# Proposals Outside the Board of Game's Authority and Other Proposals

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## Proposals Outside the Board of Game's Authority and Other Proposals

The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate guide activity. Fees for tags are set in Alaska Statute and would require an act by the legislature.

#### PROPOSAL 189

Lower the cost for nonresident hunters and remove the hunting guide requirements.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Tags for nonresident hunters are too expensive and difficult to find a guide for a reasonable price.

The Board of Game does not have authority to add trapping licenses to the Alaska Resident Disabled Veteran License program. It would require the legislature to change to Alaska Statute 16.05.341.

#### PROPOSAL 190

Solution: include trapping license as part of the Alaska Resident Disabled Veteran Licenses program.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Issue: Disabled Veterans Hunting/Fishing License.

Why: Currently the Alaska Resident Disabled Veteran License does not include trapping. After speaking with ADF&G there was no knowledge of why this is. It would certainly make sense and add benefits to Alaska's disabled Veterans if this could be included in the free license at no cost to the Veteran.

The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate transporter activity.

#### PROPOSAL 191

A transporter shall transport hunters in Prince William Sound every year or Kodiak Island, but not both.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Transporters on Kodiak Island is what I would like to address. There are too many. Every year more and more. There is no cap on them, no limit, just more every year. I propose like guide areas with hunting guides, a limit on transporter areas.

 The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate transporter activity.

#### PROPOSAL192

Transported hunts in Unit 8 shall be from October 25 - November 30 and January 1 to May 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There are too many transporters in Unit 8 during the fall deer season. It is dangerous to hunt for Kodiak Island residents in many bays at risk of getting shot from October onward. Money and money opportunity is taking precedence over subsistence. You can eat deer but you can't eat money.

The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate transporter activity.

#### **PROPOSAL 193**

No business entity or individual may operate more than one transporter vessel in Unit 8.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There are too many transporters in Unit 8.

*The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate guide activity.* 

#### **PROPOSAL 194**

Any individual that holds a federal exclusive guide use concession area is excluded from having any employed or contracted guide, second degree of kindred relative, or themselves apply for a drawing permit hunt in the area in which they hold the exclusive guide area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Exclusive guide concession owners have guides and family members apply for resident pool tags in their exclusive area. \$30 a year investment for a chance to keep a resident out of their area is very financially lucrative. There are numerous owners having their kids, guides, and wives doing this every year, and at least four tags will most likely not be used in this fashion in the last draw cycle that I know of, if not more. This proposal does not exclude guides and relatives from hunting other Unit 8 sub-areas, just not taking away legal resident opportunity for the sake of reducing competition in their contracted area.

 The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate guide activity,

#### **PROPOSAL 195**

Any individual cannot hold more than one federal exclusive guide use concession area for Units 8 or 9.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Too many guide concession permits are concentrated with too few individuals creating a monopoly in hunt areas of Units 8 and 9. Additional guides operating will help with competition and create a more healthy system of competition and price.

The Board of Game does not have authority to create migratory bird hunting zones due to the US Fish and Wildlife Service federal framework for waterfowl hunting zones.

#### PROPOSAL 196

Create a new migratory bird hunting zone consisting of the waters of Kachemak Bay and its drainages. This would allow for regulations addressing specific conservation concerns, and open the possibility of changing season dates for cranes, geese, and ducks to allow for later season hunting for ducks, and possibly a specific earlier season to increase opportunities for crane hunters.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Kachemak Bay is a unique ecosystem and it is difficult to manage discrete populations of wintering sea ducks when any adapted regulation would affect the entire Gulf Coast migratory bird hunting zone.

Changes to Game Management Unit boundaries is on the board's Statewide Regulations schedule. Because the Call for Proposals for this cycle may not have been clear, the proposal is included in this section of the book for board review. The board could request it be scheduled for consideration at the Southcentral Region meeting when the board meets in November to address agenda change requests. If the board requests it be scheduled, the public will be notified well in advance of the meetings.

#### **PROPOSAL 197**

5 AAC 92.450. Description of game management units. .

Divide Unit 15C into two subunits as follows:

Unit 15D consists of that portion of Unit 15 that will include all of 15C south of the Tustumena Glacier, Glacier Creek Tustumena Lake, and the large bend in the Fox River where the river turns south.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Divide Unit 15C to create two subunits: 15C and 15D to align management prescriptions with areas of stark physiographic

differences of topography, climate, geology, vegetation, wildlife species, distributions and density.

ADF&G utilizes the USGS Unified Ecoregions of Alaska map to depict Alaska's 32 ecoregions.

ADF&G website defines an ecoregion as "an area of land and water containing vegetation communities that share species and ecological dynamics, environmental conditions, and interactions that are critical for their long-term persistence."

North Unit 15C, overlays the <u>Coast Mountain Boreal</u>; <u>Cook Inlet Basin ecoregion</u> of gently sloping lowlands of lakes, swamps, bogs, and rivers drained from glaciers.

Annual snowfall 63 - 100 inches. Precipitation from 15 - 27 inches.

15D (South 15C), would overlay two rugged ecoregions within the distinct <u>Hyper-maritime</u> <u>Forests</u>; the <u>Chugach (Kenai) Mountains Ecoregion</u>, with ice fields, narrow deep gorged valleys; fringed with the <u>Gulf of Alaska Coastal Ecoregion</u>. of deeply carved glacial fjords, archipelagos and short swift streams. Elevations dramatically rise from sea level up to 5000 feet. Maritime climate.

Annual snowfall from 32 - 236 inches. Precipitation from 30 - 160 inches.

The proposed Unit 15D area consists of Kenai National Wildlife Refuge land, Kachemak Bay State Park and Wilderness Park land, and Alaska Native Corporation land.

Kachemak Bay waters and submerged intertidal lands are legislatively designated State Critical Habitat Areas (CHA) for the "perpetuation of fish and wildlife". These CHA overlay Special Purpose Site Park lands and waters located within the proposed Unit 15D.

PROPOSED BY: N.J. Hillstrand	(EG-F22-092)
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The Board of Game does not have authority to regulate guiding activities nor issue multiple permits to guides.

#### **PROPOSAL 198**

I would like to see guides get a number of tags to take nonresidents hunting, so they can come hunting and while hunting with a guide, there will be fewer nannies killed and the number of goats will go up.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Number of tags for goats.

PROPOSED BY: Frank Danford	(EG-F22-115)
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The Board of Game does not have authority to establish a hunt that restricts eligibility based on residence.

#### PROPOSAL 199

Create a village registration elk hunt by designating eight permits each to be distributed in person in the communities of Ouzinkie and Port Lions. Each community would receive two permits that are removed from each of the existing Elk drawing hunts DE715, DE717, DE721, and DE723. The new village registration elk hunt permits would begin two (2) weeks prior to the first day of DE715 & DE721 and shall last two (2) full weeks.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The issue we are looking to address with this proposal is the reduced or no elk hunting opportunities for residents of Ouzinkie and Port Lions in Unit 8 (Afognak and Raspberry Islands). Elk harvesting opportunities have declined dramatically in recent years due to a combination of circumstances. All Roosevelt Elk hunting is conducted on Afognak and Raspberry Islands, located in the northern portion of the Kodiak Archipelago. Nearly half of all land on these islands is private property and owned by the Ouzinkie Native Corporation and the Afognak Native Corporation which are Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Village Corporations. Additionally, the majority of Ouzinkie and Port.Lions residents are shareholders of these corporations. Over the past two years, no one from Ouzinkie or Port Lions has drawn an Elk tag for Afognak. This has been a traditional hunt for both villages since 1950.

The first is an increase in the overall number of individuals submitting for those drawing tags, thus reducing the potential for residents to receive a permit. The second is an increased rate of success by those who did receive a permit in Unit 8 (Afognak and Raspberry Islands). These factors have prevented the ADF&G from opening some sections of Afognak for elk registration hunting, further reducing village residents from obtaining their game.

<b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Harold Squantsoff, Chair, Hunting Committee, Ouzinkie Native Corp.	
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