



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 Ted Spraker  
Alaska Board of Game  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK. 99811-5526

Dear Chairman Spraker,

The following comments outline the position the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers have on the proposals up for consideration during the March 2015 Board of Game meeting in Anchorage.

When the board considers seasons and/or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request every effort be made to align seasons and bag limits with adjacent game management units/sub units creating consistency of the regulations for the public. When the board considers proposals with allocation or biological concerns, we strive to remain neutral.

Alaska Wildlife Troopers recognize regulations are developed by the Alaska Board of Game through the public process to support management plans and rely on public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Alaska Wildlife Troopers respectfully request the board recognize any new regulation or area restriction may result in additional burdens on Alaska Wildlife Troopers due to our limited resources.

Sincerely,

*Paul L. Fussey*

Lieutenant, Alaska Wildlife Troopers

**Alaska Wildlife Troopers Responses to the Board of Game Proposals**  
**2014/15**  
**Southcentral Region**

**Proposal 170:**

5AAC 85.0020 Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

The proposal is asking to create a front country and back country area for game management units 7&15. The proposal would also create two separate start dates for the brown bear season in each of the game management units. When the board considers seasons and/or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request every effort be made to align seasons and bag limits with adjacent game management units/sub units creating consistency of the regulations for the public.

**Proposal 175:**

5AAC 85.065 Hunting season and bag limits for small game.

This proposal is not supported by Alaska Wildlife Troopers and we ask the board to not pass this proposal due to the following concerns. This proposal is asking for the bag limit of ptarmigan in Game management sub-unit 15C to be divided by geographic region. In Unit 15C north of Kachemak Bay and Fox River the season would be August 10 – February 1, with a bag limit of 5 birds per day with 20 in possession. The remainder of unit 15C season would be August 10-March 31, with a bag limit of 10 birds per day with 20 in possession. The proposed line creates an enforcement concern, specifically resource users transiting back and forth across the line separating the different bag limit areas. When the board considers seasons and/or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request every effort be made to align seasons and bag limits with adjacent game management units/sub units creating consistency of the regulations for the public.

**Proposal 176:**

5AAC 85.065 Hunting season and bag limits for small game.

This proposal is not supported by Alaska Wildlife Troopers and we ask the board to not pass this proposal due to the following concerns. This proposal is asking for the bag limit of ptarmigan in Game management sub-unit 15C to be divided by geographic region. In Unit 15C north of Kachemak Bay and Fox River the season would be August 10 – February 1, with a bag limit of 5 birds per day with 20 in possession. The remainder of unit 15C season would be August 10-March 31, with a bag limit of 10 birds per day with 20 in possession. The proposed line creates an enforcement concern, specifically resource users transiting back and forth across the line separating the different bag limit areas. When the board considers seasons and/or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request every effort be made to align seasons and bag limits with adjacent game management units/sub units creating consistency of the regulations for the public. See proposal 175.

**Proposal 180:**

5AAC 92.095 Unlawful methods of taking furbearers.

This proposal seeks to restrict trapping in and around the Cooper landing area. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers are neutral on this proposal. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers ask the board to clarify the trapping language, specifically the areas to be restricted, setbacks, and trap requirements. This proposal also fails to take in account an individual may use a trap or snare to take grouse, hare, and ptarmigan under a hunting license.

**Proposal 181:**

5AAC 92.095 Unlawful methods of taking furbearers.

This proposal seeks to restrict trapping in and around the Cooper landing area. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers are neutral on this proposal. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers ask the board to clarify the trapping language, specifically the areas to be restricted, setbacks, and trap requirements. This proposal also fails to take in account an individual may use a trap or snare to take grouse, hare, and ptarmigan under a hunting license. See proposal 180.

**Proposal 195:**

5AAC 92.044(b) (10) Permit for hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures. Remove the requirements to clean up contaminated soil from bear bait stations for Southeast Region Units.

This proposal is not supported by Alaska Wildlife Troopers and we ask the board to not pass this proposal due to the following reasons. The requirement to remove all of the contaminated soil is a public safety tool to ensure bears stop using the bear bait station at the close of the season. Numerous bear bait stations have been documented where the hunter has poured gallons of grease on the ground and trees to attract bears. The grease has killed all of the vegetation and continued to attract bears long after the season has ended. This regulation is a deterrent to hunters who may clean up their barrels and other items but do not want to clean up the soil.