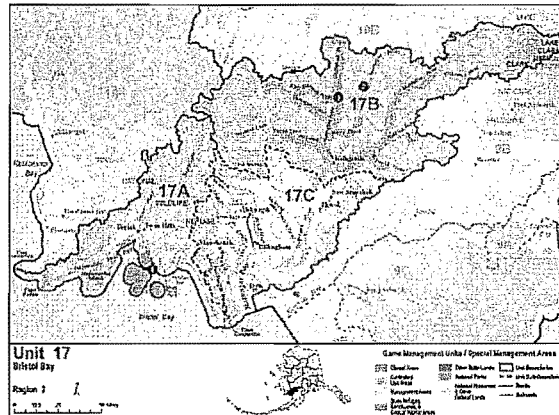


Map of GMU 17



GMU 17 from 1975-2011

- 1975 – 5,000-7,000 Caribou in Mulchatna Herd
- 1977- Rabies Epidemic in Bristol Bay area.
- 1978-83 Very little snow lots of feed. Herd increased to 200,000 caribou.

Submitted by Roger Skogen

Mulchatna herd increases

- Early 90,s --Lots of outfitters and transporters targeting caribou.
- Two caribou per non resident hunter
- By 2000 almost no breeding bulls left.
- Caribou population crashes.
- Hunting pressure on moose increases and moose population declines rapidly.
- Heavy hunting pressure on large brown bear

Caribou and Moose decline

- Caribou move to Bethel Area –more feed
- Outfitters and transporters and predators target moose and the population in upper 17B crashes.
- 2005-” Two Mile Corridor” established
- Brown bear population of sows and cubs increase (kill calves and adult moose in spring)
- Wolf population increases (Kill adult moose in winter)

DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE



RC 62

Draft Copper Basin Community Subsistence Harvest Permit Hunt Conditions

*Division of Wildlife Conservation and Division of Subsistence
Alaska Department of Fish and Game*

Outline

- Timeline.
- Possible application process.
- Draft hunt conditions.
 - Caribou.
- Next steps.



Timeline

- 2009 – Ahtna CHP Program adopted.
- July 2010 – Alaska Superior Court decision.
- October 2010 – Board adopted modifications; ADF&G assumes administration.
- November 2010 – Draft Copper Basin CHP hunt conditions posted for comment.



Possible Copper Basin CHP Application Process

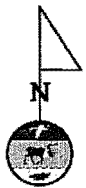
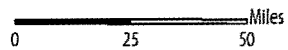
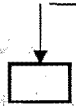
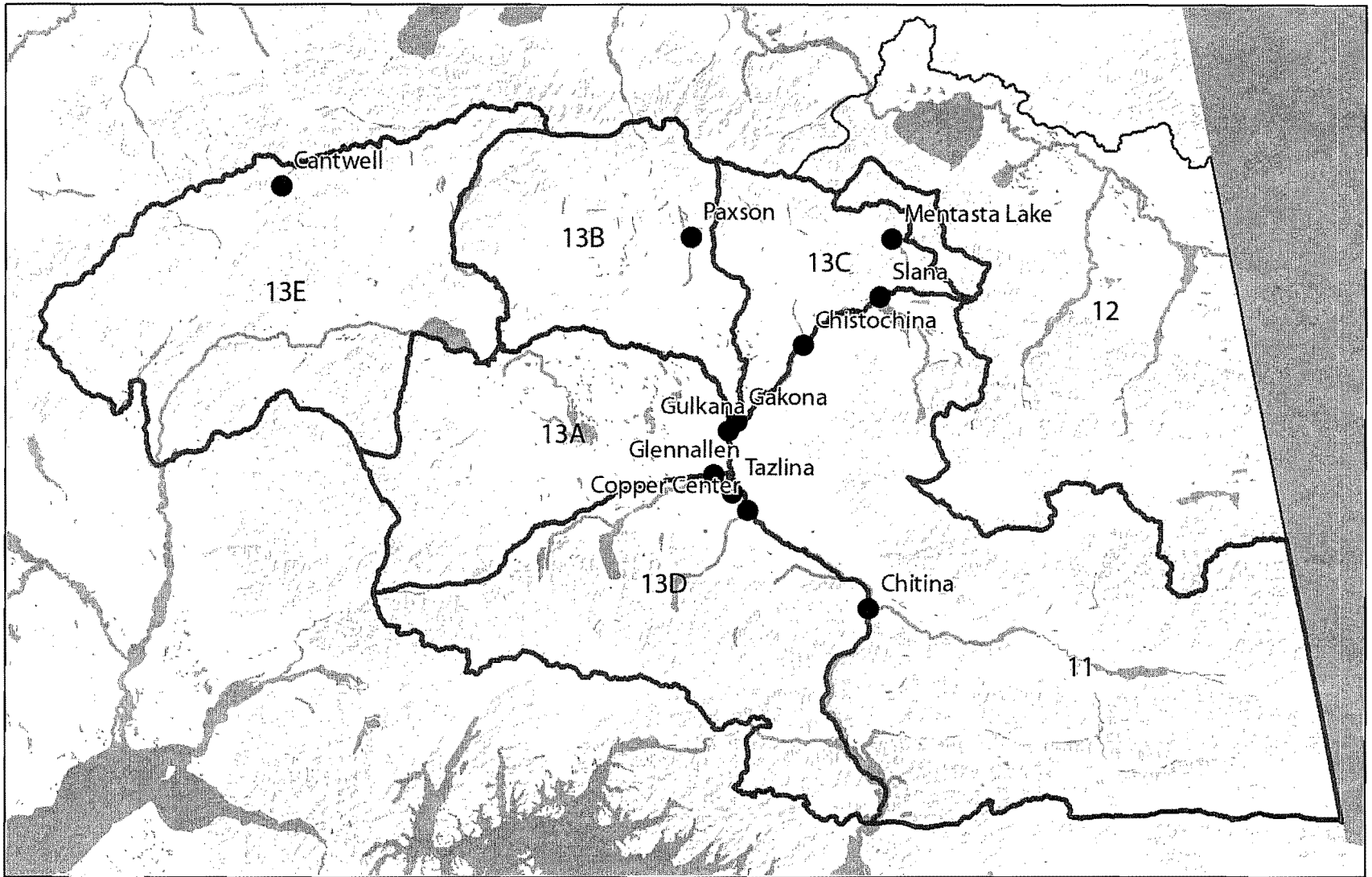
- Pending actions taken by the board.
- Applications still being developed.
- Possibly due March 15-May 1.
- Possibly identification information.
- Possible criteria for rejection:
 - Fewer than 25 or more participants.
 - Incomplete, false statement.
 - FTR list.
- Participants probably should comply with hunt conditions.



Draft Hunt Conditions

- Posted on web.
- 5 AAC 92.050 Required permit hunt conditions and procedures.
- 5 AAC 92.072 Community subsistence harvest hunt area and permit conditions.
- Coordinator.
- Permit/harvest ticket limits.
- Hunt area: GMU 13 only.





Draft hunt conditions, continued

- 300 caribou.
 - 1 either sex.
- Designated hunters.
- Open seasons:
 - August 10 through September 20, and
 - October 21 through March 31.



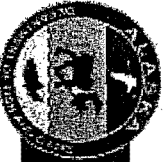
Draft hunt conditions, continued

- Use of animal.
- Sharing.
- Reporting.
 - Similar to 5 AAC 93.200 Educational fishery program.



What's Next

- Board actions.
- Copper Basin Moose CHP guidelines need to be developed.



Questions?





Part I of II

March 7, 2011

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Ms. Tibbles:

Enclosed are the comments of the Ahtna Tene Nene' Customary & Traditional Use Committee's comments on the wildlife proposals for the upcoming ABOG meetings, Statewide, Central/Southwest, and Interior Regions.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Dementi,
Chair

RC64

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures. By Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee.

Comments:
No comment.

*Ahtun Tene Rene
Part II*

**Proposal 106:
5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping. By Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee.**

Comments:
We oppose Proposal 106 to trap black bears in all of Region IV Units. If Region IV did not include Unit 13, and only included remote areas, it would fine to trap black bears. It is an unsafe practice to trap black bears near the communities in Unit 13.

**Proposal 107:
5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures. By Aaron Bloomquist.**

Comments:
We are neutral on Proposal 107 to change and clarify Region IV guided black bear baiting requirements.

**Proposal 108:
5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear. By Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee.**

Comments:
We are neutral on Proposal 108 to establish a regional bag limit for black bears in Region IV.

**Proposal 109:
5 AAC 92.015. Brown bear tag fee exemptions. By National Park Conservation Association.**

Comments:
We oppose Proposal 109 to “removing the brown bear tag fee revocation in Unit 11, and Unit 13”. The population of the Mentasta Caribou Herd is decimated, which is probably due to predators such as brown bears or wolves. Re-instating the brown bear tag fee will hinder the public from hunting brown bears in Unit 11 and Unit 13. The moose population in Unit 13 is healthy and we would like to see it kept like that.

**Proposal 110:
5 AAC 92. 015. Brown bear tag fee exemptions. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game.**

Comments:

We support Proposal 110 to “reauthorize the brown bear tag fees for Region IV”. More hunters will be encouraged to take more brown bears in Unit 11 and Unit 13 and keep the brown bear population from increasing and preying upon caribou and moose calves.

Proposal 111:

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals. By Kenai Peninsula Trappers Association.

Comments:

We support Proposal 111 to change the bag limits for all of Region IV units to “no limit”. Coyotes in Unit 11 and Unit 13 are not a conservation concern.

Proposal 112:

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals. By Anchorage fish and Game Advisory Committee.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 112 to change the coyote hunting season for Unit 11 and Unit 13 to a “no season limit”. Hunting coyote throughout the whole year is not good nor is the fur of the animal after the month of March.

Proposal 113:

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting season and bag limits for fur animals. By Jon Freeman.

Comments:

See comments under Proposal 111.

Proposal 115:

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep. By Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee.

Comments:

We support Proposal 115 to change the Dall sheep hunts for all of Region IV to exclude taking Ewe and “full curl ram only”. A Full curl ram hunt only will dis-allow hunters from taking immature Dall sheep.

Proposal 116:

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep. By Loren Karro.

Comments:

See comments under Proposal 115.

Proposal 117:

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep. By Aaron Bloomquist.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 117 to introduce an archery registration hunt for sheep in all of Region IV.

Proposal 118:

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat. By Dan Montgomery.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 118 on guided hunts for goats in Unit 13D.

Proposal 122:

5 AAC 92.052 Discretionary permit hunt conditions and procedures. By the Board of Game.

Comments:

While review of discretionary hunt conditions and procedures may be necessary, there are some permit conditions which are important and should be retained such as the 5 AAC 92.052(22) that allows permits to be transferred within the second degree of kinship in GMU 13. Any revision of this regulation should include the impact such revision may have on the Tier I community hunts the Board has authorized for moose and caribou in GMU 13 and the Tier I household hunt the Board has authorized for caribou in GMU 13 (as well as any second Tier I moose hunt the Board may adopt for GMU 13).

Southcentral and Central/Southwest Regions

Proposal 192:

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions. By Richard Luzitano.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 152 to “restrict trapping near trails and roads in all of Region II and Region IV units. It is the parent’s and owner’s responsibility to take care of their children and dogs, so they won’t be caught in traps. More restrictions on trapping areas will discourage trapping in these two regions.

Proposal 194:

5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game. By Nancy Hillstrand.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 194 because it is not clear in the proposal what the separate waterfowl regulation would be for the commercialized guided bird hunters and sport hunters in all of Region II and Region IV.

Proposal 195:

5 AAC 92.220(a)(4). Salvage of game meat, furs and hides. By Vince Holton.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 195 to change the Region II and Region IV salvage requirements for black bear as follows:

January 1-June 30 the hunter must salvage the hide, skull and edible meat (as defined as by 5 AAC 92.990) and that June 30-December 31 the hunter must salvage the skull, and must salvage either the meat, or the hide (or both if chosen). Except in sub/units where the biological necessity to monitor black bear populations and harvest through the sealing of hide and skulls as determined by the department.

Proposal 196:

5 AAC 92.165. Sealing of bear skins and skulls. By Vince Holton.

Comments:

We support Proposal 196 to “eliminate black bear sealing requirements where harvest tickets or registration permits are required and provide necessary harvest data”.

Proposal 197:

5 AAC 92.044 Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures. By Joel Doner.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 197 “allow same day airborne hunting of black bear at bait station in Region II and Region IV”.

Proposal 198:

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals and 84.270. Furbearer trapping. By Stephen Darilek.

Comments:

See comments under Proposal 111.

Proposal 199:

5 AAC 92.220 Salvage of game meat, furs, and hides; and 92.003. Hunter education and orientation requirements. By Nancy Hillstrand.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 199 to “have hunter education include meat processing care information, hunts delayed if temperature is 70° in the field, cooler temperatures will change timing of hunts, and requirement to rent satellite phones in the field”. We support the concept for those hunters who are not true subsistence hunters. Most of the Ahtna people would not be able to afford satellite phones in the field.

Proposal 200:

5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions. By Brian Peterson.

Comments:

No comment. See comments under Proposal 201.

Proposal 201:

5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions. By Brian Peterson.

Comments:

We support Proposal 201 to make it “unlawful to harvest any big game species spotted, located, seen while being transported until 3 p.m. the following day game was located, spotted, or seen while being transported”. It is an unfair advantage to allow same day airborne hunters to harvest wild game after being transported on the same day. This is not a true hunting experience of pursuing and harvesting wild game.

Interior Region

Proposal 202:

5 AAC 92.015. Brown bear tag fee exemptions. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Comments:

We support Proposal 202 to “reauthorize the grizzly bear tag fee exemption in Unit 12 and Unit 20A. This will encourage more hunters to harvest brown bears in these two units. Brown bear population is not a conservation concern.

Proposal 203

5 AAC 85.045(a)(17) and (18). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 203 because it encourages land trespass on Ahtna, Inc. lands. We oppose Nonresident hunting season, muzzleloader rifle hunts, and registration hunts only in subunit Unit 20A. There are too many hunters hunting and trespassing on former Cantwell Village lands.

Statewide

Proposal 214:

5 AAC 92.012. Licenses and tags.; and 92.990. Definitions. By Brad Dennison and amended by the Board of Game.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 214 to “allow second degree-kindred relatives taking nonresidents on certain big game hunts”. We oppose nonresident hunts for big game animals, especially, for caribou and moose. Hunting should only be allowed for Alaskan residents.

Proposal 215:

5 AAC 92.050. Required permit hunting conditions and procedures. By Board of Game.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 215 to “re-adopt regulations establishing a bonus point system for some drawing hunts”.

Proposal 216:

5 AAC 92.230. Feeding of game. By Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Comments:

We support Proposal 216 “to prohibit feeding of Dall sheep”, since it is not listed in the regulations. Photographers and other people who feed Dall sheep near the bird point on the Seward Highway, so that they can watch Dall sheep or to photograph them will cause potential vehicular accidents.

Proposal 217:

5 AAC 92.010(c). Harvests tickets and reports. By Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Comments:

We support Proposal 218 to “make it unlawful for persons to falsify information on harvest records”. Accurate records for the department are needed keep track of wild game populations, harvest of wild game, and hunt areas.

Proposal 218:

5 AAC 92.140(a). Unlawful possession or transportation of game. By Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Comments:

We support Proposal 218 to allow Alaska Wildlife Troopers to “seize animals that are killed by people trespassing on private land; seizing animals that are killed by people who are intoxicated or other criminal misconduct involving weapons”. Trespassing on Ahtna Inc. lands increases during the hunting season and caribou and moose are harvested corporate private lands. Seizing wild animals, such as moose and caribou taken on private lands should be enforced as well as trespassing on private lands.

Proposal 219:

5 AAC 92.171. Sealing of Dall sheep horns. By Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Comments:

We support Proposal 219 to “prohibit the alteration of Dall sheep horns before sealing”. This will prevent illegal take of immature rams.

Proposal 220:

5 AAC 92.XXX. By Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Comments:

We support Proposal 220 to “allow Alaska Wildlife Troopers to inspect taxidermy businesses”. Alaska Wildlife Troopers should be able to inspect taxidermy businesses whenever needed, provided that it is within the confines of laws that are already allowed by the Board of Fish.

Proposal 221:

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions: By Department of Fish and Game.

Comments:

We support Proposal 221 to “prohibit the use of Taser-type devices without permits”. No one should use taser-type devices on wild game, even with a permit. These devices will cause harm to wild game.

Proposal 222:

5 AAC 92.011. Taking of game by proxy. By The Board of Game.

Comments:

We are neutral on Proposal 222 to review antler destruction by Proxy on behalf of a beneficiary.

Proposal 223:

5 AAC 92.252. Discretionary permit hunt conditions and procedures. By The Board of Game.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 223 to “review the discretionary authority requiring the nullification of trophy value of animals taken under a subsistence permit”.

Proposal 231:

5 AAC 85.045(11). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 231 for a Unit 13A Antlerless Moose hunt. We believe it will be better for the growth and conservation of the moose population in GMU 13 A if there is not an antlerless moose hunt.

Proposal 232:

5 AAC 92.540(H)(ii). Controlled Use Areas. By Fairbanks Advisory Committee.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 232 to allow motorized vehicles restricted from August 1 through September 30. We would like to keep the year around restriction. Lifting motorized vehicle use in the Yanert Controlled Use Area will cause erosion to the soil, impact the resources, make additional trails and encourage trespass on Ahtna, Inc. lands. Additionally, we are opposed to the Unit 20A Antlerless Moose hunts for similar reasons as mentioned.