

Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS
Office of the Director

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Chairman Ted Spraker Alaska Board of Game P.O. Box 115526 Juneau Ak, 99811-5526

Dear Chairman Spraker:

The following comments give a brief description of the positions that the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers have on the proposals that are up for consideration at the January 2014 meeting in Kotzebue.

In general, when the board considers seasons and or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request that every effort possible be made to align the season dates and bag limits with adjacent game management units and/or sub units. This is mainly due to enforceability of multiple seasons in multiple locations as well as consistency of the regulations for the public. When the board considers proposals having to do with allocation or biological concerns, AWT is generally neutral in position.

AWT recognizes that regulations are developed by the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game through the public process to support management plans. Further, all management plans rely upon public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Enforcement is a crucial element needed to ensure long-term compliance with regulations by the public. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers request the board recognize that the division has limited resources and man power and any new regulation scheme or area restrictions may place an additional burden on AWT.

Comments on specific proposals are included in this letter.

Thank you for your time.

Bernard Chastain

Captain, Alaska Wildlife Troopers Anchorage Headquarters

Proposal 12

This proposal asks the board to change the salvage requirements for waterfowl in GMU 18. If the board chooses to adopt this proposal, Alaska Wildlife Troopers would encourage the board to examine the option of making this a statewide regulation. Adopting regulations on salvage requirements that are different in game management units around the state become confusing to the public and difficult to enforce.

Proposal 19

This proposal asks that the board extend hunting season for wolverine in GMU 22. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers ask that whenever possible, seasons should be aligned for hunting and trapping to eliminate confusion with regulations to the public and allow for more consistent enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to these proposals. Additional concerns will be addressed on the record at the board meeting.