

RC 10

# Sitka Tribe of Alaska

Tribal Government for Sitka, Alaska



January 10, 2013

Dear Alaska Board of Game,

I write on behalf of Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA), tribal government for over 4,500 tribal citizens located in Sitka, Alaska. As a tribal government, STA is responsible for health, welfare, safety and culture of its citizens. STA respectfully submits the following comments in opposition of Proposal 31.

After meeting with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) Area Wildlife Biologist on the status of the mountain goat population in Game Management Unit 4, and being a responsible steward of its natural resources, STA acknowledges the need for conservative management measures to protect the area population. Reducing the overall harvest limit and a reduction of the limit on the number of nannies harvested are 2 measures that have been incorporated to curve this population slide. ADF&G harvest data shows that since instituting these conservation measures 2 years ago the percentage of nannies being harvested has decreased substantially.

Although Proposal 31 re-enforces these conservation measures it is excessively punitive in nature. This proposal would have a significant negative impact on responsible subsistence hunters who rely on to the resource to feed their families but may inadvertently harvest a nanny. This proposal will likely result in sport hunters abandoning incidentally harvested nannies in the field to avoid a 5 year ban on hunting. It is for these reasons STA opposes Proposal 31.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or STA opposition to this proposal contact Resource Protection Director Jeff Feldpausch at (907) 747-7469 or email [jeff.feldpausch@sitkatriben-sn.gov](mailto:jeff.feldpausch@sitkatriben-sn.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Baines".

Mike Baines  
Tribal Council Chairman