

**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME**  
**Central/Southwest Region Meeting**  
**February 16–23, 2018 | Dillingham, Alaska**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

The Board of Game (board) convened the Central/Southwest Region meeting on Friday, February 16, 2018 in Dillingham at the Dillingham Middle School. Seven board members were present: Chairman Ted Spraker, Vice-Chairman Nate Turner, Stosh Hoffman, Teresa Sager Albaugh, Karen Linnell, Larry Van Daele, and Tom Lamal.

The meeting opened with introductions and board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by agency reports. Public testimony began Friday, February 16 at 4:43 pm, and concluded Sunday, February 18 at 12:05 pm. The board heard from 46 testifiers, 14 of whom were advisory committee representatives (see RC 57). In addition to public testimony, the board held an informal meeting on Wednesday, February 21 over the lunch break to listen to additional comments and concerns by the public related to Proposal 148 dealing with methods for harvesting caribou in Unit 17.

Board deliberations began Sunday afternoon, following public testimony. The board took action on 101 proposals, adopting 45, and deferring two to future meetings. Fifteen of the adopted proposals were reauthorizations for antlerless moose hunts, and three were reauthorizations of brown bear tag fee exemptions. Board action for each proposal is provided below and are recorded as: C = carried; CA = carried as amended; F = Failed; D = deferred; DA = deferred as amended; and NA = no action.

The meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at: [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=02-16-2018&meeting=dillingham](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=02-16-2018&meeting=dillingham).

**Regionwide and Multiple Units**

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Sunday, February 18 at 2:30:51 PM.*

CA (7-0) 71 Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts. *The board amended the proposal to apply only the Central/SW Region.*

F (0-7) 72 Establish archery-only registration hunts for moose in Units 9, 11, 13, 14A, 14B, 16 and 17.

F (0-7) 73 Establish archery-only registration hunts for Dall sheep in Units 9, 11, 13, 14A, 14B, 16 and 17.

F (0-7) 74 Remove the nonresident bag limit restriction of one Dall sheep every four years in the Central/Southwest Region.

F (0-7) 75 Allow nonresidents to obtain one general season Dall sheep permit in a regulatory year in the Central/Southwest Region.

C (7-0) 76 Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemptions for the Central/Southwest Region.

## Palmer Area – Units 14A, 14B & 16

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Sunday, February 18 at 4:12:33 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.*

- CA (7-0) 77 Reauthorize the antlerless moose draw permits in Units 14A and 14B and increase permit levels in Unit 14A. *The board amended the proposal to increase the number of antlerless drawing permits from 1,500 to 2000.*
- C (7-0) 78 Authorize an any bull draw permit hunt in Unit 14B .
- F (0-7) 79 Modify the hunt structure for Dall sheep in Unit 14A.
- F (3-4) 80 Open a resident registration hunt for mountain goat in Unit 14A.
- CA (6-1) 81 Increase the bag limit for brown bear and allow the harvest of brown bear at black bear bait stations in a portion of Unit 14A. *The board amended the proposal so that it applies to all of Unit 14A.*
- F (0-7) 82 Create a management area for the Mat-Su Borough’s Government Peak Recreation Area in Unit 14A.
- F (0-7) 83 Change the antler restrictions for moose hunting in Unit 16A.
- F (0-7) 84 Raise the population objective for moose in Unit 16B.
- CA (7-0) 85 Lengthen the resident hunting season for moose in Unit 16B Remainder (DM540, YM541 and RM574). *The board amended the proposal to retain the existing hunts and to increase the number of permits for the DM540 to up to 600, and up to 25% for the YM541.*
- F (0-7) 86 Shorten the season for black bear baiting in Unit 16.
- F (0-7) 87 Prohibit the harvest of brown bears at black bear bait stations in Unit 16.
- CA (4-3) 88 Shorten the season and reduce the bag limit for brown bear in Unit 16. *The board amended the season date to August 10 – June 15 and retained the two-bear bag limit.*
- F (1-6) 89 End the predator control program for black and brown bear in Unit 16.
- C (7-0) 90 Allow the harvest of beaver by firearms under a trapping license in Unit 16.
- CA (6-0-1) 67B To comply with recent statutory changes, review and update regulations with the minimum hunting age requirements. *The board amended the proposal with substitute language provided in RC 29 which changed the age to 21 for persons accompanying youth hunters in the Hatcher Pass Youth Hunt Management Area and the Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area. The RC also set the age requirement of “18 or older” for taking bears in the Unit 16 Intensive Management Plan. (Deliberations also occurred on 3/23 at 6:22:52. Member Hoffman was absent from the final vote.)*

### Glennallen Area – Units 11 & 13

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Monday, February 19 at 4:22:38 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G and testimony by the Fairbanks Advisory Committee representative.*

- F (1-6) 91 Modify the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for caribou and moose in Unit 13.
- F (3-4) 92 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts for moose and caribou.
- NA (7-0) 93 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for caribou in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to their discussion on Proposal 92.*
- NA (7-0) 94 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for caribou in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to their discussion on Proposal 92.*
- NA (7-0) 95 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to their discussion on Proposal 92.*
- NA (7-0) 96 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose in the Copper Basin area and establish a registration moose hunt for Unit 13. *The board took no action due to their discussion on Proposal 92.*
- F (1-6) 97 Remove the requirement for applicants to have specific customary and traditional use patterns for participating in the community subsistence harvest hunts in Unit 13.
- F (0-7) 59 Consider all customary and traditional uses as eligibility criteria for Tier II and community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA (6-1) 98 Modify the community subsistence harvest permit conditions. *The board took no action due to their discussion on the proposal.*
- NA (7-0) 56 Modify the community subsistence harvest permit conditions. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 98.*
- CA (5-2) 57 Change the definition of “community” or “group” for community subsistence harvest hunts. *The board amended the regulatory definition to read: “A community or group is a mutual support network of people who routinely, at least several times each year, provide each other with physical, emotional and nutritional assistance in a multigenerational and inter/intra familial manner to assure the long-term welfare of individuals, the group, and the natural resources they depend on. For the purposes of this regulation, a community or group shares a common interest in, and participation in uses of, an identified area and the wildlife populations in that area that is consistent with the customary and traditional use patterns of that wildlife population and area as defined by the board.”*

- F (2-5) 99 Remove the requirement that Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters, community subsistence harvest (CSH) moose and caribou hunters, and all members of their household, shall hunt moose only in Unit 13.
- NA (7-0) 100 Remove the requirement for Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters to hunt moose in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 99.*
- CA (7-0) 58 Modify the salvage requirements for moose and caribou taken under community subsistence harvest hunts. *The board amended the proposal with substitute language provided in RC 37, Option 3, which applies the salvage requirement for caribou and moose taken in Copper Basin CSH hunts throughout the CSH harvest seasons. Prior to board action, hunters were only required to leave the meat on the bone prior to October 1. The board also required the meat of the brisket, neck, and back stay naturally attached to the bone, in addition to the meat of the front quarters, hindquarters, and ribs. (Deliberations also occurred on 2/21 at 3:48:59.)*
- CA (7-0) 101 Establish a youth hunting season for caribou in Unit 13. *The board amended the proposal to apply to resident youth, with up to 200 permits available.*
- CA (7-0) 102 Open a nonresident caribou hunting season in Unit 13 and allocate up to ten percent of drawing permits to nonresidents when population objectives are met. *The board amended the proposal to open a bull only season, August 20 – September 20, with up to 200 permits issued when the herd is above the population objective, starting with 50 permits.*
- F (3-4) 103 Change the community subsistence harvest hunt season dates for moose to align with the general hunt.
- C (7-0) 104 Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 13.
- NA (7-0) 105 Eliminate the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 104.*
- F (0-7) 106 Eliminate the drawing permit hunt DM324 for moose in Unit 13.
- F (0-7) 107 Open a late resident hunting season for moose in Units 11 and 13.
- F (0-7) 108 Change the antler restrictions for moose in Unit 13.
- F (2-5) 109 Change the “any ram” bag limit to “full-curl ram” for the Dall sheep permit hunts in Units 13D and 14A.
- NA (7-0) 110 Change the drawing permit hunt for goat in Unit 13D to a registration hunt. *The board took no action due to a request by the author to withdraw it.*
- F (3-4) 111 Open a fall season for hunting brown bear and black bear over bait in Unit 13.

- CA (7-0) 112 Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 11. *The board amended the proposal to clarify the brown bear bait season and hunting season both end June 30.*
- CA (6-1) 113 Lengthen the trapping season for wolverine in Unit 13. *The board amended the proposal to set the season end date as February 15.*
- NA (7-0) 114 Extend the trapping season for wolverine in Unit 13. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal 113.*
- CA (7-0) 115 Extend the trapping season for wolverine in Units 11 and 13. *The board amended the proposal to remove Unit 13, and to close the season at the end of February.*
- F (1-6) 116 Allow trappers the incidental take of two furbearer in Units 11 and 13.
- F (0-7) 117 Reduce the harvest and possession limits for grouse in Unit 11.
- F (0-7) 118 Reduce the bag limit and shorten the season for grouse in Unit 11.
- C (5-2) 119 Lengthen the hunting season for ptarmigan in Unit 13B. *Board action on Proposal 120 supersedes this action.*
- CA (7-0) 120 Align the hunting seasons and reduce the bag limit for ptarmigan in Units 13E and 13B. *The board amended the proposal to set the season dates for Units 13B and 13E to August 10 – February 15, and to retain the existing bag and possession limits. The amendment supersedes the action on Proposal 119.*
- NA (7-0) 121 Lengthen the hunting season for ptarmigan in Unit 13B. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 120.*
- C (7-0) 122 Modify the Sourdough Controlled Use Area.
- DA (5-2) 123 Modify the Clearwater Creek Controlled Use Area description. *The board amended the east boundary of the Controlled Use Area to be at least 100 feet east of the Maclaren Summit Trail from the Denali Highway north to the southern boundary of the CUA in Section 22, and to allow motorized access or transportation of game on the established Maclaren Summit Trail. The board deferred the amended proposal to the March 2019 Southcentral Region Meeting. (Discussion on this proposal also occurred on 2/23/19 at 3:32:35.)*
- F (1-6) 124 Eliminate the Unit 13-specific proxy requirements.

### **King Salmon Area – Units 9 & 10**

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Thursday, February 22 at 4:37:54 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.*

- CA (7-0) 125 Change the hunting season dates for the Tier II caribou hunt in Unit 9. *The board amended the proposal to set the season close dates for Units 9C and 9E as October 10.*

- CA (7-0) 126 Increase the bag limit for the Southern Alaska Peninsula caribou herd (SAP) in Unit 9D. *The board amended the proposal to change the nonresident bag limit to 2 bulls.*
- C (7-0) 127 Open a resident hunting season for caribou in a portion of Unit 9C.
- F (0-7) 128 Allow the harvest of any caribou in Unit 10, Adak Island.
- C (7-0) 129 Lengthen the resident hunting season for moose in Unit 9B.
- NA (7-0) 130 Allow hunters to obtain Unit 9B registration moose permits online and in other locations. *The board took no action because the department has administrative authority to implement.*
- NA (7-0) 131 Remove the brown bear bag limit of one bear every four years for residents in Unit 9. *The board took no action based on a request by the author to withdraw it.*
- CA (6-1) 132 Open a resident-only early season for the current registration brown bear hunts in Unit 9, or open resident-only registration or drawing permit hunts. *The board amended the proposal by changing the existing registration hunt dates in Unit 9 to October 7-21, and May 10-25, excluding the subsistence hunts.*
- NA (7-0) 133 Change the nonresident brown bear registration hunt in Unit 9E to drawing permit hunt. *The board took no action due to their discussion on Proposal 132.*
- CA (7-0) 134 Shorten the season for ptarmigan and reduce the bag limit in Unit 9. *The board amended the proposal to set the season dates as August 10 – last day of February. The board also adopted a positive finding for customary and traditional use of ptarmigan in the region.*
- CA (7-0) 135 Close the season for Alaska hares in Unit 9. *The board amended the proposal with substitute language in RC 55, page 1, and option B on page 2 with clarification that season close date is January 31. The board also adopted a positive finding for customary and traditional use of Snowshoe hare in the region, and Alaska hare for Units 9, 10 and 17.*

### **Dillingham Area – Unit 17**

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Thursday, February 22 at 8:34:08 AM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.*

- C (7-0) 136 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 17A.
- CA (7-0) 138 Extend the resident, fall season for moose hunting in Unit 17A. *The board amended the proposal to set the bag limit as one moose.*
- NA (7-0) 137 Change the resident, fall season dates for moose hunting in Unit 17A. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 138.*

- CA (5-0-2) 139 Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 17A. *The board amended the proposal to change the nonresident season dates to September 5 – 15. (Deliberations on this proposal also occurred on Friday, February 23 at 6:26:11 PM.. Members Hoffman and Sager Albaugh were absent from the final vote.)*
- F (3-4) 140 Open a guide required, nonresident registration hunt for moose in Unit 17A.
- NA (7-0) 141 Allocate a portion of the nonresident drawing permits for moose in Unit 17A to guided hunters. *The board took no action due to their action on Proposal 140.*
- F (0-7) 142 Shift the resident fall hunting season dates for moose in a portion of Unit 17C.
- F (0-7) 143 Open the resident winter season for moose in a portion of Unit 17C by emergency order only.
- F (0-7) 144 Allow the use of motorized vehicles for moose hunting in the Upper Mulchatna Controlled Use Area.
- NA (7-0) 145 Open a nonresident registration hunt for caribou in Units 9 and 17. *The board took no action based on a request by the author to withdraw it.*
- F (0-7) 146 Open a guide-required nonresident drawing hunt for caribou in Unit 17B.
- NA (7-0) 147 Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 and 19. *The board took no action based on a request by the author to withdraw it.*
- CA (4-3) 148 Allow the use of a snowmachine for harvesting caribou, wolf, or wolverine in Unit 17. *The board amended the proposal with substitute language from RC 52 as amended to apply only caribou. The amended proposal allows a snow machine to be used to assist in the taking of caribou in Unit 17, provided that the vehicle is not used to chase, torment or molest the animal. A snowmachine may be used to approach within 300 yards of a caribou at speeds under 15 miles per hour, if not done with repeated approaches or that cause the caribou to alter their behavior or flee. The snowmachine must be stopped before the hunter may shoot the animal. (The board clarified on 2/23 at 11:41:12 AM that RC 52 applies only to snow machines and not to other motorized vehicles.)*
- F (2-5) 149 Liberalize the season and methods and means for trapping beaver in Units 9 and 17.

### **Interior/Northeast Arctic Region**

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Friday, February 23 at 3:38:26 PM.*

- NA (7-0) 70 Remove the Bettles Winter Trail travel exception for public use within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area. *The board took no action due to the ADF&G comments about the final determination on the environmental assessment process not yet completed by the Bureau of Land Management.*

D (6-1-1) 165 Open a registration hunt for moose in Unit 19A. *The board deferred the proposal to the March 2019 Southcentral Region Meeting. (Member Hoffman was absent from the final vote.)*

CA (6-0-1)166 Modify the hunt structure for the Fortymile caribou herd in Units 20 and 25. *The board amended the proposal by adopting the ADF&G recommendations for both the codified regulations and the hunting regulations handbook described in Record Copy 4, Tab 8, pages 41-43, which will allow ADF&G the discretion to lengthen the youth hunt season to 8/1 – 8/21 with a bag limit of 1 caribou; lengthen the resident fall season to 8/1 – 9/30 and the winter season to 10/21 – 3/31 with a bag limit of up to 3 caribou; and lengthen the nonresident season to 8/10 – 9/30. The board also modified the customary and traditional use finding for the Fortymile caribou herd in Units 12 and 20 to clarify it does not apply to the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area.*

### **Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts & Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemptions for Other Regions**

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Friday, February 23 at 6:14:26 PM.*

C (7-0) 150 Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunts in Unit 1C .

C (7-0) 151 Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 5A, the Nunatak Bench hunt.

C (7-0) 152 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6C.

C (7-0) 153 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B.

C (7-0) 154 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season and targeted moose season in a portion of Unit 15C.

C (7-0) 155 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C.

C (7-0) 156 Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14C.

C (7-0) 157 Reauthorize the nonresident antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18.

C (7-0) 158 Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.

C (7-0) 159 Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B.

C (7-0) 160 Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20D.

C (7-0) 161 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the western portion of Unit 26A.

C (7-0) 162 Reauthorize resident brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

C (7-0) 163 Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.



## Miscellaneous Actions

*The audio for board deliberations on this section began Friday, February 23 at 06:50:12 PM. Members Sager Albaugh and Hoffman were absent for this portion of the meeting.*

1. Member Linnell reported to the board the recommendations from the Joint Board Committee which met in December and February, to discuss the need for scheduling a Joint Board meeting. The board accepted the committee recommendations for scheduling a Joint Board meeting March 21-25, 2019 in Anchorage, opening the Call for Proposals regulations under 5 AAC Chapters 97 and 96.
2. The board accepted an agenda change request submitted by the Alaska Wildlife Troopers (RC 59) to clarify regulations regarding the transport of game in controlled use areas. A proposal will be scheduled for the January 2019 Southeast Region meeting in Petersburg.
3. The board agreed to send a letter to the Federal Subsistence Board opposing W18-11 requesting a federal subsistence priority for the Berners Bay moose hunt.
4. The board agreed to send a letter to the Department of Natural Resources supporting a guide concession program on state lands. *The discussion on this topic occurred on February 23 at 06:38:38 PM.*
5. Board members discussed and agreed with the prioritization for issuing Nelchina caribou permits for the youth, resident and nonresident drawing permits, which was based on RC 60 submitted by ADF&G, although no vote was taken.
6. The board directed the department to submit a proposal to clarify that certain statewide methods and means allowed in intensive management areas that would otherwise be generally prohibited are only to be used in conjunction with active intensive management programs.
7. The board requested a board generated proposal to allow for additional moose harvest opportunity in Unit 16A by providing an antlerless hunt and or an any bull hunt opportunity to be scheduled for the March 2019 meeting. The board directed the department to draft the proposal language. *The discussion for this topic occurred February 19 at 1:06:59 PM.*