Note: Proposal 268 was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting scheduled for March 2022.

PROPOSAL 268

5 AAC 92.029(b). Permit for possession live game.

Prohibit the possession of swine other than Sus scrofa domesticus as follows.

5 AAC 92.029(b): The following species, not including a hybrid of a game animal and a species listed in this subsection, may be possessed, imported, exported, bought, sold, or traded without a permit from the department but may not be released into the wild.

Common Name Scientific Name ...

Swine <u>Sus scrofa domesticus</u>

[SUS SCROFA VAR.]

WHAT IS THE ISSUE YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS AND WHY?

The existing language in 5 AAC 92.029 allows for all types of swine (*Sus scrofa* Var.) to be possessed in Alaska and causes concern for both the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Fish and Game (department). Boars are known to severely impact habitats for which they are not native and are particularly adept at escaping confinement. Boars can also reproduce rapidly and produce multiple young per litter; and have the ability to thrive in high latitude environments such as Alaska. Other states have been overrun with boars and removal, once established, has proved difficult to impossible. Boars also carry the disease Pseudorabies which lynx, and other mammals, are susceptible to.

The department has received inquiries from the public about importing particular types of swine which are known to thrive at high latitudes and severely impact habitats for which they are not native. The department does have a biological concern for all species because feral boars represent a threat to indigenous wildlife and their habitats. It is unknown if the Board of Game intended to allow only domestic swine, such as those commonly found in farming operations, or if the intent was to allow all types of swine and the department would like clarification.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish & Game (HQ-F21-ACR5)