



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Feb. 16, 2011 minutes**

7 p.m. start at Wasilla Armvets Building

Members present: Bill Folsom, Stephen Bartelli, Bennett Durgeloh, Ben Allen, Kathy Thompson, Mark Chryson, Gerrit Dykstra, Tony Jones, Guisepepe Rosi, Keith Westfall, Andy Couch, Eric Beckman, Brian Campbell, (Jr Members: Andy Goeke, Daniel Warta - and new Jr Member appointed at end of meeting to fill Stephen Warta's spot -- Joe Warta).

Members Absent: Max Sager, Dan Montgomery

Members excused: Jeff Tuttle, Mel Grove, Stephen Warta (Jr member)

ADF&G staff present: Tony Kavalok

Meeting started with pledge of allegiance

Jan. 9, 2011 Minutes approved with no correction other than those previously identified by e-mail earlier today. Minutes approved with no objections.

**Members of Public**

Stephen Darilek talked about Proposal 198 -- wanted unlimited daily bag limit for coyotes. Would align both trapping and hunting limits.

Randy Talby -- would like to eliminate trawl fishery in state waters and limit it in US waters beyond the state limit. Salmon are being caught in the trawl fishery without restrictions just guidelines to limit the catch. Randy said the trawl fishery has been moved out from state waters around Kodiak Island.

Bob Shumaker -- Alaska Frontier Trappers Association -- had some concerns about trapping proposals -- mentioned trappers support proposal 104 -- in addition Bob believes there needs to be habitat improvement to enhance moose numbers.

Mel Grove will write a letter to the North Pacific Fisheries Council in opposition to that group's restriction of allowing only a one halibut under 37 inches limit to charter anglers in a portion of the Alaska sport fishery. Approved with no objection.

Consideration was given to Ben Allen's letter to ADF&G concerning moving the Little Susitna River weir downstream where it could be used for in-season monitoring of both king and silver salmon. Wording correction was made and letter was approved unanimously without objection.

The JPARC letter expressing the committee's positions on expanded military exercises in Unit 13 was unanimously approved with no objection. It was mentioned that the Matanuska - Susitna Borough Assembly had been working on a similar letter -- but may be dropping the issue, so members of the advisory committee may want to contact their assembly representatives about this issue. The JPARC issue concerns increased low flight air training, ground training, and possibly additional base type construction within Unit 13. Reason given the military is interested in using

*Attn: Scott  
BOG - AC Council  
Central - SW  
and Southeast*

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Unit 13 area is, specifically because of road access. It was agreed carbon copies of the letter should be sent to Matanuska - Susitna Borough Assembly members as well. Mark Chryson will show Eric Beckman how to put the letter on Matanuska Valley AC letterhead.

BOF Representatives for the 2011 Upper Cook Inlet meeting: Ben Allen, Kathy Thompson, Eric Beckman, and Andy Couch were approved to represent the AC at the meeting and on various BOF Committees during the meeting. These fishery subcommittee members will work out individual responsibilities for the meeting amongst themselves. Ben Allen will be the committee member eligible for the state travel/ lodging/ food stipend. All testimony as complies with Matanuska Valley AC votes on Upper Cook Inlet fishery proposals and issues was approved. All these approvals were made unanimously by the full advisory committee without objection.

A motion to support Mike Crawford for BOG appointment was made with 2nd. The Alaska Outdoor Council was recommending Mike Crawford but no one was present to tell why Mike would be a good representative. Andy Couch and Kenny Barber mentioned they personally knew Lynn Keough, that he had been involved on the Anchorage AC and as a trapper, hunter, and fishing guide in the Mat-Su, Unit 13, and Kenai River areas. Bennett Durgeloh wanted to put decision off until more information was available on the candidates. Motion to table -- approved by voice vote.

SC Region - Game proposal 136 as amended at the last meeting to provide nonresident registration hunting of any sex goat. Amended motion passed 8 - 2 - 2 Junior 2 -0 -0.

Central SW Region Game Proposal Comments

50. -- for reconsideration --Motion to reconsider by Tony Jones with a second. Motion to reconsider approved by voice vote. Stephen Bartelli mentioned that AC had consistently opposed expanded opportunities for community hunts, and it did not make sense to support a community harvest hunt simply because it was included in a package with other hunt opportunities. ADF&G says this is a place holder proposal based on hunt that is on the books -- so proposal is for discussion of this concept. Brian Campbell mentioned he voted in favor, because he believed everyone could get something from this proposal. Tony Kavalok with ADF&G did not know what would happen if court ruled this hunt illegal -- again in 2011. Bennett said the whole subsistence issue is a mess that needs to be dealt with. Other Community hunts are in existence in other areas of the state according to ADF&G. CHP by court decision may not be limited by residence area or racial basis of the hunters. Stephen Darilek mentioned there had been problems with CHP hunts in the past -- but mentioned that he felt CHP hunts differed little from proxy hunt opportunities and he encouraged people to vote for proposal. Motion failed 3 - 9 - 0 Jr. Vote 0-1-1. Opposition did not want to establish a CHP opportunity that might grow over time.

105. ADF&G would support this proposal with a possible amendment. The proposal would allow same day airborne hunting of black bear at bait stations in Region 4. Motion passed 11 - 0 - 1. Jr Vote 2 - 0 -0.

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106. ADF&G position amend and adopt with ZERO bag limit until a later time after review of black bear trapping statewide. Proposal seeks to allow a 10 bear black bear limit for trapping. ADF&G's possible limit of 0 would seem to directly oppose the purpose of the original proposal seeking a specific trapping bag limit. Amendment to to add the word, "bucket," in front of snares and removed the limit number of 10 from the proposal made and 2nd. Amendment passed 8- 3- 1 and Jr. Vote 0-1-1. Proposal 106 as amended passed 7- 4 - 1 and Jr. 0-2-0.

107. Would remove the bear baiting hunting restriction that a guide must be at the bait station with a client at all times when a guided hunter is hunting. ADF&G neutral on proposal. Motion passed with no objections. Jr. vote 0-0-2.

108. ADF&G has no position as no biological concerns. Proposal would establish a regional black bear limit of 5 per year with separate individual restrictions for units with conservation concerns if needed. Motion passed 8- 4-1 Jr. Vote 2- 0 -0.

109. Failed 0- 13 - 0. and Jr vote 0-2-0.

110. Passed 13 - 0 -0 and Jr. 2 - 0 - 0.

111. ADF&G neutral. Would created an unlimited daily bag limit for coyote hunting in Region 4. Those opposed believed that there were not enough coyotes to where a limit past 10 would provide much if any additional harvest and AC had already voted opposed to similar proposal for specific units. Motion passed 7 - 5 - 0 and Jr. 2-0 -0.

112. Would open coyote season with no bag limit on an all year season. ADF&G neutral with no biological concerns. One member in favor of proposal said we were the only state that had any restrictions on coyote hunting. Member of the public said this type proposal would make wanton waste legal as hide would be worth little in summer. Eric Beckman mentioned coyotes serve a purpose keeping rodents under control. Proposal failed 1 - 9 - 2 and jr 2 - 0 - 0.

113. Would change the coyote season in Unit 13 and 14 to no closed season. ADF&G has no position. Motion fails 3 - 8 - 1 and 2- 0 -0.

114. ADF&G proposal to allow permit hunt for brown bears that would reduce Defense of Life and Property issues with problem bears. Motion passed unanimously with no objection.

115. Would change bag limit for sheep. ADF&G position do not adopt. Motion failed with none in favor on adult vote.

116. Would change the bag limit on sheep to full curl for all drawing hunts. ADF&G position Do Not Adopt. Opposed unanimously by adults and supported 2 - 0 - 0 by Jr.

117. Would create a late season archery registration hunt for sheep in Region 4. ADF&G neutral on allocation issue. One member felt archery would provide significant gained hunting opportunity with very little harvest. Motion failed 4 - 7 - 1 and Jr vote 2- 0 -0.



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118. Would require guide client agreement for goat hunts in Units 13D, 14A, and 14C for nonresident hunters only. ADF&G in favor as such a regulation already exist for sheep hunts. Motion passed 12 - 0 - 0 and 1 - 1 - 0.

119. Would implement a predator control plan throughout range of Mulchatna Caribou herd. Motion approved unanimously with no objection.

120. Would increase the Mulchatna Caribou herd management objective to a previous level that may have contributed to herd decline. Lower herd objective also allows continued hunting without going to tier II situation. ADF&G position do not adopt. Motion failed Unanimously with no positive votes.

121. Would allow aerial shooting of wolves in Units 9B and 17. ADF&G position Take no action -- because no agreement for such hunting on federal lands. Motion failed 0 - 3 - 9.

122. Permit Hunt Conditions Review by BOG, ADF&G and Public. ADF&G mentioned focus might be on conditions of antler destruction and required registration locations. A motion to amendment was made and 2nd to eliminate the requirement for registration in specific remote locations within Alaska for registration hunts. Motion passed 10 - 2 - 0. Member of the public mentioned that AC might want to make a distinction between residents and nonresidents. Amendment passed Unanimously 12 - 0-0 and 2- 0 -0. Amended motion passed 8 - 2- 2 and 2- 0 - 0.

A Break was taken at 9 p.m. and Kathy Thompson left at that time.

12. ADF&G position take no action. Motion failed with no positive votes.

13 ADF&G postion -- take no action. Motion failed with no positive votes.

14. Would establish a registration permit hunt for bull moose in Unit 9 A, B, C, D, and E. One members suggested support because the proposal does not require registration in specific remote areas, unlike other proposals. One member did not want to have the requirement for a registration hunt at all. Hope from the working group who put proposal forward according to ADF&G is to have better reporting of moose harvest. Lack of reporting of harvest was presented by ADF&G as a significant problem in this area. Motion passed 6 - 2 - 3 and Jr. 0 - 0 - 2.

19 and 20. ADF&G no recommendation. Proposals to establish amount necessary for subsistence for wolves in Unit 9 and Unit 10. Motion failed 0- 10 - 1 and jr. 0 - 2 - 0.

Southcentral Region Proposal comments

155. Would change the daly bag limit and season on coyote in Units 7 and 15. Motion fails 2- 8 -1 and Jr. Vote 2 - 0 - 0.

171. Would make a consistent bag limit of 5 wolves for Unit 7 and 15. Motion passed 11 - 0-0 and 2- 0 -0.



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177. Would close trapping in Portage Valley. Unanimously opposed 0-12-0 and 0-2-0.

178. No Motion to consider.

179. Would eliminate the Resurrection Creek Closed Area. Poorly written with area identified in wrong game management unit. No Action.

180. Motion passed 9 - 1- 1 and 0 - 1- 1.

181 and 182. Motion passed 9 - 0-2 and 0 - 1- 1.

183. Would allow disabled hunters to use ATV's in controlled use ares. Motion passed 6 - 0 - 5 and 1- 1-0.

192. Would create a no trapping area around all state road and trails. ADF&G position Do Not Adopt. Motion failed 0 - 11- 0 and 0 - 1- 1.

198. Motion failed 5 - 6 - 0 and Jr Vote 2- 0 -0.

199. Motion fails unanimously. 0 - 11 - 0.

216. Motion passes unanimously with no objection. Sheep fed along the Seward Highway end up getting killed by traffic on the road -- committee would like to eliminate this situation.

217. Opposed 2 - 4- 5.

Central/SW Region Proposal Comment

222. Would review current moose antler destruction requirements for hunters hunting with proxy permits. ADF&G position Do not adopt. Motion failed 0 - 9 - 2 and 0 - 0 - 2.

Joe Warta will be take Stephen Warta's place as a jr member on the AC. Change made with no objection from AC.

Brian Campbell felt that since the AC had opposed game proposal 50 the Committee may have voted in opposition to all caribou hunting in Unit 13.

Stephen Bartelli mentioned that the committe minutes should reflect that the AC was only opposed to the Community Harvest portion of the Unit 13 Caribou hunt.

Next AC meeting will be a continuation of this meeting scheduled for Feb. 23 with topic of who will represent AC at the upcoming BOG meeting in Wasilla.



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Bill Folsom was mentioned an interest in having some type of ADF&G measurement of harvested bull moose antlers in Unit 13 to gain data on antler configurations of moose taken during Unit 13 hunts. Bill said such measurements might be made at little cost through using college level students or short term technicians. Tony Kavalok mentioned he would like the Department to have such data, but some staff members within the Department might object if their work load was increased.

Central/Southwest Region comment

231 A motion was made with 2nd to reconsider this proposal to add comments concerning Matanuska Advisory Committee intent. Reconsideration passed by voice vote. The following comments were added unanimously to the committee position of support of this proposal with no objection:

“ As the Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee understands the subsistence hunt system for Unit 13, the Board of Game can distinguish between subsistence users and has the authority to limit the number of CHPs in the overall allocation for subsistence. Therefore, the AC recommends, if the Board of Game finds that 100 permits for antlered bull moose satisfied the subsistence requirement before an antlerless moose hunt was adopted (since the CHP was already satisfied) all antlerless moose permits should be issued by general drawing permit.”

Meeting broke up after 10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Andy Couch