Testimony Before the Alaska Board of Game by Paul Hansen

Wasilla, Alaska

March 5, 2011

Mr. Chairman and Board members, my name is Paul Hansen. I am a resident of Naknek, having lived for 67 years in the Bristol Bay region. Representing myself, I am here to testify in favor of proposals 119 and 121 regarding the management of predator control.

I support proposals 119 and 121 because the Mulchatna Caribou herd that migrates to our area, where we hunt, has been declining. The decreasing population of caribou indicates that predators such as; bear and wolves contribute to the diminishing numbers of moose and caribou. It is vital to reduce the excessive amount of predators in our region to preserve our resources that we rely on for subsistence harvests. In essence, all hunters would benefit from the proposals 119 and 121.

I also support proposals 1-5 and 2-5 to extend the trapping season of lynx and wolverines thru March 31 before the snow and ice start to melt. We must be able to utilize the snow and ice while it is available for travel to trapping destinations. The trapping season of lynx and wolverines are not open long enough to sustain our families that depend on trapping for a living. Both proposals 1-5 and 2-5 would benefit all trappers and should be considered. I would like to thank the Mr. Chairman and the Board members for taking the time to listen to my concerns and testimony.