



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

## Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS  
Office of the Director

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Chairman  
Alaska Board of Game  
P.O. Box 115526  
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Dear Chairman:

The following comments give a brief description of the positions that the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers have on the proposals that are up for consideration at the January 2012, Board of Game meeting in Sitka.

In general, when the board considers seasons and or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request that every effort possible be made to align the season dates and bag limits with adjacent game management units and/or sub units. This is mainly due to enforceability of multiple seasons in multiple locations as well as consistency of the regulations for the public. When the board considers proposals having to do with allocation or biological concerns, AWT is generally neutral in position.

AWT recognizes that regulations are developed by the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game through the public process to support management plans. Further, all management plans rely upon public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Enforcement is a crucial element needed to ensure long-term compliance with regulations by the public. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers request the board recognize that the division has limited resources and man power and any new regulation scheme or area restrictions may place an additional burden on AWT.

Comments on specific proposals are included in this letter.

Thank you for your time.

*Bernard Chastain*

Lieutenant, Alaska Wildlife Troopers  
Anchorage Headquarters

## **Proposal 12**

This proposal seeks to disregard moose antler points that originate from the antler base for the RM038 hunt.

When deliberating this proposal, the board should consider the implications of deviating from a statewide defined term. The term “point” is defined in 5 AAC 92.990(40) and is the established statewide definition. If the board changes the definition of “point” for the RM038 hunt only, it could be confusing to the public.

## **Proposal 15**

This proposal seeks to create prohibitions on vehicle use for Marten trappers on the Tonka Road system in GMU 3.

When deliberating this proposal the board should consider that when methods and means are restricted for specific species, in general it is more difficult for enforcement to prove they were violating. In general, CUA’s are restricted to “all big game” or “no motorized vehicles for hunting”. The difficulty with this proposal will be in proving that the trapper is in fact trapping for marten and not another species. If the board finds that there is a conservation concern, a more enforceable regulation might be to close this road system to all trapping using a motorized land vehicle.