proposition 37. Discussion, It was strongly felt that this measure would give to much of a monopoly on hunting rights to guided big game interests. Question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to support proposition 40, discussion, question was called, 4 ayes, 4 nyes.

Roll call, J Fraker, S. Chadwick, J Pavilk, D. Stone, in support. G dierick, B. Fraker, C. Mapes, H. Holcolm opposed. Tie, motion fails. No action.

Motion was made and seconded to oppose proposition 43, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

Motion was made and seconded to support proposition 41, question called, 8 ayes, 0 nyes.

This concluded the review of board of game book of proposals, adjournment called for; all ayes,

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

10/20/10  
Craig Fish and Game Advisory Board Meeting  
Craig City Council Chambers  
7:00pm

Present  
William Russell  
Chuck Haydu  
Steve Merritt  
Brian Castle  
Steve Bethune  
Ellen Hannan  
Karl Demmert  
Mike Douville  
Stu Merchant

Moved and seconded minutes from 1/20/10

Stu Merchant reported back on his attendance at the winter Board of Fish meeting in Anchorage. Stu took the tape recorder to the meeting. Comments were appreciated. Acoustics were tough at the last meeting. Electric reel discussed. Stu met with committees that BOG members attended.

Discussed Black Bear survey options for the region. Steve Bethune fielded questions and explained things. Domino effect can be avoided if regulations are region wide.

BOF prop #315- Our vote is unanimously in favor.

BOG prop # 18- Our vote is unanimously opposed. One member feels that the 14 day sealing portion is fine to encourage data and others opposed since it is unenforceable. . We feel that wolf trapping is self regulating. F&G feels that maybe cheating is happening with wolf trapping, but this group doesn't feel that is happening. All the good trappers we know. Weather changes may prohibit the trapper from getting to snare or traps. (Got snowed out of an area.)

BOG prop # 19- Our vote is unanimously opposed. We feel that the USFS already covers the immediate area.

BOG prop #20- Our vote is unanimously opposed. We do not want a draw for residents.

BOG prop #21- Our vote is unamously opposed. No limits for residents.

BOG prop #22- Our vote is one vote for and the rest against. For was due to many rubbed hides. Against were not for limits for residents.

BOG prop #23- Our vote is unanimously opposed. Limits resident hunters.

BOG prop #24- Our vote is one in favor and the rest against. The one in favor felt that it is a preventative proposal. He felt 4 was too many for a non-resident.

BOG prop #25- Our vote is unanimously opposed. We will take care of the wolves.

BOG prop # 29- Our vote is unanimously in favor.

BOG prop #32- Our vote is unanimously against. We like the season the way it is.

BOG prop #33- Our vote is unanimously against.

BOG prop #34- Our vote is unanimously against.

BOG prop #35- Our vote is unanimously against. We do not want to limit resident hunters.

BOG prop #36- Our vote is unanimously in favor. We especially favor the draw hunt for non residents. We have concerns that when the number of bears that can be taken is set it may be set too low or too high and residents of the island will not have input. Who is to say where the level is set. F&G may have a different opinion than the public. Suggestions for an average of years harvest in the past. We are also concerned that we eat deer not bears. We do not want a large population of bears that hurt the deer population.

BOG prop # 37- Our vote is unanimously against. No favoring of guided non resident hunters.

BOG prop #38- Our vote is unanimously for. This helps with clean up of baits.

BOG prop #39- Our vote is unanimously against.

BOG prop #40- Our vote is split. Two vote for salvage of meat to eat, and others were still against the salvage. Lots of discussion on the perception of hunting and not eating the animal.

BOG prop #41- Our vote is unanimously opposed.

BOG prop #44- Our vote is unanimously opposed. Cannot be addressed here. Legal system should address this.

BOG prop #45-Our vote is unanimously in favor.

BOG prop #46- Our vote is one against and six for.

Discussed and prioritized a bear survey from the AC. .  
Adjourned at 9:45

# Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

\_\_\_ Ketchikan, AK \_\_\_\_\_ Advisory Committee

\_\_\_ 5 PM 10/13/10 \_\_\_\_\_ date and location

Call to Order and establish quorum (8): CALL TO ORDER 5:15 PM 9 Members present  
Introductions: 1 John M.Scoblic, 2 Clay Slanaker, 3 Dan Castle, 4 Jeff Wedekind, 5 Ed Toribio,  
6 Darell Welk, 7 Steve Lacroix, 8 Art Maioriello, 9 Rudy Franulovich, Boyd Porter ADF&G,  
Mike Holman author prop 2, Kris Larson public, Kenneth Colburn public, Wendy Walden rep.  
prop 3 & 19, Len Lournace rep. prop 3, Terry Smith public, Sarah Wood public, Marvin  
McCloud III public, Will Young USFS, Robert Jahnke author prop 1/6/7/8 &9, Michelle Masden  
author prop 5, Mike Yonker public, AJ Slagle public.

Approve meeting agenda: Motion to adopt is made and seconded. Without objection motion carries to accept agenda as written.

## Reports:

Chairman's report; this is a public meeting everyone is encouraged to participate and express their point of view. Please refrain from talking out of order, don't make personal attack, be rude or use profanity. This meeting is likely to be contentious so please be respectful of others. We have a ton a material to review and public comment may be limited to 5 minutes. The shortness of time for public comment is to allow all to speak and not to beleaguer the issues. The limit is not an attempt to stifle people rather just a tool for time management. Please take the issues seriously but try to not take yourself too seriously, Thank you.

ADF&G report by Boyd Porter. The deadline for written comment is October 22<sup>nd</sup> 5PM. If you miss the deadline you can still submit comments as an RC at the BOG meeting. If you plan on attending the BOG meeting get the agenda and road map so you can be aware of what will happen when. If you plan to make oral testimony you must sign up a blue form and drop it in before the deadline. You will only get 2 calls to testify so be aware of when your turn may be. If you have any questions about protocols at the BOG I would be happy to answer them.

Others NONE

Public comment: (COULD BE LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES).

Mike Holman: Bear viewing is how I make 90% of my income. I used to be a gillnetter and this reminds me of the seine vs. gillnet "gear wars". Seining and gillnetting are usually don't fish the same areas. Bear viewing and hunting should not be in the same areas either. I have real concerns about the bear population because I did not see any cubs in 2010 & I saw 6 cubs in 2009 in lower Carroll Inlet, only one of witch emerged in 2010. I don't have a problem with guided hunts but I do have a problem with unguided non- residents. If I had known about props 35 & 36 I may not have written this proposal. I have a real problem with the June hunts as that is when my season really starts to take off. I spent 60 days every summer in this area and feel that I know what is going on there.

Robert Jahnke: I hunt Neets bay with my family and I would have a real problem if Neets Bay and Traitors Cove were shut down for hunting especially if the spring hunt in May were eliminated.

Terry Smith: I ask members of Fish and Game Management to duly uphold and protect our wildlife resources for all and not to let any special interest group or groups restrict the rights of any parties or interest for any reason other than sound management practices.

Wendy Walden: I work for Taquan and we fly to Margarita bay and Dog Salomon creek to view bears. Basically we are seeing much less bears in 2010 and it is dramatically less. The number's we have from our guide shows that at Margarita the sittings of bears was 80% but it is now down to 40%. At Dog Salmon creek the sitting of bears was about 80% and it is now down to 25%. We really question the current harvest levels and wonder if we are taking to many bears and this is affecting the viewing opportunities. The safety concerns are very worrisome mixing viewers and hunters in the same proximity could be very dangerous. The economic inputs from bear viewing in Ketchikan areas are huge, and actually Ketchikan is a premier destination for bear viewing in Alaska.

Len Laurence: Alaska Rainforest Sanctuary. Has been doing guided bear viewing tours since 2004 at there site in the Herring Cove area. Since that time there has been a steady decrease in the numbers of bears in the area. ARS is a 20 acre site and it is clearly posted "No Hunting" & "No Trespassing". We are looking for a closure in the Whitman cove area within a 1 mile radius.

Michelle Masden: Owner of Island Wings and have been doing this for 19 years. I don't object to hunting at all. There is a real problem Bear viewing and bear hunting don't mix. At Margarita we are seeing much less bears in general and we did not see any from the platform but we did see some from the bridge. Guns and visitors don't mix either I think there is a real safety concern. There have been 78 bears harvested in the last 11 years out of this area. I would estimate that there is a \$1.2M economic impact on Ketchikan form people that come here for bear viewing.

Old business items (if any) NONE

New business

Review game proposals # 1-9, 18-25, 28, 29-46, (36 PROPOSALS TO REVIEW TOTAL).  
- written comments due Friday 5:00 PM Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>

PROP- #1 Art moves to adopt and it is seconded by Darell. The author Bob Jahnke explains that wolf trapping season and the time allowed to bait bears overlap by 2 weeks and this proposal would take away those two overlapping weeks from the bear baiters. Does not have anything against bear baiting just does not want bear baits to interfere with wolf trapping. An AC member asks, why does bear baiting affect trapping. Mr. Jahnke explains that they sometimes use dog food and when it spill out of the 50 gallon barrels it affects what the wolfs will do. Another AC member asks: how many trappers are in unit 1A? Jahnke answers 40 trappers and there is a lot of effort. Jahnke also offers if ADF&G management would advise bear baiters of trap line set it could solve some of the problem. Another AC member says that April 15<sup>th</sup> is the end of bear baiting season across the state and this would make a very small unit in southern southeast would be the lone closed area that time and wonders if that would create an enforcement issue. An AC member asked about how many drainages he trapped and the answer was 4. Finally an AC member questioned if the BOG would rule on this due to other recent bear baiting issues in other part of the state. The question is finally called. 0 in support 9 oppose motion fails OPPOSE PROP 1.

PROP #2 Art moves to adopt and the motion is seconded by Steve. Mike Holman the author introduces PROP 2 and starts with he see the problem being with the non-resident unguided hunters. They are less professional and understanding of what is going on with other users. People want to see bears when they go on a bear tour and they don't want to see bear hunters. He explains that he is trying to protect his bear tour business and when someone shots a bear on the beach and leaves the carcass behind it spoils that area for bear tours. An AC member asks: how bears have been taken in that area in the last 20 years? An ADF&G staff answer that he has not seen an increase in harvest in that area and if you take more males out of the mix you should get more bears overall. An AC member asks if there is a biological concern in this area? ADF&G staff answers NO. The same AC member asks; would it be fair to say the bear population on Revilla is stable? ADF&G answers YES. An AC members wonders if Props 36&37 could solve this issue. An AC member asks about Ann Ann creek, when did it become a bear watching place? ADF&G answers it came about in the 1970's. Another AC member comments that this is a user group conflict and he does not like shutting down small areas and is concern for resident hunters. Another AC member comment that there is a problem in unit 2 but he does not like the idea of privatization of a resource for one user group. The same AC member goes on to say that there is historically high use for resident and that is part of an Alaskan way of life and if there needs to be a limit it should be on non-residents. Finally an AC member comments that if you just get up off the beach there are lots of bears in Carroll inlet and Neets bay. The question is called. 0 in support 9 oppose. Motion fails OPPOSE PROP 2.

PROP #3 Art motions to adopt and is seconded by Darell. Len Laurence the author introduces the PROP and explains that Alaska Rainforest Sanctuary has a walking tour on there property and there numbers are down. He feels many of the bears have become habituated to humans and are easy targets for hunters. An AC member asks if this shuts down time or area? Len explains they are looking for a closure within a one mile radius of Whitman lake hatchery. An AC member wonders how much public land could be hunted in this area because hunting is closed within ¼ mile of a road. ADF&G says that the nearest harvest was 5 miles away. An AC member wonders if this is an enforcement issue not something needing further regulation. Another AC member asks if this is about problem bears or bears that are hunted. Evidently several problem bears have been taken killed in the area. Finally an AC member asks if there is a biological concern in this area? ADF&G answers NO. The same AC member asks is the population sustainable? ADF&G answers YES. The question is called. 0 support 9 oppose, motion fails. OPPOSE PROP 3.

RECESS 6:55pm

Back to the record 7:08 PM

PROP #4 A motion to adopt is made by Jeff and seconded by Steve. There are many safety concerns concerning this site. Recently shotgun shells were found on the bear viewing platform. This is a very popular area for residents, non-residents, visitors, hunters & non-hunters. An AC member asks if there is a biological concern in this area? ADF&G answers: 78 bears in 10 years is not a lot to me and most have been males so I'm not concerned. A member from the public comments that has not been a population study in this area. A second AC member says this is an allocation issue plane and simple. Another AC member suggest that not seeing bears in this area this year may have been environmental driven because it was such a hot dry summer and mild winter the bears were possibly elsewhere. A third AC member asks who implemented Ann Ann? (No answer) The same member of the public comment that this is not a spike rather another data point in a continuous decline. Many of the safety issues are addressed in the existing 150 yard buffer zone already in place by USFS. A third AC member points out that bears are predators and if you let the bear population explode the deer population will decline. A fourth AC member wonders how Ann Ann was established and wonders how we could find a compromise position. A fifth AC member thinks 1-2 spot for bear viewing may be ok but 6-7 is not okay and thinks Ann Ann can service both Wrangell and Ketchikan. Another AC member how can we share this area? A member of the public states guided hunters are not part of the problem and an increase of the buffer zone is better than letting go of so much area are proposed. A representative of the authors suggests a ¼ mile buffer along the creek from the dock to the lake for a year trial as a possible compromise. A final AC member thinks this is a terribly hard decision; he is not crazy about sanctuaries and thinks the surplus bears need to be taken. There is an AC member that says we should

consider a ¼ mile compromise position. The question is called. 1 support 8 opposed motion fails OPPOSE PROP 4.

PROP # 5 Clay make a motion to adopt and get a second from Jeff. The author Michelle explains that this proposal came after the work was done on PROP 4 because Misty Fjords is having the same issues. Visitors on float plane tours want to see bears and whales. Rudyard bay has 50,000-100,000 visitors annually. An AC member asks how many brown bears are harvested annually? ADF&G answers 1-2. A second AC member asks is 1-2 bears annually a sustainable harvest for this area? ADF&G say I think so and notes there has been an increase in the population in this area over the last 15 years. The same member asks when does the hunting season close for brown bears? ADF&G answers May 31<sup>st</sup>. The author states that May is 20% of the time tourists visit our area.

A third AC member says he is a guide and that he does not hunt Rudyard or Walker or Smeaton because there are too many other people in those areas. A member of the public expresses that bear hunters like looking at bears and the forest too and shooting is not the only aspect of the hunt. The question is called. 0 support 9 oppose motion fails OPPOSE PROP 5.

Prop #6 Art makes a motion to adopt and it is seconded by Darell. The author Bob explains that this was added in once upon a time and he would like to see it taken back out. ADF&G states that this could help increase the herd by 3-4%. An AC member thinks that there are only problems in unit 1A on Cleveland Peninsula and Gravina Island and the rest of the unit is fine. The author states this could help coastal areas in the unit and this could help the deer population. A second AC member likes this proposal and is all for it, predators are the problem not the hunters but lets help them out. A third AC member is worried this could take away limited opportunity from some residents. A member of the public is concerned that this would eliminate the opportunity for his collage aged kids to hunt deer over there winter break. A fourth AC member thinks winter hunts are happening close to home out of skiffs and may cause localize depletion and making a break in December may help the herd recover and supports this prop. Another AC member thinks a reduced bag limit at that time might be a better option. The author says this was added in 1980 when deer populations were better. A fifth AC member can't support this because it does not have enough teeth. The question is called. 4 support 5 oppose motion fails. OPPOSE PROP 6.

PROP #7 Art make a motion to adopt and it is seconded by Darell. The author explains that 4 goats in 2010 is just not enough and this prop trys to address how that number cam about. The author goes on to state that KTN office set it at 12 and by the time it came back from the Juneau office it was 4. An AC member asks if these transplanted goats are moving and spreading out across the island? ADF&G thinks that yes they have been on the move. The question is called. 0 support 9 oppose, motion fails OPPOSE PROP 7.

PROP #8 Clay moves to adopt and it is seconded by Dan. The author explains that this would in affect give back 2 ½ months of opportunity and we are not protecting any wolverines down here by doing this. ADF&G agrees that this spring that was true. ADF&G also states that the KTN office previously agreed with this but it was lumped into a regional issue. Many AC members agree that this is a wolf issue in our area and we should support. The question is called. 9 support 0 oppose motion carries SUPPORT PROP 8.

PROP #9 Clay moves to adopt and Rudy seconds. The author explains that this is just an appeal to try and take even more wolfs out of the mix. Trapping is hard, expensive and difficult and most people don't go trapping. An AC member thinks there are lots of wolves around now. Another AC member ask why ask for more the objective is 24 now and we average 30.5 now and if things goes the wrong way we could get even less than 24. A third member agrees that this could swing the wrong way and opposes this. The question is called. 4 support 5 oppose motion fails OPPOSE PROP 9.

Select representative(s) for board B.O.G meetings (DIDN'T HAPPEN)

Set next meeting date October 20 5 PM  
(10/20/10 meeting DIDN'T HAPPEN FOR LACK OF A QUARUM)

Adjourn

# KETCHIKAN AC MEETING 101310

## B O G PROPS

|   |                 |              |                       |
|---|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | John M Scoblic  | 247 0729     | 3800 FAIRVIEW AVE     |
| 2 | Clay Stancker   | 617-4184     |                       |
| 3 | DAN CASTLE      | 617-5500     | 4430 STG              |
| 4 | Jeff Wedekind   | 225-9179     |                       |
| 5 | Ed Toribio      | 225-8620     |                       |
| 6 | Darell Welk     | 254-4043     |                       |
| 7 | Steve LaCrouf   | 209-3357     |                       |
| 8 | ART MAIORELLI   | 617-3303     |                       |
|   | Nause           | Ph           | Email Address         |
|   | Boyd Forkel     | 5-2475       |                       |
|   | Mike Holman     | 5-8000       |                       |
|   | Kris Larson     | 5-4502       |                       |
|   | Kenneth Colburn | 203-668-2693 |                       |
|   | Wendy Walden    | 5-8800       |                       |
|   | LEW LAURANCE    | 5-0299       | L.LAURANCE@ATT.NET    |
|   | TERRY SMITH     | 7-6456       | TJSMITH44@HOTMAIL.COM |
|   | Sarah Wood      | 617-4510     |                       |
|   | Marvin McCloud  | 617-1335     | ktnak907@yahoo.com    |
|   | Will Young      | 228-4137     | wtyoung@fs.fed.us     |
|   | Robt Jahulog    | 247-8207     | WARD COVE AK          |
| 9 | Kelly Franke    | 617-5252     | PENLOCK ISLAND        |
|   | Michelle Masden | 617-6925     | mm@Islandwings.com    |
|   | Mike Youker     | 225-7790     | MJyouker@KPUNET.NET   |
|   | AJ Slagle       |              |                       |



# Fax Cover Sheet

To: Board of GAME From: Jacob White  
Fax: 1-907-465-6094 Pages: 3 + cover sheet  
Phone: Date: 10-20-2010  
Re: CC:

Urgent  For Review  Please Comment  Please Reply  Please Recycle

• Comments:

Please have Board of GAME  
Review letters from Delta Junction AC  
Committee.

Jacob White, Secretary AC (Delta)

October 20, 2010  
Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
PO Box 605  
Delta Junction, AK 99737

ATTN: Board of Game Comments  
AK Dept Fish and Game  
Boards Support Section  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5525

**COMMENTS ON PROPOSAL #46 5 AAC 92.050**  
**Required permit hunting conditions and procedures - Bonus Points**  
(Southeast Region Meeting 11/5-9/2010 in Ketchikan, AK)

**OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL:** For the numerous reasons stated below.

- 1: The current Random Draw is the fairest and most equitable method of selecting recipients of limited draw harvest tags.
  
- 2: The proposed bonus point system discriminates against the young hunters (hoping to hunt sheep and bison prior to leaving home as young adults) and against the older hunters. Neither, of these age groups, has surplus time to accumulate bonus points in hopes of drawing a limited tag.
  
- 3: The bonus point system would be very expensive to conduct (computer programs and technicians to tally the points and record the activity of each individual hunter), especially in view of the current economic conditions in Alaska.
  
- 4: The bonus point system is in opposition to the standards set forth by the BOG. They have historically subscribed to the "No Net Loss" of hunting opportunity philosophy. The BOG and ADFG strive to manage Alaska's game to provide hunters with a reasonable opportunity to hunt. The bonus point system violates both of these concepts.
  - A: The BOG initially suggested and publicized the bonus point system for the Delta Bison Hunt. Then they arbitrarily applied it to all Sheep Hunts as well without informing the public or the ADFG Advisory Committees before it became a proposal before the BOG. The Delta AC submitted a proposal to the BOG (at the last meeting deliberating on proposals for Region III in 2009) to withdraw the Delta Bison Hunts and the GMU 20 Dall Sheep Hunts from the Bonus Point system. Mysteriously, this proposal was not included in the proposal booklet for that meeting. Apparently, it was never received by the ADFG Boards Support section.

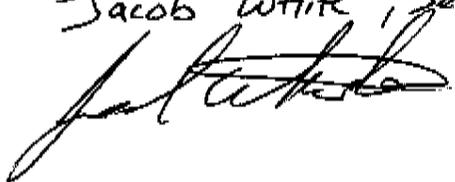
B: The bonus point system significantly reduces one's opportunity to hunt by drastically reducing the number of limited permits for which a hunter can apply. For example, a hunter in 2010 had the opportunity to apply for the limited draw of 75 sheep permits each, in the Delta Controlled Use Area Non-motorized hunt and the Motorized hunt, for a total 150 permits. In addition they could also apply for one of the 40 limited draw permits for sheep in the Tok Mgmt Area (this used to be 120 permits but the BOG reduced it to 100, then to 80 and now two separate hunts of 40 permits each - all for no biological reason). Therefore, in 2010 a hunter could apply for one of a possible 190 limited draw permits for sheep. If the Bonus Point System is adopted and each of these limited draws is further divided in two (half for the regular draw and half for the bonus point system), a hunter will only be able to apply for 95 limited permits. This is a significant reduction in the opportunity to apply for limited permits and consequently a similar reduction in the opportunity to hunt (you can't hunt if you can't draw a permit). Remember, several years ago there was a proposal to increase, from 3 to 6, the number of limited draw permit hunts for a single species, that one could apply for. That was rejected by the BOG.

C: The Bonus Point system is an ALL OR NONE system. Once the State adopts the bonus point they are committed to this forever. Once hunters have invested money in this system and if it were to be altered or cancelled, they would most certainly sue the State. Other States with similar systems indicate that they wish they hadn't adopted a bonus point system but dare not terminate the program for fear of lawsuits. Alaska does not need this liability.

In conclusion, I can see absolutely nothing advantageous to the bonus point system. In fact I consider the bonus point system as described in proposal #46 to be detrimental to hunting in Alaska. Please give **proposal # 46** serious consideration and **REJECT IT!**

Thank you,

Don Quarberg, Chairman

*Jacob White, Secretary of Delta AC committee.*  


October 20, 2010  
Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
PO Box 605  
Delta Junction, AK 99737

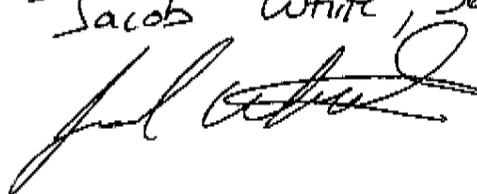
Attn: Board of Game  
Alaska Dept. Fish and Game  
Board Support Section  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Board of Game Support Representative,

The Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee would like to express its concern over the lack of adequate review time between the receipt of the proposal booklets and the deadline for comments. The proposal booklet pertaining to the Nelchina Caribou Hunt and Black Bears was received less than 2-weeks before the comment period deadline, and also several weeks prior to our regularly scheduled meeting. The Delta AC and several other AC's meet less frequently during the summer and fall months of the year. I'm sure you have access to our schedule. In any event, **5 AAC 96.050. Functions of local fish and game advisory committees** states that **"a committee may --- (2) evaluate regulatory proposals submitted to them and make recommendations to the appropriate board; --**. We can only do this if we receive the proposal booklets a few weeks prior to our scheduled meeting. As a result we were not able to comment on those proposals. Can you offer some suggestions on how this can be rectified?

Sincerely,

Don Quarberg, Chair

Jacob White, Secretary of Delta AC Committee  


# Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Tad Fujioka, Chairman  
214 Shotgun Alley, Sitka, AK 99835

NSRAA Meeting Room  
Call to order 18:45 October 21, 2010

Quorum established:  
Tad Fujioka- Trapping- chair  
Jerry Barber-Hand troll -vice chair  
John Murray-Power Troll  
Mike Baines- Sportfish  
Karen Johnson -at large  
Dick Curran- Longline  
Randy Gluth -Hunting  
Tory O'Connell- alternate- secretary

Other participants:  
Sue Bowen –ADF&G  
Ben Grussendorf-Board of Game member  
Brad Dennison- bear guide  
Dale Adams- bear guide  
Mike Vaughn-bird hunter  
Dave Gordon-bird hunter

RG – I would like to see a statement about personal use and subsistence use having first priority over ecotourism or others. Ecotourism is pushing traditional uses of black bear out of areas. I feel that it is not appropriate for a new user group to displace a long-standing personal use out of an area.

BG – Your concerns are well founded. The BOG historically has shown great deference to traditional users of a resource - whether that use is hunting or viewing, but it might be helpful for the BOG to have a statement from this AC confirming your support of that policy.

DC – Whether it is fish or game there should be a lot of consideration before traditional or historic uses are being displaced.

DA- Yes- Even though the viewing industry claims to be non-consumptive, they alter bear behavior. They make some bears hide in the woods where they are susceptible to being attacked by other bears. This bear is just as dead as one that it shot with a rifle.

JB- This is an allocative issue with the viewing industry wanting an allocation of an already fully utilized resource.

TF – Action Item: RG will write up a statement and circulate then we can consider it at our next meeting.

#### **44. Modify the 2nd degree of kindred approval procedures for nonresidents**

**Outcome: Pass 6 for 2 against 1 abstain**

BD- Explains: A resident can accompany a non resident for hunting species that the non-resident would usually have a guide to hunt as long as they have 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred. In the field we occasion run into situations that are abuses of that. The idea is that a son can hunt with father. An example of what happens now is that a couple from CO was brown bear hunting – their mother and mother in law were the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred, but not in the skiff. She was in a cabin or in another boat quite a ways away. ADF&G says that 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred had never bought a hunting license. The Alaskan resident should be held to higher standards than this – they should at least be hunters and they should actually accompany the non-resident while hunting.

JB MTA

RG 2<sup>nd</sup>

TO – What is your real goal? Do you expect the resident to be more-or-less a guide or merely have some hunting experience? Seems like you need to really define your goals. It is hard to support because of difficulty in enforcing some of these concerns. I buy a hunting license every year, but I'm not qualified to help anybody hunt brown bear.

JM - isn't this an enforcement issue? Can't you tighten this up. What is "in the field"?

DA- I was told that "in the field" is anywhere that isn't in town. The resident and the non-resident can be miles apart from one another and that still meets the letter of the law.

TF- Seems like you are trying to address a couple of different issues here. On one hand you have the aspect of whether the resident is a suitable replacement for a hired guide and on the other hand you are also looking at how close of physical proximity the two have to stay in. I agree that the two hunters shouldn't be in different parts of the state, but would this proposal allow me to go one way around a thicket or a pond and my non-resident relative to go the other way around with the plan that we would meet up on the other side?

BD- I didn't intend to prohibit two hunters from hunting cooperatively.

JB ?

#### **32. Modify the hunting season date for waterfowl in the Southeast Region**

**Outcome: Fails 0 for- 8 against 0 abstain**

JM mta

JB 2<sup>nd</sup>

MV – Explains: Previously the season had been earlier: Sept 1 – Dec 16 – generally there are not many birds around here in early Sept. We do have a lot in late Dec. A number of us got together to delay the season 2 weeks because of this. It went to the BOG but did not pass. The Dept did a survey amongst waterfowl hunters – a high percentage favored a later start to the season so the season was changed to Sept 15. Juneau and northern area was about evenly split. The rest of SE heavily favored the later season. If you need to move sandhill crane date back to Sept 1 that would be appropriate, but not the rest of the waterfowl season. Cranes are mostly through the area by end of October.

JB – There are a lot of folks that are residents can't hunt the first two weeks because they are still busy with intensive summer jobs like fishing and construction. So by opening the season later they have more chances to hunt.

MV – want opportunities to allow families to hunt birds together over Christmas. The set number of days is 107 so it can't just get extended on both sides.

JM – why can't they change the number of days?

MV – Pacific Flyway Commission

DG – opposes this proposal as well. Can we see if the Commission will let us split the area?

BG – conditions of the birds are better in later September than earlier in the season.

Early season birds are immature. They are small, skinny and have lots of pinfeathers.

DG - my experience is that widgeon are at their greatest numbers in late sept to early October – teal might be earlier. The BOG sets seasons and limits under the framework of the Migratory Council.

TF – Juneau AC unanimously supported proposal to go back to old season. As a former dedicated Juneau waterfowler I was surprised to hear that. I would have favored a later season since I prefer hunting geese and greenheads to hunting teal and widgeon, but for a novice hunter I can understand that the late season birds can be frustrating. For Sitka though, the few birds that we get early in the season are often full of salmon eggs and maggots from the rotting salmon carcasses. I agree that crane hunting peaks in the middle of September and is a short season. Another solution would be to separate out Unit 4 (and 3 and 2 if they want to) and join Kodiak. Kodiak's season runs Oct 8-Jan 22. This would still keep the same number of divisions within the State. That might be more palatable to the Pacific Flyway Commission.

TO – Perhaps they could change the crane season and leave the rest at Sept 15?

TO ?

## **28. Modify the department policy for setting allowable harvest for brown bear Unit 4 Outcome: Fails 0-7-1**

(Alaska professional hunters association).

BD – explains quota by Island group. (4% of population estimate) and how the population estimate is made (extrapolating from a couple of small areas)

There is an upwards trend in resident harvest, trend upwards in DLP, subsistence harvest is also showing a slightly increase. Guided hunting is flat. Collectively, the total take exceeded the harvest cap 2 years ago. DLP kill is going up – Our harvest rate is very conservative. The 4% is the lowest in the state.

SB- ABC Island bears are thought to not reach reproductive age until later than most other bear populations in the state. That's why the harvest rate is so conservative.

TO – I can't support this proposal. The harvest is population based, and the DLP should come off the top – similar to bycatch in non-target fisheries – ADF&G and the hunters have no control over this. They just have to accept it.

RG – when was the last survey done? Is the population data outdated?

DA – 5 to 6 years ago

JB – a lot of this is based on NE Chichagof population. That is very well studied population.

BG – almost 50% of the harvest was sows one year – way too high for sustained harvest.

JM – staff comments say that from 1960-2009 there were only 372 DLP bears total. Can that limited number really hurt your business?

BD – the numbers of the last 3 years are much higher - 12 to 14 per island is a high (62 total).

DA – our concern is that when we hit the number on a 3 year average – season will be closed by EO – our clients would be stuck. We could lose the fall season. The concern isn't about the number of bears we can take within a year – it is a season closure. Town bears DLP are affecting our business. How can we separate that out?

TF-The dept is claiming that the long-term trend for DLP kills is steady. Are you suggesting that they have this wrong?

JM – is it a current problem or a potential problem?

DA – we have gotten close to being shut down. We have client deposits several years out in the future. If we get shut down that's a real problem for us and for our clients. We've not hunting the bears near town. We're not hunting the kind of bear (young bears and sows) that are getting themselves in trouble in town. Are we short of bears in town? Do we need to educate the people in town?

JB – appreciate your concerns, it is real – especially with the folks coming years in advance. But we have to support population based management. Is there some other way to still account for the DLP kills but not require EO closure?

MB – I agree with JB – a dead bear is a dead bear but does the harvest cap stay the same year to year?

DB – it is 4% of the population so it would increase if the population went up.

DC – The harvest cap includes all bears – resident hunters, subsistence, cars? Not a large quota.

DG – you don't see the cap changing any time soon.

RG – I have been under the impression that there are more bears the last few years. I would have to say that it is a little unjust to be restricted to a cap because of a problem in town. It is not the garbage issue that is bringing bears into town. There are lots of young bears out there with nowhere else to go because all of the other habitat is occupied by bigger bears.

DA – I think there are a few more bears and there is also political correctness of the people. Now days when a sow brings her cubs into town, first we educate Mom and teach her to eat garbage. Eventually somebody ends up killing Mom, but by then she's trained her cubs to do the same and eventually they all end up getting shot along with maybe some of the cub's offspring too. It used to be that many of these sort of kills went unreported. Now most of them are being reported. That doesn't mean that the population is suffering. I love brown bear and I want them to be managed.

TO – I can't support this proposal but I do think there is a different way to deal with accounting that protects your business –

MB –

JB MTA

JM 2<sup>nd</sup>

## **29. Change the opening date for beaver trapping for the Southeast Region.**

TF – We will likely to see some early otter being caught in these beaver traps. Is that a concern to anybody?

### **30. Open a trapping season for fisher in the Southeast Region**

**Outcome: pass 5- 2- 1**

JB MTA

RG 2<sup>nd</sup>

JB – Why not allow trappers to keep them? They are beautiful.

RG -Fisher are an invasive species and compete with marten. Why favor fisher over marten?

SB-Dept is opposed, although not strongly so-lots of discussions – there are not many fisher, but they are being taken already as bycatch. Once they are caught, from a population point of view it doesn't matter who ends up owning the hide. The fisher is still dead.

BG – Fisher population in Alaska is quite small. They have only been reported in Taku and Stikine (coming in from Canada).

RG – Any reason why the BOG feels like the population should increase? They are bird killers. Why should we allow them to establish?

BG – Sustained yield principals -The BOG thinks the fisher should establish itself. It has a beautiful fur, could be valuable. They are naturally occurring here – they were not introduced.

RG – If this is ok – what about the Mountain Lion? The last thing we need around here is another predator – how does the BOG feel about this. Will fisher be more valuable than the marten they will displace?

JB ?

Rg 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **31. Prohibit the use of certain traps when mink and marten trapping is closed**

**Outcome: Passes 6 0 2**

JB MTA

DC 2<sup>nd</sup>

TF – Kuiu needs clarification because marten is closed but mink is open for much of the winter. A mink trapper shouldn't have to use wolf traps to catch mink.

JB -The proposal seems like a reasonable justification.

TF – If a mink or marten is taken out of season it is supposed to be turned in. If the trapper does this, then this proposal isn't needed. There's no incentive to try to catch an animal that you have to turn over to the dept. It won't eliminate true by-catch. Big traps catch mink and marten too. If the issue is people targeting marten after the closure and illegally keeping the hides, it seems like there is already a violation in attempting to catch marten during closed season. Is enforcement really unable to make a ticket stick when somebody claims to be wolf trapping with marten traps? If so, that is a problem and maybe this is the only way to fix it, but it seems ridiculous that it would be the case.

JB ?

RG 2<sup>nd</sup>

**33. Prohibit black bear trapping and the sale of black bear parts in the Southeast Region. Outcome: passes 4 – 3 - 1**

JB MTA

TO 2<sup>nd</sup>

JB – where are we with black bears?

SB – you can sell skulls and hides, no gall bladders. Sale of meat won't be allowed unless the bear is taken under a trapping license and the trapping of black bear proposals were deferred until March 2012.

TF – When the bear snaring proposals came up previously, I hadn't realized it would allow sale of pelts. I thought it was just a different methods and means for hunting- just like allowing snaring of ptarmigan. That's allowed under hunting, but they aren't classified as fur-bearer birds.

TO – Why is the Dept opposed to this?

SB – Because it currently isn't allowed so there is nothing for them to talk about

TO – The proposal is explicitly stating “no trapping black bear, no sale of parts.” It is a preemptive move. I support this.

TF – In response to the dept's position, I see allowing the sale of hides as counter-productive to a lot of other proposals coming up (that the dept favors)– allowing you to sell the hide rather than require salvaging and paying for tanning is a several hundred dollar difference. This is an incentive to kill more bears. I used to hunt black bear for meat, but didn't kill many because tanning was expensive. If I could have sold the hides instead I might have shot more of them. Why provide an incentive to harvest more in a part of the state where we have population concerns?

BG – Well, the hide sale WAS intended to be an incentive to kill more bears because they think there were a lot of bears in some parts of the state up north.

JM – It seems like we have some other proposals that are coming up that deal with black bears – I don't know about this one.

MB ?

**34. Prohibit black bear trapping and the sale of black bear meat the Southeast Region**

No action based on Proposal 33

**35. Reduce resident black bear bag limit.**

**Outcome: fails 3-4-1**

JB MTA

Jm 2<sup>nd</sup>

JB – can SB clarify this proposal?

SB – dept is proposing to reduce black bear harvest – reducing resident harvest is one way.

JB ?

**36. Various changes to black bears seasons in Southeast Region Units**

**Outcome: passes 4 -1- 2**

RG MTA

JM 2<sup>nd</sup>

RG – We have heard that there is an issue with black bears in POW. I have seen over the years that there are a lot of problems with increasing numbers of nonresident hunters. I would like to see a major restriction on non-guided non-resident hunters in POW.

Hunting shows and videos are creating a lot of interest and a real problem.

BD – harvest on POW used to be 150/yr now it is approaching 400/yr. It is a world class destination for trophy male black bears and you don't need a guide to do it. It is fairly inexpensive. POW got it worst than Kuprenof and Kuiu because of the roads on POW. There is now a harvest ticket which is informing dept on harvest and effort, but we will only have 1 year of data. We don't support season reductions though. We only guide for black bear once brown bear season is closed so closing the season earlier would disproportionately affect guides and guided clients. I think if we have a drawing for non-residents to hunt black bear that's the way to go. The next proposal is one that talks about that.

TF – I'm not sure what we are voting on. These ideas should each be their own proposal. The way that they are all lumped together I can't support one without supporting all of them. I can't oppose one without opposing all of them. In protest of the way that this is written I won't vote on this proposal at all. It basically just says "Do something". That's not a workable solution.

JM – These are just a variety of tools in the toolbox.

JB ?

**37. Change the general black bear season hunt to a drawing hunt in all Southeast Region Units**

**Outcome: Passes 5- 2- 1**

JM – MTA

RG – 2<sup>nd</sup>

JM – I like what BD was saying – if it works for them it may be a solution

DA – I see that the unguided non residents in “open access” hunts are kind of sloppy – high wounding loss, female kills etc – having to work to get the tag makes them (even the same person) a more conscientious hunter. Guides have to sit on hunters quite a bit to get them to take the time to evaluate each bear. This could really address this growing segment of nonresident hunters – there is no limit now.

JB – I like the idea of this one but I felt like this was one of the tools in the tool box of the last proposal – couldn't BOG make the right decision. I'm not sure one way or the other.

RG – I remember when Phil Mooney told us the population of black bears was in trouble of POW. This seems to answer the problem. TV hunting shows target the excesses in POW – bragging it up. Current regs are too liberal.

BD – POW is close to Kuiu and Kuprenof and there will be a domino effect if we just close the areas with the biggest problems.

TF – Is the quality of bear hunting on the other islands and other parts of SE high enough to keep that domino effect going. Seems like spreading the effort out to some less-desirable or harder to reach places might be ok.. I can't support going to a drawing hunt in an area where you would allow more tags to be drawn than you have applicants.

TO – I am going to support this because it is better to have one strong proposal to frame the BOF discussion and it still allows another solution if this one isn't appropriate.

TF – I don't think that this needs to be done in all the units listed. There could be different means to limit take in other areas. Furthermore, I'm really uncomfortable with the precedent of establishing the first hunt with a drawing for non-guided non-residents, but allowing an open hunt for guided non-residents.

DA – we are capped so is the draw necessary for guides? The unguided nonresidents are not capped.

JB ?

### **38. Require GPS coordinates for bear baiting stations in Units 1 -5**

**Outcome: passes 6-1-0**

JB MTA

RG 2

JB -excellent idea.

TF – If the issue is that heavy brush and thick timber make it difficult to find a bait station it is unlikely that you would get a GPS signal there. My GPS doesn't work in heavy timber. I can't support a requirement that is technologically infeasible.

RG – probably a good idea for someone to know where these sites are and check up on them from time to time.

JB?

### **39. Prohibit the taking of black bear over bait**

**Outcome: fails 2- 4- 1**

JB MTA

JM 2<sup>nd</sup>

RG – where there is a heavy bear populations you want to have a bear planted at short range – safer even if unsportsmanlike. It is a tool that can be used. It is banned in some places.

TF-This proposal seems like a tool that ought to be used long before any of the other proposals (35-37) that we have considered.

BD- I don't bait for my clients. I can show them 10 bears in the time that it would take to establish a single bait station.

DC – is there a cap on number of bears that may be taken over bait?

### **40. Modify the salvage requirement for black bear in Southeast Region Units**

no motion to adopt.

Motion to adjourn by unanimous consent 21:02

Next meeting Tuesday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM at Sage Building first floor classroom.

Agenda:

Invasive Tunicate presentation by ADFG

Continue with Game proposals

41-43 & 45-46.

# Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Tad Fujioka, Chairman  
214 Shotgun Alley, Sitka, AK 99835

Sitka Sound Science Center Classroom  
Call to order 18:30 October 26, 2010

AC members present  
Tad Fujioka- Trapping- chair  
Jerry Barber-Hand troll -vice chair  
John Murray-Power Troll - Late  
Mike Baines- Sportfish  
Eric Jordan –alternate -Late  
Joel Hansen- guide  
Randy Gluth -Hunting  
Jack Lorrigan- Subsistence

## Other participants:

Sue Aspelund, Monica Wellard, Patrick Fowler, Phil Mooney & Tammy Davis all of ADF&G, Heather Woody & Kristen Rohblum- Sitka Tribe, Marnie Chapman-UAS Sitka, Paul Norwood -Sitka Sound Science Center, Dave Turcott, Harvey Kitka

Chairman Fujioka introduced Tammy Davis who gave a presentation on invasive tunicates found in the Sitka area. After a break following the presentation, all non-AC members except for Harvey Kitka left. Phil Mooney (ADF&G Game), Eric Jordan and John Murray arrived to reach quorum.

Chairman Fujioka asked Vice Chair Barber to chair the remainder of the meeting so that Fujioka could take notes in the absence of the committee secretary.

## **41. Replace the deer harvest survey with harvest report**

**Outcome: Amended to recommend that there be no penalty for non-computer-based reporting- Amended proposal-Pass: 7 for 0 against 1 abstain**

**MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>**

RG: Seems like this might be an inconvenience to some hunters. Is it really necessary? Seems like we don't need to do a lot to manage deer here in Unit 4. I wouldn't want to do anything to make things any more inconvenient than they already are.

PM: (explaining dept's position) The change is due to a desire to standardize the way data is collected on-line. This is being driven by state-wide folks. It is different, but not all that different. If you don't respond to the first request for information, you'll be mailed the old-style deer survey. We expect the response rate to be higher under the new system so we will have more data to look at.

JL: (explains that he is speaking as the subsistence rep, not as a USFS employee) I'm looking out for people who choose not to use a computer. Maybe they don't have one. Maybe they don't even have reliable electrical power. Maybe it just doesn't fit with their

choice of lifestyle. This might sound ok now that the Internet reporting is just one option, but I'm reminded of ATMs. First they were just an option, just an alternative to talking to a live teller, but over time banks changed their policies so that now you have to pay a fee to get a withdrawal from a teller instead of an ATM. If you even use the wrong ATM you get charged for that too. I'm concerned that this proposal might end up like that.

PM: I agree that computer use is not universal. I don't expect the dept will have a penalty for non-electronic responses.

JL: The dept gets lots of information on deer already. Heck, how many hunters come in to your office and talk to you Phil?

PM; 100's; We encourage hunters to talk to us and we get excellent responses in Unit 4. Maybe other areas don't have as good a relationship between the hunters & the dept.

EJ: Move to amend the proposal by adding the comment that we recommend that there be no penalty for non-computer based reporting.

RG: Does this proposal say that we have to carry the harvest report with us in the field when we hunt?

PM- Not the harvest report, but you do need to carry your unused harvest tickets.

JM- That's already a regulation

TF: 2<sup>nd</sup> Eric's amendment

? on amendment passes 8-0

TF: (to Phil) Can you describe in detail the replacement for the deer survey? How does it work? What does it look like? How do we know what we are voting on?

PM: Don't know for sure. We are still working on. I think that we will still have a paper version that you can drop off at the dept office. It will be scannable with bubble-in ovals.

TF: (to Phil) I thought that you mentioned that the one weakness of the current survey was that there wasn't much room for free-response questions. I don't see how a standardized computer-readable form is going to be any better in that regard.

PM: It won't. The old old survey used to allow more room for that. The more recent surveys don't give much room and we don't get very lengthy responses as a result.

? called.

#### **42. Make spike/fork moose illegal**

**Outcome: Fail 0 for 7 against 1 abstain**

**MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>**

RG: The current regs allow the taking of some immature bulls. They are excess to the population. This is a good thing. I don't think that there is enough of a problem to make the change that the proposer is asking for.

PM-Read dept position: spike-fork accounted for 62% of the total harvest prior to 2008 and 44% in 2009 after allowing for 2&2 brow tine moose to be taken

TF: Does dept know the percentage of yearling moose that grow spike-fork vs small paddles?

PM: Not me.

EJ: I oppose this. Let's just vote.

? called

#### **43. Shorten wolf season throughout SE**

**Outcome: Fail 1 for 6 against 1 abstain**

MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>

RG: In some areas of the state wolf numbers need to be reduced. I don't like the Defenders of Wildlife's efforts to oppose those efforts. I'm opposed to this proposal. Some areas like POW may need reduced harvest, but not most of the rest of SE. Many other areas of the state we are trying hard to do the opposite.

PM: Reads dept position

? called

**44. Modify the 2nd degree of kindred approval procedures for nonresidents**

**Excerpt of previous meeting minutes inserted here:**

.....  
**Outcome: Pass 6 for 2 against 1 abstain**

BD- Explains: A resident can accompany a non resident for hunting species that the non-resident would usually have a guide to hunt as long as they have 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred. In the field we occasion run into situations that are abuses of that. The idea is that a son can hunt with father. An example of what happens now is that a couple from CO was brown bear hunting – their mother and mother in law were the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred, but not in the skiff. She was in a cabin or in another boat quite a ways away. ADF&G says that 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred had never bought a hunting license. The Alaskan resident should be held to higher standards than this – they should at least be hunters and they should actually accompany the non-resident while hunting.

JB MTA

RG 2<sup>nd</sup>

TO – What is your real goal? Do you expect the resident to be more-or-less a guide or merely have some hunting experience? Seems like you need to really define your goals. It is hard to support because of difficulty in enforcing some of these concerns. I buy a hunting license every year, but I'm not qualified to help anybody hunt brown bear.

JM - isn't this an enforcement issue? Can't you tighten this up. What is "in the field"?

DA- I was told that "in the field" is anywhere that isn't in town. The resident and the non-resident can be miles apart from one another and that still meets the letter of the law.

TF- Seems like you are trying to address a couple of different issues here. On one hand you have the aspect of whether the resident is a suitable replacement for a hired guide and on the other hand you are also looking at how close of physical proximity the two have to stay in. I agree that the two hunters shouldn't be in different parts of the state, but would this proposal allow me to go one way around a thicket or a pond and my non-resident relative to go the other way around with the plan that we would meet up on the other side?

BD- I didn't intend to prohibit two hunters from hunting cooperatively.

JB ?  
.....

**45. Review discretionary hunt conditions**

**Outcome: Pass 5 for 1 against 2 abstain**

MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>

TF: This seems like an awkward proposal. If we really are serious about analyzing any of these conditions there ought to be brought up individually. To look at them all as a single proposal is not a good way to do it. Most of them look pretty innocuous, but I'm

not sure about #10 (restriction to weapons and ammunition). When would the dept impose this?

PM: We prohibit big game hunting with rim-fire cartridges in SE. There are archery-only hunts in many places.

TF: Sure, but I was mostly wondering about the ammunition part. When would the dept have an ammo restriction? I thought that the BOG wrestled with a prohibition on hollow-points last cycle and after much thought decided not to prohibit them after all. If hollow points are legal, what other kinds of ammo would you restrict?

PM: Yes the BOG did decide to continue to allow hunting with hollow points. If you make a bad shot you ruin a lot of meat, but they didn't want to codify this restriction.

MB; What about restriction #6 (hunter must be accompanied by dept rep?) When would that apply?

PM: There are some muskox and bison hunts that require this. It is hard to distinguish the sexes and in these hunts it is very important that we get the right number of males and females taken.

MB: But this proposal is specific to SE. We don't have muskox or bison hunts here. Why is this condition in this SE proposal?

PM: That's a good question. It looks like whoever wrote it just pulled the standard conditions and wrote them down.

? called

#### **46. Institute Bonus Point system for drawing hunts**

**Outcome: Fail 1 for 6 against 1 abstain**

**MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>**

TF: Last time when this proposal came up, I saw that it was proposed by the BOG and seemed to make it more likely that I might draw a rare tag so I fully supported it without giving it a whole lot of thought. There wasn't much discussion at this table here, so I think that most of us did that. After the vote and after hearing from some other folks outside of the AC, I think that I made a mistake. I will not be supporting it this time around. I say that because now I recognize that there will be some negative secondary effects that I did not recognize the first time. Specifically, this proposal provides a great advantage – an exponential advantage- to those who have the time and organizational ability to put in for these hunts year after year. Many of us are fortunate enough to be able to say, ah, it's only \$10. What's the big deal? But, it is \$10 every year and it is a commitment to spend the money every year. If you miss one year, you are back at the beginning. Also, there is no assurance that the drawing fee will remain this low. There was a proposal a couple of years back to raise this fee. Some hunters can't afford to commit this money years in advance. This proposal gives advantages to those with money. Anytime that happens, it should be expected that those with money will move to take that advantage. In this particular situation, this means giving an advantage to non-resident hunters over residents and to urban residents over rural residents. I don't think that these are good things.

Furthermore, this proposal severely disadvantages any hunter under ten years old since you need to be at least 10 to enter the drawing. Whenever they are finally old enough to enter they will be some years behind the rest of the hunters in the drawing. I don't think that this is fair.

RG: I am nervous about the complexity of this proposal. Anything this complex may have other complications that we aren't aware of. I read the argument against this written by Doug Corl, a guide from Petersburg and found it quite convincing.

EJ: Very eloquent Tad. You've convinced me to change my mind from last time too.

PM: The dept has no position on this. This will be quite controversial. That's one of the reasons for the 50%/50% split. In some states you can even buy bonus points. I don't think that we would want to go that route.

TF: Actually, that's included in the proposal. Item 6 allows an applicant to pay the drawing fee while opting to not be included in the drawing for that year, but only to gain the bonus points for the future. That's one of the reasons that I found this so offensive. It is exactly selling bonus points!

I read this advertisement for a service to join this organization that will file your permit application on time. It is directly appealing to non-resident hunters to "get in on the bottom floor" of the Alaska bonus point system. Getting a bunch more non-resident applications in the pool is exactly what we don't want if we want to increase our own odds of getting drawn.

JH: (guide rep) I'm not totally convinced that there aren't some potential benefits in giving out-of-state folks some more opportunity. Maybe 50%/50% is too much, maybe it should be reduced to 75%/25%. I think that I want to see continued out-of-state interest in Alaskan hunting since it is good for the guides. I would be willing to support this to some extent.

? called

#### **47. Trapping restrictions in Yakutat area**

**Outcome: Pass 7 for 0 against 1 abstain**

**MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>**

TF: I know that this is out of our areas, but I would like to support our fellow AC and in particular I would like to recognize the level of detail that I can tell went into this proposal. They took the time to consider a different width of buffer zone in each area instead of just slapping a generic distance on all of them. They took the time to specify particular types of traps to prohibit, while allowing others that aren't hazardous instead of the blanket "no-trapping zone" that is unfortunately common. I'm not familiar enough with the area to know how appropriate each restriction is, but I wanted to point out that the level of detail in this proposal is commendable. I also like the idea that the rest of the region is to be permanently designated as a known trapping area. This looks like an effort at allocation. I think that is a good thing to make these allocations up front.

HK: Some Yakutat residents were upset when their dogs were caught when trappers were setting too close to trails. Big traps posed a danger to children and pets.

JB: I agree that a 330 would be a danger to a child or a dog.

? called

#### **47. Lengthen wolf season in Yakutat area**

**Outcome: Fail 0 for 5 against 2 abstain**

**MTA/2<sup>nd</sup>**

RG: I think that I support this since high wolf populations can cause damage to moose populations. If the Yakutat AC feels that this is necessary then we should support them in that effort.

PM- Read dept position

EJ: This proposal would put the season into the pupping period. I don't think that is a good idea. If the mom gets killed then the pups die.

JB: The hunting season is already 9 months long. That's a pretty long season.

RG: That is pretty long. I guess the hides probably won't be any good that late in the year.

JH: Maybe we don't want to take a position on it since it is so far out of our area.

? called.

End of proposals:

JM: I would like to see us stick within our area. These meeting take long enough as it is. These game ones aren't too bad, but the fish ones take a real long time. If we have somebody who fishes or hunts in the area and knows it well enough to inform us, that's fine, but I don't think that any of us hunt wolves in Yakutat.

EJ: It is a difficult job to balance the desire to provide for an open democracy process where anybody can bring up any topic they want, with a desire for efficiency. Sometimes it helps if the agenda is set so that the most important and controversial topics are covered first. That way we don't have enough energy to have any desire to bring up extraneous stuff late into the meeting.

Motion to adjourn- no objections