

Note: The Board of Game does not have authority to impose regulations upon guides.

PROPOSAL 48 – 5 AAC 92.135. Transfer of possession. Modify the transfer of possession regulations to include reporting requirements as follows:

We would like the Board of Game to consider other options as well, but here is one solution:

Amend 5 AAC 92.135 to include a new subsection:

(d) if the meat from a guided hunter is transferred, a record must be kept by the guide of all transfers and turned into the Department of Fish & Game within 30 days of the close of the season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Guided nonresident transfer of possession of game meat.

The guide industry has stated that nearly a quarter million pounds of meat from guided hunters is “shared” with Alaskan residents each year. Currently, our Alaska Wildlife Troopers and the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) have no way of knowing where that quarter-million pounds of meat ends up and what kind of condition it was in when it was received by the end beneficiary.

Some guides require their clients to sign a contract agreement that prohibits the client from taking the meat home, and nonresident aliens have strict laws in most countries that prohibit importation of wild game meat. Guided clients have no active role in the process of meat “sharing” and once they sign a transfer of possession form, the obligation to take care of the meat and where that meat ends up is for the guide to take care of. Often multiple transfers of possession take place after a guided hunter transfers the meat to a guide.

We know how difficult it can be to get a moose or caribou out of the field and to the location where the meat will be processed. Guides are dealing with multiple moose and caribou taken by their clients, and there are numerous reports of spoiled meat from guided hunters being dropped off in villages or to processors. No matter how often or how infrequently that occurs, we need a better way to track where the meat from guided hunters ends up and if it was taken care of properly.

A quarter million pounds of meat is a lot of wild game meat. The public, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, the department and the Board of Game (board), should insist that commercial hunting of our wildlife resources requires clear records on the transfer of game meat by guides.

This is especially important when the board considers proposals allowing nonresident hunting of wildlife populations that are not within the intensive management harvest or population objectives, under the guise of a win-win scenario whereby guides will take those nonresident hunters into areas not typically accessible by local hunters, and all the meat from those guided hunts will be “shared” with villages.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska

(EG-F17-080)
