

**Testimony Before the
Alaska Board of Game
by
Mark J. Kosbruk Sr.**

Wasilla, Alaska

March 5, 2011

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Board members for taking the time to listen to my testimony. My name is Mark J. Kosbruk Sr. representing myself on proposal 22 regarding predator control. I am a Bristol Bay resident and have commercial fished for 38 years in the unit 9E area. I'm here to testify in favor to proposal 22 that would implement a predator control plan for wolves and brown bear in the unit 9E area.

I am in favor of proposal 22 for the following reasons; public safety and the caribou herd of Port Heiden. The wolves walk and hunt right outside our homes and the public school from morning until night. The safety of our school children from predators needs to be addressed now. The wolves and brown bears have evolved not to fear humans or vehicles in our village. Also, we have a heard of caribou that stays in Port Heiden through the winter, and they have adapted to live right next to our residential housing; which attracts the wolves and bears to our area that ultimately presents a threat to the safety of our community. The predators kill our dogs and prey on our villagers. For instance, two young girls have been chased, and a third

villager has been stalked right outside his house while walking to his vehicle. After closing the doors of his vehicle, a pack of wolves were roaming outside his car door. Fish and Game has done some predator control before, which was successful, but the wolves are coming back to the village.

I have briefly mentioned the problems in our village from the excessive population of wolves, and now would like to inform you all about our brown bear issues. The bears have been known to invade our porches in the middle of the day searching for food. They have broken down our doors and get into our freezers. I live in Port Heiden, but grew up in Perryville. I often travel back and forth from both villages; and in Perryville my brothers have witnessed the bears catching, killing, and eating the dogs outside the homes. It is essential to reduce the amount of predators in our area to ensure the safety of our community and preserve our resources. In conclusion, I would like to thank you Mr. Chairman and Board Members for taking the time and consideration to listen to my testimony.