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Alaska Board of Game

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ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Special Meeting on Copper Basin Area
Moose and Caribou Hunting
Glennallen, Alaska
March 18-21, 2017

MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Game (board) convened a special meeting on Copper Basin Area Moose and Caribou Hunting on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at the Alaska Bible Campus. All seven board members were present: Chairman Ted Spraker, Chair-chairman, Nate Turner, Stosh Hoffman, Teresa Sager Albaugh, Dave Brown, Karen Linnell, and Larry Van Daele. Member Linnell was absent March 20 and 21.

Following introductions and ethics disclosure statements, the board listened to oral reports from agency representatives (see list of oral reports in Record Copy (RC) 1). Public testimony began Saturday, March 18 and concluded on Monday, March 20. The board heard from 43 testifiers (see RC 21), six of which were advisory committee representatives.

Deliberations on proposals began Monday morning. The Board took action on 46 proposals, adopting three and deferring one. Board actions are recorded as: C = Carried; F = Failed; CA = Carried as Amended; NA = No Action; D = Deferred; and DA = Deferred as Amended.

The meeting audio and all other meeting materials are available online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=03-18-2017&meeting=glennallen. The audio log information is listed after each proposal, excluding the proposals the board took no action on.

- <u>F</u> 90 Expand the Copper Basin community subsistence harvest hunt area by adding a part of Unit 12. (*Audio tracking information: March 20: 1:27:37*)
- <u>F</u> 24 Clarify the communities eligible for the "100 bull" quota and extend the season. (*March* 20: 2:00:53)
- NA 1 Modify the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for moose. *The board took no action based on their action on proposal 20. (March 20: 2:10:25 and 5:02:56)*
- CA 20 Replace the community subsistence harvest moose hunt with a Tier II moose season. The board amended the proposal with substitute language (RC 25) as amended. The amended proposal retains the CSH moose hunt, distributes the 100 moose that do not meet antler restrictions by Tier II criteria, up to 350 permits may be issued, one Tier II permit per household. The CSH moose season for Units 11 and 13 was changed to August 20-September 20. The board clarified that permit holders for regulatory year 2017 and

- 2018 will not be bound by the two year commitment for regulatory year 2018. (March 20: 3:07:50 and March 21: 3:49:28)
- <u>F</u> 44 Modify the permit conditions for the community subsistence harvest hunt for the Copper Basin Community Subsistence Hunt. (*March 20, 2017: 5:17:52*)

The board took no action on the following 14 proposals due to their action on proposal 20. (March 20: 6:31:11)

- NA 32 Change the eligibility criteria for Tier I caribou and moose hunts in Unit 13.
- <u>NA</u> 14 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt and the December registration moose hunt, and modify the number of available drawing permits.
- <u>NA</u> 15 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts, or change season dates and eliminate "any bull" tags.
- <u>NA</u> 16 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest moose hunt, or modify the season and bag limit.
- <u>NA</u> 17 Change the season dates for the community subsistence harvest moose hunt.
- NA 18 Eliminate or change season dates of the community subsistence harvest moose hunt.
- NA 19 Modify the community subsistence harvest moose hunts.
- <u>NA</u> 21 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest moose hunts and replace with a Tier II or registration moose season.
- <u>NA</u> 22 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts for moose, and adopt a resident "any bull' registration hunt.
- <u>NA</u> 26 Change the antler restrictions for the general seasons moose hunt in Unit 13.
- NA 27 Change the antler restrictions for the general season moose hunt in Unit 13.
- <u>NA</u> 28 Change the antler restrictions for the general season moose hunt in Unit 13.
- <u>NA</u> 43 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose, lengthen the general season and adopt an "any bull" registration permit.
- NA 29 Close the nonresident moose season in Unit 13.
- <u>CA</u> 33 Eliminate the caribou community subsistence harvest hunt, Tier I and drawing hunts, and the requirement to hunt moose in Unit 13; replace with a registration hunt period system. The board amended the proposal to retain the CSH caribou and drawing hunts. The board created two, Tier I registration hunt seasons for hunters to choose to hunt: August 10 31 and October 21 March 31, or September 1 20 and October 21-March 31; the bag limit was increased to up to two caribou per household. (March 21: 0:02:21)

- <u>NA</u> 34 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for caribou, increase the number of caribou household Tier I permits, and shorten the season. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal 33. (March 21: 2:13:05)*
- NA 35 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest moose hunt and remove the requirement for Tier I caribou hunters to hunt moose in Unit 13. (*March 21: 2:13:05*)
- <u>CA</u> 36 Increase the bag limit for the caribou community harvest hunt and clarify the communities eligible for receiving the 300 caribou quota. *The board amended the proposal to increase the bag limit to up to two caribou per household and increase the cap to 400. (March 21: 2:13:28)*
- <u>DA</u> 37 Lengthen the caribou season, increase winter caribou bag limit, and establish a youth hunting season. The board amended the proposal to address just a youth hunt with season dates Aug. 1 5, and deferred it as amended to the February 2018, Central/Southwest Region Regulations meeting. (March 21: 2:40:48)

The board took no action on the following proposals due to their action on the previous proposals. (March 21: 3:02:33)

- NA 38 Eliminate drawing hunt for caribou in Unit 13, and remove the requirement that Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters shall hunt moose in Unit 13.
- NA 39 Remove the requirement that Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters shall hunt moose in Unit 13.
- NA 40 Remove the requirement that Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters shall hunt moose in Unit 13.
- NA 41 Shorten the season dates for the Unit 13 caribou draw hunt, and remove the requirement that Unit 13 Tier I caribou hunters to hunt moose in Unit 13
- NA 42 Change the dates for the Unit 13 caribou draw season.
- NA 2 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 3 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 4 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 5 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 6 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 7 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunts.
- NA 23 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest moose hunt.
- <u>NA</u> 25 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose, or require hunters to choose subsistence or general hunt and restrict the hunt area.
- <u>NA</u> 8 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose.
- <u>NA</u> 9 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose and allocate permits within the Unit 13 subunits based on population.
- NA 10 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose.

- NA 11 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose.
- NA 12 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose.
- NA 13 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for moose.
- <u>NA</u> 30 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for caribou.
- <u>NA</u> 31 Eliminate the community subsistence harvest hunt for caribou.

Miscellaneous Business

The board took the following actions under miscellaneous business: (Audio log 3:22:19)

The board adopted a resolution supporting the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources' (RC 26). The recommendation is for Congress to dedicate \$1.3 billion dollars annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program. (Additional audio at 3/18/2017 at 0:43:04.)

The board reviewed RC 37 which modifies definitions for "community" and "group" under 5 AAC 92.072, Community subsistence harvest hunt area and permit conditions. The board requested the proposed changes be submitted as a board generated proposal for the 2017 Statewide Regulations meeting.

The board approved findings (RC 38, page 2) providing recommendations to ADF&G during the Copper Basin Area Moose and Caribou Hunting meeting.

The board reviewed a public request (RC 38, page 4) to recommend ADF& establish a steering committee to address the impact from hunters on roadside lands within Unit13. Director Bruce Dale informed the board ADF&G will be working on a planning process for access projects statewide. He said he is interested in having an advisory committee based group with board member involvement to work with ADF&G on the Unit 13 area. The board did not make an assignment to the group. The chair asked board members to contact Executive Director Tibbles if interested, otherwise he will participate.

The meeting adjourned at approximate 4:10 p.m.