

**Findings for the Alaska Board of Game
2008-176-BOG**

**Units 16A and 16B Intensive Management Supplemental Findings
March 21, 2008**

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by Department staff, Alaska residents and users of moose in Units 16A and 16B. These findings are supplemental to the findings set forth in 2006-167-BOG, 2006-164-BOG, 5AAC 92.108, and in the predator control implementation plan in 5AAC 92.125(d).

1. The moose population size, currently estimated to be 3193-3951 moose in Unit 16B, is less than the population objective of 6,500-7,500 moose. The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last 11 years.
2. The unit 16B moose harvestable surplus, as described in 5AAC 92.106(3) (A), currently (2008) estimated at 171 bulls, is less than the harvest objective of 310-600 moose. The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least 8 years.
3. The unit 16B moose population is, thus, depleted and reduced in productivity, which has resulted in a significant reduction in the allowable human harvest of the population.
4. Enhancement of abundance or productivity of moose is feasibly achievable utilizing the recognized and prudent active management techniques of predator control.
5. The Board has repeatedly, since 1990 been required to significantly reduce the taking of moose in Unit 16B by restricting harvest, seasons and bag limits as compared to the level and timing of hunting opportunity that was allowed when the population was not depleted and reduced in productivity.
6. The population and harvest objectives have not been achieved, at least in part, because wolf, black and brown bear predation have been important causes of mortality in the population, to the extent that the population is unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved, in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.
7. Subpopulations of moose from Unit 16B winter in portions of Unit 16A where predation by wolves is an important cause of mortality and objectives are unlikely to be achieved, in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted western Unit 16A.
8. Subpopulations of moose from Unit 16B also calve in portions of Unit 16A where predation by wolves and black bears are important causes of mortality to

the extent that the population is unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved, in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.

9. Reducing predation in Units 16A and 16B can reasonably be expected to achieve the population and harvest objectives of moose in Unit 16B.

Vote: 6-0-1
March 21, 2008
Anchorage, Alaska



Cliff Judkins, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game