

RC003

Alaska Board of Game

On Time Advisory Committee Comments

Work Session
Juneau, Alaska
January 8, 2015

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

**Work Session
Juneau, Alaska
January 8, 2015**

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Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 6:30 pm

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

CALL TO ORDER TIME: **6:32** by Chair: **Henry Hunter**

INVOCATION:

ROLL CALL/ MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Lekander, Thad Tikiun, Henry Hunter, Greg Roczicka, Kevin Carter, Jon LaValle, Henry Kohl, Ross Boring, Rafe Johnson, Louie Andrew. Glen Watson, Sr. was absent (excused).

NUMBER NEEDED FOR QUORUM: 6 QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Agenda approved with no amendments**

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: **provided in packet, already approved**

FISH AND GAME STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Poetter, Kuskokwim Area Manager, Comm. Fish Division, Hiroko Ikuta, Subsistence Division, **Boards Support Western Regional Coordinator, Holly Carroll, Wildlife biologists (Bethel office) Patrick Jones and Phillip Perry**

GUESTS PRESENT: **James Charles, Garris Kinegak,**

OLD BUSINESS: **none**

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: Questions/Concerns of the AC members and public- **none**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Update from new Regional Coordinator Holly Carroll (took over from Alissa Joseph in October)
 - Meeting minutes format and Secretary duties, recommendations to Boards
 - Clarify officer terms, member term expirations, and alternates
 - **It was decided by the seated members to give Robert Lekander a 2-year term, Louie Andrew a 1-year term and Kevin Carter a 3-year term effective when they were made members in 2013 so their expiration dates align with the other members.**
 - Brief discussion on AC member duties- handbook available
 - Members should have received a meeting packet, if not please tell Holly. Please bring to all meetings this season.
 - Review Deadlines: BOF proposals due April 10,2015, BOG proposals due May 1, 2015
- **Get AC recommendations and/or comments on the following: SEE TABLE BELOW FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD**
- Board of Fisheries Issues: (On time comment deadline March 3, 2015)
- Formerly ACR 8- Kuskokwim River: Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage (new proposal 272)
 - Greg gave some background about the ACR that became the above proposal. Aaron Poetter- Chinook harvest data not yet available.**
 - Motion to table 272 until next meeting passed**



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- Choose member to send to Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel-before January 15th
Kevin Carter wants a meeting discussing 4" mesh before fisheries Board meets with Fish Biologist Would both committees recommendations carry more weight? Yes Henry H/ Greg R. Holly- clarified Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel will include a ½ day public comment period. Day 2, January 16, the panel will meet in an all-day meeting. Members are sent from area Advisory Committees, Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group, and Federal RACs. Anyone not selected for the panel can testify first day on their own opinion, Day 2 Strictly give the Advisory Committee's opinion. It is posted on line which panel members have been selected from other AC's and there are -nominations on line thru December 15 for at-large representative.
James Charles (Lower Kuskokwim chair) discussed that his AC commented about 4" mesh shortages and decided to recommend 4" to 4.5".
Kevin Carter- Important to think about the mortality of kings in the 4" or to use the subsistence 4" after the main chinook run is passed.

Committee delayed selecting member to send to Panel until next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- appoint standing committee or Chair to approve minutes for quick submittal to Board
Greg Roczicka-how to approve meeting meetings-Done by the Chair in the past up to the current committee. Holly (Regional Coordinator): will get draft minutes from Ross (Secretary) - she updates/cleans them up, then back to Ross and the Chair for approval, then out to the advisory committee for review. By allowing the Chair or a standing committee to approve minutes, it will be quicker to meet deadlines for submittal as recommendations to the Boards.

Motion to allow Chair to approve Minutes unanimously approved.

BOG Proposal 39 Discussion:

Phillip Perry fish and game-Remainder of unit 18-took 2 areas and combined (Remainder of unit 18). Single hunt bag limit 2 moose, 12,000 to 13,000 moose in area More moose than survey shows, twinning rates 50%, continued growth. Bethel ADFG staff supports proposal.

Greg- Legislature requires these be re-authorized every year.

Rafe asked if the March 15 date is chosen for a biological or other reason. Phillip Perry responded that it was to align Caribou and Moose closing on same date

Rafe asked if enforcement would be easier. Jon commented that with state and federal seasons not aligned, you basically need to know your GPS Coordinates to prove you're not in violation.

BOG 3 year cycle

**Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee**

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Greg unit 18 and unit 19 would be discussed at different cycles. Phillip 2 year cycle does not give biologists enough time to evaluate population data before having to make decisions about changing. It also conflicts with collecting data because every other year they have to prepare for board of game in January when research needs to be done. Holly also pointed out that when the BOF and BOG cycles overlap, the AC's have to review all proposals for both which is time consuming.

Greg explained that things can be done out of cycle: thru Agenda Change requests and emergency regulations. Greg says the main criticism is people like a shot at the board every two years

- The chairman (Henry Hunter) requests selection of new Chair
Kevin Carter selected as chair, effective immediately, motion passed unanimously.
- Decide date and time for next meeting
Chair suggested January 13 (or some date before KSSP meeting January 15) and will communicate with members.

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description- ON-TIME DEADLINE FOR THESE DECEMBER 26TH	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOG	39		Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18.
Supports w/ amend.	10	0	Support with amendment to change the Resident Open season dates to match the Federal season from Dec 1- March 31. Motion passed unanimously.
BOG	43		Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.
Support	10	0	Support unanimous
BOG	201		Clarify the language regarding retrieval and salvage of wounded game.
Oppose	0	10	Unanimously opposed, very little discussion other than it seemed really unclear what "lawful" means?
BOG	Cycle		Change BOG to a 3-yr cycle
support	9	1	Motion to support carried, but the dissenting vote was because of concern of a lack of control by the board, it was felt that they may have better control at 2 years than three. This AC wants the State wide A & B list to be taken up every 3 years <u>not</u> a 6 year cycle.
BOF	271		Require 4" mesh gillnets to be operated only as set gillnets in the Kuskokwim River during times of King Salmon Conservation



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BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description- ON-TIME DEADLINE FOR THESE DECEMBER 26TH	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
support	9	0	

Adjourn Time: 8:45pm

Minutes Recorded By: *Ross Boring*_____

Minutes Approved By: _Chair Kevin Carter___(signature unavailable)___

Date: ___12/21/14_____



Craig Advisory Council meeting December 2, 2014 Draft Minutes

Quorum:

Mike Douville
 Chuck Haydu
 Ellen Hannan
 Steve Merritt
 Steve Stumpf
 Fred Hamilton
 Stu Merchant
 Bill Farmer

Public in Attendance:

Jeff Reeves
 Steve Berthume
 Jim Dennis
 Skip Fabrey
 Rafael Ramirez
 Craig Schwanke

Meeting called to order @ 7:10PM

Minutes Approved from last meeting, March 25, 2014

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support or Oppose	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussions, Amendments to proposal
BOG	12	Reduce bag limit for hunting and trapping wolves in unit 2.	
Oppose	0	8	We do not think it is necessary to have GPS locations on traps or snares. Since a small number of trappers harvest the majority of the quota limiting the harvest to 5 per person annually does not make sense. It will not fill the quota.
BOG	13	Change management levels for unit 2 to include all causes of mortality.	
Oppose	0	8	What constitutes harvest? How wounded does a wolf have to be to be considered in the math?
BOG	14	Reduce the wolf harvest to 20% of the preseason population and account for wounded animals.	
Support	8	0	The 30% quota has been reached twice in the last 15 years, (1999 & 2013). Discussion started along



			the lines of keeping the current quota in place but drop down if necessary. ADF&G says wolves can sustain a 38% overall mortality. There was concern locally at a meeting last November that the wolf harvest is too high and that lowering the harvest from 30% would sit better within the community. We support this proposal but our one concern with it is that the illegal harvest should not be considered since there is no proof.
BOG	15	Allow trappers to take beavers with a firearm.	
Support	8	0	No reason Beavers cannot be taken with a firearm
BOG	27	Open deer season early for elders and physically limited.	
Oppose	0	8	Deer season is plenty long enough as it is.
BOG	29	Require traps are checked at frequent intervals.	
Oppose	0	8	Weather and other factors could be an issue if a specific timeframe is imposed.
BOG	30	Repeal the need for GPS coordinates on a bear bait station.	
Oppose	0	8	Hunters need to be responsible for their bait stations and this is a tool enforce it.
BOG	32	Allow the transfer of resident harvest tickets to a relative within the second degree in kindred.	
Support	6	0	We feel that that this is an opportunity for a family member to be able to hunt bear that may have been denied a tag by the drawing process. 1 member abstained
		The following is a general discussion on why the Craig AC voted the way we did on the Shrimp Fishery proposals below (96, 97, 98, 99). At last BOF there were concerns about the way fishery is being managed. Numbers released this year showed that the majority of the districts suffered a reduction in harvest. There are concerns due to large concentration of effort in small areas. We would like to see districts split to spread the fleet out and fish broader areas. There are also concerns of selling an inferior product (small shrimp) that sell for less. Upwards of 30% of the product from our local area is small shrimp. Our objective is to have guidelines similar to Canada where small shrimp are not sold but released to grow. This will promote a healthier fishery and bring higher prices for our product.	
BOF	96	Allow pot shrimp fishery management flexibility in specific fishing locales.	
Support	8	0	
BOF	97	Divide District 1 into three distinct commercial pot shrimp fishing areas.	
Support	8	0	



BOF	98	Modify Commercial shrimp pot Fishery reporting requirements.	
Support	8	0	
BOF	99	Standardize, reduce, and limit commercial shrimp pot gear.	
Oppose	0	8	
BOF	110	Allow increased trip limit and permit stacking in sea cucumber fishery.	
Oppose	0	8	This will benefit people that want to get in and out quick.
BOF	111	Allow department to set trip limits on Geoducks based on market conditions	
Support	8	0	This will bring in a higher value for the product. Supply/Demand

There was a discussion regarding a 3 year board cycle for game. All Members were in agreement for a 3 year cycle.

Stu Merchant will be the Craig AC member attending the Board of Game meeting

Bill Farmer will be the Craig AC member attending the Southeast Shellfish meeting

Next meeting set for Thursday Jan. 29, 2015 If we have unfinished business this meeting will continue on Feb. 3

Meeting Adjourned At 9:10pm



EAGLE FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Andy Bassich
Chairman
PO Box 11
Eagle, AK 99738

Central	Middle Nenana River
Central Kuskokwim	Middle Yukon River
Delta Junction	Minto-Nenana
Eagle	Ruby
Fairbanks	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
GASH	Upper Tanana/Fortymile
Koyukuk River	Yukon Flats
McGrath	

October 16, 2014

To the Alaska Board of Game Members;

The Eagle Fish and Game Advisory Committee met on October 9, 2014 in Eagle, Alaska. One of the items that was discussed at that meeting was the proposed change to the Board of Games meeting cycle. At this time the Eagle AC unanimously supports that change, although we would encourage the board to continue their current Agenda Chang Request (ACR) process.

If you live in a small community and would like to stay active with fish and game resource issues, you end up attending a lot of meetings and are away from home a lot. You need to be at those meetings in order to create and maintain connections and relationships in order to be effective. Having one less meeting a year would be nice so we could be at home more. The move could also help avoid meeting burnout.

It is also our believe that if something is truly an emergency that it needs to be brought before the Board of Game out of cycle, then our area biologists will also think that it is an emergency and help us get either an ACR or an emergency petition written and submitted.

Andy Bassich,
Eagle AC Chair



Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Virgil Umphenour
Chairman
878 Lynnwood Lane
North Pole, AK 99705

Central	Middle Nenana River
Delta Junction	Middle Yukon River
Eagle	Minto-Nenana
Fairbanks	Ruby
GASH	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
Koyukuk River	Upper Tanana/Fortymile
McGrath	Yukon Flats

December 26, 2014

Dear Board of Game Members;

The Fairbanks Advisory Committee (FAC), is opposed to the Department's proposal to shift the BOG to a 3 year cycle. We believe the resource and public participation benefits of a 2 year cycle far outweigh any bureaucrat benefit to the Department. In support of its effort to shift resources away from the public regulatory process, the department primarily cites to a slight budget cut. We believe that sustaining meaningful public participation in the regulatory process is one of the most important uses of ADFG funding and believe that efficiencies can be found elsewhere that will help the department meet its budget while ensuring the long term viability of a public driven game management process that is the envy of most other States. The department proposal does not discuss the fact that game populations fluctuate much more rapidly than fish populations and often, hunting regulations need to be reviewed and often changed dramatically from cycle to cycle. We believe that emergency regulations and ACR's are a poor substitute for a reliable two year cycle with meaningful public involvement. Research and management practices should be designed to culminate in a predictable board cycle for various regions of the state. The FAC does not feel overburdened with the current board schedules. We take our local game issues very seriously as do many of our local constituents who actively participate in our meetings. Many of these people are focused on singular issues or a single species of game. With a cycle every two years, these folks can track the effectiveness of current regulations, changing population or harvest dynamics, and can follow proposals from the time of their drafting to final action by the board. Having 3 years in between opportunities to manage 20(a) moose, or 40 mile caribou will alienate much of the public, especially if the department began imposing more emergency regulations. We do not believe the department is overburdened by having to prepare for and attend BOG meetings and we are not convinced that any cuts to the boards support budget will translate into more biology being practiced. Over the years, the department has undertaken various efforts to dilute the public process. This most recent effort is unwarranted and should be rejected by the Board. We believe the continued viability of local involvement in the BOG regulation process should be promoted by retaining the current 2 year cycle.



**Grayling Anvik Shageluk Holy Cross Advisory Committee
December 17, 2014
Teleconference**

- I. Call to Order: 12:20 by Chairman Ken Chase
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Gabe Nicholi Sr, Grayling; Ken Chase & Cliff Hickson, Anvik; Kathy Chase, Holy Cross; Bruce Werba, Undesignated
Members Absent: Harry Maillelle, Grayling, Arnold Hamilton, Shageluk
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 4
List of User Groups Present: n/a
- III. Approval of Agenda: yes
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Waved due to teleconference
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Caroline Brown, SUBS; Josh Peirce, DWC; Nissa Pilcher, BDS
- VI. Guests Present: Jeremy Havener, FWS; Trooper Abbott, AWT; Orville Huntington, TCC; Ben Stevens, TCC; Carl Jurue, Anvik; Ron Kruger, Deloyges Corp.

VII. Old Business:

Update on Wood Bison Planning Meeting

Josh Peirce , DWC

Points of discussion at the meeting were land use, federal and state systems, ability to harvest for locals as well as opportunity and access for non-local residents as well as non-residents.

When harvest is allowed, 20% of harvest would be through a registration hunt available in the GASH villages, the other 80% would be put in a drawing and 90% would go to AK residents, and 10% to nonresidents. Now the plan needs to go through the village corporation land to allow hunters access to hunt bison. A big part of this management plan being accepted hinges on access.

Native allotment would not be included in this since they are private land. One idea is that hunters would be given maps to show what land was available to hunt on.

Ron noted that Doyon had been contacted and has been asked to be an intermediately to the four corporations that need to formulate the access plan, and that they are working on it.

Letter of support to release and to accept management plan by January 7th Letter to be drafted In support of the release of the bison, and after the holiday and everyone has a chance to read the plan, then a call will go around and poll everyone on the plan (*please note, after the meeting it was discovered that only the AC representative need to send a letter of support for both the release and the draft plan. The chairman was contacted, and this is what will happen as of now*).



Board of Game; Proposed Three year cycle

Nissa Pilcher, BDS, gave a brief rundown of the implementation as well as consequences of the change.

We seem to work pretty good on a two year cycle would a three year cycle make management plans more solid, torn figure out the best for the area and everyone. The legislature talked about this and voted it down. Two year plan is in place and it is working, Save time and money, ACs stand to lose some clout- hard to get new folks involved in the committee, we are getting old and worn out, and it might be harder to lure folks in on a three year cycle. Sounds like a good idea, just a matter of implementing it.

Motion to stick with the two year cycle at this point, can bring it up later down the line if it needs changing; unanimous

VIII. New Business:

Questions/Concerns of the AC Members & public

None at this time

Staff Updates

Josh Pierce, DWC

Registration Hunt; a bit confused at the beginning part of the season, but those questions seem to be all worked out. 392 permits issued, 145 went to GASH residents, 187 total moose killed, 69 killed by GASH residents, 108 total people hunted unsuccessfully, 37 of those were GASH residents, and 21 folks are still unreported. Early 2000 subsistence surveys indicated 115 or so moose are needed, so harvest is a bit lower then what was expected. Also surprised about how many moose were taken by nonlocal residents. Pretty pleased with how the registration hunt went this year, documents what was being taken, and who was taking them. This will document subsistence uses in the area very good.

Draw hunt for nonresidents; 46 permits issued, 10 went to guided hunters and 36 went to non-guided hunters. The change that the BOG made last cycle seems like it is working well. ADFG plans on being out there the last week of February doing a moose survey.

Discuss USFWS; Possible Statewide Regulatory Changes on Alaska Refuges

Jeremy Havener, FWS

Brief summary of proposed changes given, noted that this is a proposed rule change, so nothing has been drafted. Looking for comments.

Needs management in this, look how hard that McGrath office works to ensure that we have enough food to eat. This will have an impact on subsistence practices regardless of what the FWS says. More predators means less moose and other things to eat regardless of what spin is put on it.

Question on commercial trapping endeavor, Jeremy was not sure will get back to members.



Question on Same day airborne, under trapping regulations you can dispatch an animal in a trap same day airborne. Speaks to brown bear mainly.

Orville noted that TCC Legal will be responding to it. Noted that AFN and TCC was against this similar ruling by the NPS.

Discussion of any proposals for submission

- BOF AYK Proposals due April 10, 2015
- BOG INT & Statewide Cycle “B” Due May 1, 2015
- FSB Game Proposals- Unknown deadline

The AC chose to take these subjects up at the next face-to-face meeting.

Brief discussion of Proposal 273; *Allow drift gillnet subsistence fishing after July 15 in the upper section of Yukon River Subdistrict 4-A for the harvest of summer chum salmon* and 274; *Allow subsistence fish wheel fishermen in the Yukon Area to retain king salmon when some harvest is justified based upon inseason run assessment* from BOF. Members decided to take up these proposals at their next face-to-face meeting.

Meeting; last part of February- 20th - 28th , Josh and Bruce would probably not be able to attend due to moose surveys, but maybe Bruce could call in.

Like to see any sort of report on pike/whitefish that has been done in the Innoko either through the state or federal. Need a good report on population and take is. Would be a good idea to have a limit on it, where it would be worthwhile to go fishing, but you couldn't decimate the pike numbers. Seems like folks are sports fishing- pulling them out for fun and then not using them, and if this is the case then they are NOT subsistence fishing.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm



Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee

MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Monday, December 8, 2014, 1:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

CALL TO ORDER TIME: 1:09 by Chair: James Charles, Secretary: Sandra Nicori,

INVOCATION: Lord's Prayer

ROLL CALL/ MEMBERS PRESENT:

NUMBER NEEDED FOR QUORUM: 7 (Bec. Oscarville seat vacant) QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
Present by phone was: Phillip Peter Sr., Akiachak; Jackson Williams, Sr., Akiak; James Charles,
Tuntutuliak; Arnold Brink Sr., Kasigluk; John Andrew and Sandra Nicori, Kwethluk; William Brown, Eek;
Henry Tikiun Sr., Atmauthluak; Earl Samuelson, Sr., Napaskiak. Henry Parks, Nunapitchuk came on line
at 1:50 p.m., Melvin Egoak, Atmauthluak, came on line at 1:57 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: approved

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: **ALREADY APPROVED**

FISH AND GAME STAFF PRESENT:

Boards Support Western Regional Coordinator, Holly Carroll
Wildlife biologists (Bethel office) Patrick Jones and Philip Perry; Aaron Poetter-
Kuskokwim Area Manager –Commercial Fisheries; Hiroko Ikuta, Subsistence Division,

GUESTS PRESENT: none

OLD BUSINESS: **none**

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: **Questions/Concerns of the AC members and public- none**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Update from new Regional Coordinator (R.C.) Holly Carroll
 - Meeting minutes format and Secretary duties, officer update-officers are James Charles, Sandra Nicori and Jackson Williams, Sr. their terms expire 6/30/2015.
 - Napakiak- John Wassilie resigned, and Oscarville membership is vacant, so may not count toward quorum until filled. Holly will send official letter to Oscarville
 - James Charles says IRA council can appoint member for Napakiak
 - Arnold Brink didn't get packet, gave address and phone to RC
 - Review Deadlines: BOF proposals due April 10,2015, BOG proposals due May 1, 2015
 - Suggest make a committee or chair to approve minutes

Samuelsen makes a motion that chair can approve the drafted minutes so that they can get submitted to the BOG quickly. (Peters seconded). No discussion. Motion passed unanimous.

- **Get AC recommendations and/or comments on the following: SEE TABLE BELOW FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD**



Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee

MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Monday, December 8, 2014, 1:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

- Formerly ACR 8- Kuskokwim River: Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage (new proposal 272)

There is a March 3rd deadline for AC recommendations or comments to the Board of Fisheries.

Proposal 272, formerly ACR 8, wants to have Tier 2 but it was made into a proposal in Juneau. The document is in the packet. Kuskokwim Salmon Management wants to restrict gill net gear to conserve the Chinook: use lawful gear and specifications to use gillnet. Holly read part of the article on proposal 272. Comment from (Akiak member) Jackson Williams, in previous meetings with AC the elders have stated that using the 6" gear will eventually produce smaller and smaller salmon. Lot of elders oppose restrictions because gradually fish will decline with this size of mesh, elders say that fish, after caught, going back to the water (i.e. falling out of the net), is doing more harm than good (because those fish may die before they reach spawning grounds). Also, a former Yukon resident said that dip netting in the Kuskokwim will not work because he has tried it here. John Andrew stated that dipnetting is to be used only in times of Chinook shortages.

See more discussion and vote below. 9 yes, 1 no (from Phillip Peter Akiachak).

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Discuss moose quota/season and discuss need to write proposal-suggested by 2 members

William Brown (Eek) asked if the 24 hour time frame to call in for a moose kill can be extended another day due to traveling and distance but the answer was to keep from going over the 100 limit of moose that it would have to stay the same to keep from overharvesting the moose. When the snow is favorable for counting, sometime in February, they will have a better idea of what the limit (quota) will be and can be adjusted accordingly.

Jackson Williams asked about a winter hunt in the Kuskokwim area but the answer was that the numbers are not favorable at the present time, maybe in 3 to 5 years it may be feasible.

Earl Samuelson commented changing the boundaries for easier access and the answer was it would take several meetings to do it. It would also result in people having to use two different permits to hunt in the same area. Phillip Peter asked about the opening date for portions of Johnson River. It poses confusion because the Yukon and Kuskokwim are close together in that area. (Long discussion in yugtun followed). Holly suggested delaying the moose subject for in-person meeting. James Charles concurred with her.

Melvin Egoak asked if the quota can be increased to 125 moose but the answer was to do that an updated moose count would have to be done.



Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee

MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Monday, December 8, 2014, 1:00 pm

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William Brown (Eek)-River at Eek for making 24 hr. report when someone gets moose or partner still hunting, not easy for him to go home in 24 hours because river is too shallow. He's worried would he be cited for late reporting? Phillip acknowledges this is an issue for any hunters that go a long way up the tributaries, but he asks that people try their best, use satellite phone, or let someone else know to call Phillip, because the need for harvest reporting as a tool to keep harvest at reasonable level.

- Choose member to send to Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel (KSSP)-before January 15th

Napaskiak –Earl- makes motion to appoint James Charles to attend the KSSP January 15th and 16th. Akiak seconds. John Andrew question. Henry Tikiun, 2nded. If James can't make it, Earl Samuelson from Napaskiak was chosen as an alternate. Motion passed unanimously.

- Decide date and time for next meeting and face-to-face location?

Earl Samuelson suggested January 5, 2015 at 9 a.m. in Bethel in-person meeting, seconded by Henry Tikiun, Sr. When further information was given by Holly, Earl and Henry withdrew their motions and it was left to call-of-the-chair and the coordinator to schedule the in-person meeting and was unanimously consented by the committee.

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	272		Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage
			Earl Samuelson commented that the tundra area fishermen were unable to fish because the 4 inch mesh was unavailable for purchase in the stores. The 4 and a half inch mesh might be better to use. Thinks if could use 4.5" mesh size it would be good to catch smaller salmon like reds and chums. The representative can bring it up at the Board of Fish meeting. Henry Parks agreed with Samuelson. William Brown said that generally the 4 and half inch mesh if used for white fish, most people have it, he made a motion to change 4 to 4 and a half inch mesh be used, as an amendment to Proposal 272. Phillip Peter said fish and game came and inspected nets in Akiachak and confiscated 70, 50, 60, 45 mesh. Charlie clarified that you can amend the motion to include a depth. Earl thinks if we select 45 meshes deep, it should meet all of our needs, instead of one area. But the proposals don't say anything about depth, so it should be included. ADF&G Aaron Poetter clarified in subsistence fishery current regulation

**Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee****MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE MEETING****Monday, December 8, 2014, 1:00 pm****Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#**For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
Supports with AMENDMENT	9	1	already states they can't be more than 45 meshes deep. Made motion to support the proposal but change current language from 4" to " <u>4" to 4.5"</u> "By 45 meshes deep gear. motion passes with amendment to gear size language
BOG	39	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18.	
supports	10	0	Akiak- motion to support, Melvin 2 nd . Discussion: Phillip Perry (ADFG) gave recommendation from department- We have 12,000 moose, recommend keeping it in place, to authorize it. Background- with antlerless moose- Advisory committees in the area need to decide if they want it to continue each year. Motion passes unanimously
BOG	43	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.	
supports	10	0	Discussion: Phillip Perry (ADFG) gave recommendation from department- Advisory committees in the area need to decide if they want it to continue. This proposal just talking about metal locking tag exemption, we want to continue to have that to make it easy for hunters and consistent with other rural Alaska areas to NOT require the metal tags. Question- if we need to harvest a brown bear (DLP) do we have to return that to fish and game or can we keep it? Phillip clarified it depends on the time of year if it's during the hunting season- you just have it sealed as usual. This bill just removes the metal tag requirement- doesn't affect the DLP rules. Question- regarding tribal residents. Perry clarified that this law is for all Alaska residents and whether or not they have to buy a locking tag and the State doesn't differentiate between a rural or urban person- just Alaska residents. Motion to support: passes unanimously
BOG		Change BOG to a 3-yr cycle	
			R.C. H. Carroll read BOG handout points clarifying the department's reasons for supporting the change to a 3-yr cycle. Much discussion about the proposed savings if go to 3-yr cycle, they want to



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Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
Supports	9	0	<p>ensure that if \$50,000 is saved, that it could go to the advisory committees. Holly re-iterated that in light of severe department budget cuts, saving that money may just help to continue to provide same services to the AC process. Members noted it is Not easy to work for the people; AC members want people to earn money for AC process, if cycles change just to save money, move the money to Advisory committee or members. William Brown and Melvin Egoak asked if there was any way they can be given stipends.</p> <p>Patrick Jones-(ADFG Wildlife), supports 3-yr cycle, because they can miss surveys because they're at the meeting too much. Makes it easier for us to get surveys done in more time in a timely fashion. Also gives us more time to evaluate, changing rigs every year- hard to make educated decisions about the effects.</p> <p>Motion to support- passed unanimously (1 member left conference call before this vote).</p>

Adjourn Time: 4:13

Minutes Recorded By: __Sandra Nicori (Secretary) and put in template by H. Carroll (R.C.)

Minutes Approved By: _____ James Charles (Chair) *James Charles*
 Date: 12/16/14



Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee

MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 1:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

I. **Call to Order Time:** 1:20 by Chair Stan Shepard

There was a delay because the agenda that was faxed out had the wrong access code on it. Regional Coordinator (RC) Holly Carroll re-faxed corrected agenda to all Village and City offices and called some of the members to make sure they had correct code. But it may have affected attendance of non-AC members that planned to join call. (No members present from Marshall, Pitkas, or Russian Mission)

II. **Members Present:** Stan Shepard, Paul Beans, Bill Alstrom, Sven Pauken, Peter Tyson, and Evan Polty (quorum met). Chair: Stan Shepard, Secretary: RC Holly Carroll agreed to help take minutes for this meeting, but explained a secretary needs to be elected for future meetings.

III. Approval of Agenda: approved

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

a. **Motion to approve tabling for next meeting- unanimously approved**

b. **There are no meeting minutes from the March 2014 teleconference meeting, last known minutes are from the Sept 16th, 2013 meeting (before AC was split into Mid-Lower from Lower Yukon AC as a whole).**

V. Fish and Game Staff Present:

ADF&G Boards Support Western Regional Coordinator, Holly Carroll

ADF&G Wildlife biologists (Bethel office) Patrick Jones

VI. Guests Present:

Marshall TC- Francis –secretary/receptionist, John Agyak (Mt. Village), Robert Meyers (Pilot Station) TC, Charlotte Tikiun (Mt. Village)

VII. Old Business: **none**

VIII. New Business:

IX. People to Be Heard: **Questions/Concerns of the AC members and public- none**

X. **Update from new Regional Coordinator Holly Carroll**

- Assign secretary and Holly can assist with providing templates, finalizing and submitting minutes
- Membership- 5 members appointed in 2013, not sure alternates were officially named, would like to get that figured out before face-to-face meeting. Holly will follow up with tribal councils. We need to clarify if they are 3-year terms, and they need to be staggered so everyone doesn't expire at once.
- Packets on the way, suggest tabling Fish issues below until you have time to read proposals, and because deadline is later.
- Reviewed Deadlines: BOF proposals due April 10,2015, BOG proposals due May 1, 2015



Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee

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XI. Get AC recommendations and/or comments on the following: SEE TABLE BELOW FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD

Stan Shepard: attended YKDelta RAC Oct 2014 in Bethel- gave update: he explained the votes of that committee, all were failed or no actions.

Bill Alstrom asked for clarification on which RAC.

- Board of Fisheries Issues: (On time comment deadline March 3, 2015)
- Consider changing the date during which drift gillnet fishing for summer chum salmon may begin in the upper section of Yukon River Sub district 4A (proposal 273)

Group supports or opposes (include vote count)? **Motion to table this proposal until next meeting: passed unanimous. Comments: None.**

- Consider allowing fish wheel fishermen in the Yukon Area to retain king salmon when some harvest is justified based upon in season run assessment. Proposal 274

Group supports or opposes (include vote count)? **Motion to table this proposal until next meeting: passed unanimous. Comments: none**

- Formerly ACR 8- Kuskokwim River: Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage (new proposal 272)

Group supports or opposes? **Motion to table until next meeting: passed unanimous. Comments: none**

XII. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Decide date and time for next meeting and face-to-face location? **Dec 18, St. Mary's 1:00 pm with teleconference as well. Holly explained this may be contingent on finding out and clarifying who members are.**
- Bill Alstrom suggests Stan Shepherd being chair for next meeting, roll call vote (unanimous) to support Stan as chair. H Carroll suggested officers are usually 2-yr term, the group confirmed Stan could do a 2-yr. term
- Paul Beans nominated to serve as secretary for 2-yr officer term, motion passed unanimously.
- There is confusion about which St Mary's member is the main, and which is the alternate, Sven commented confusion about seats came from TC having appointed Peter Tyson. St Mary's has 2 tribal council entities- so one from St Mary's and one from Andreafski, but H Carroll read from the Administrative code written since 2013 Joint Board met and split the Lower Yukon AC into the Coastal Lower Yukon and the Mid-Lower Yukon, there is one member each from: Andreafski, Mountain Village, Pitkas Point, Pilot Station, Marshall and Russian Mission. Paul Beans explained that Mountain Village had requested the creation of its



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own AC and it used to have an active committee of about 10 members. He had a question/concern that if the members on the committee (like himself and Stan) were not a member of the Tribal Council they may not get appointed. Holly explained that she was unsure if it was the TC's sole discretion to appoint members, it is possible to have a public election, she said she would find out/get clarification from the Executive Director of Board Support and follow up with information to the group.

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOG	39		Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18.
supports	5	0	PASSES WITH UNANIMOUS SUPPORT- NO DISCUSSION
BOG	43		Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.
			<p>NO ACTION TAKEN</p> <p>Group had questions for Patrick Jones- is it for sport hunting too? He clarified that for all Alaska residents it would be free, but a charge for non-residents.</p> <p>Stan:- concern "all Alaska residents" residing in cities, and Alaskan resident acting as guide, comes out here to hunt brown bear- does he have to pay or gets it free?</p> <p>Patrick Jones: He would not have to pay for the tags (this has been the case for 4 years), the case for all Alaska residents no matter where they are from.</p>
BOG	43		Change BOG to a 3-yr cycle
supports	5	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holly Carroll reads from a Questions and Answers fact sheet about the proposed changes that details the benefits. Patrick Jones also spoke in support of the 3-year cycle as it allows more time to collect enough data to make good decisions on <p>MOTION TO SUPPORT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.</p>

Adjourn Time: 3:05

Minutes Recorded By: ___ H. Carroll (R.C.)

Minutes Approved By: _Committee _____

Date: ___12/18/14_____



**Draft Minutes
Stony Holitna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Teleconference
December 16, 2014 / 11 a.m.**

BOF issues take up most of these minutes –

BOG issues are highlighted in Blue & Comments listed in the Template following the Minutes

Boxed portions of minutes are germane to the BOF Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel Jan.15 &16, 2014

Call to Order

The chairman, Doug Carney, called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Roll Call & Quorum

SHAC members present were

Rick Breckheimer & Fred Bobby - Lime Village

David Bobby – Stony River

Doug Carney & Susan Hubbard - Sleetmute

Barb Carlson & John Zeller – Red Devil

Absent was

Charlie Gusty from Stony River.

Others Attending -

Holly Carroll, Boards Support

Doug Molineaux, Fisheries Biologist

Aaron Tiernan, ADF&G Region V assist. Area fisheries Biologist

Jim Simon, ADF&G Subsistence Division

Hiroko Ikuta, AD&FG Subsistence Division

Members' Concerns

- Lime Village fishermen were prevented from fishing for sockeyes, due to the restrictions on fishing Chinook. Lime Village has a very negligible chinook run, and that species is in poor condition by the time they reach Lime, so are neither targeted or desirable.
Rick said that when he has had a net set, and caught Chinook, he moves the net.

- BOF & BOG Proposals for 2016 will have to be put in before May 1, so we will need to have a regular meeting after the planned moose count in March,

Approval of Agenda –

The agenda was approved unanimously

The reading & approval of minutes from SHAC Jan. 15, 2014 meeting was deferred till the next SHAC meeting.

SHAC Chair, Doug Carney

BOG proposals that concern us are -

- BOG cycle change from 2-years to 3 years.
- Proposal 139 – the reauthorization of tag fee exemption for brown bear in GMU 19, and other units
- Most of the meeting will deal with fisheries issues, so Barb will handle the majority of the rest of things today.



Vice Chair, Barb Carlson

- Gave an overview of the 2014 preliminary Kuskokwim Salmon Season Summary for Chinook.
- Problem to address – Upriver villages a 63% lower harvest than in most years – much higher loss than downriver villages.

- For a possibly needed SHAC proposal she gave a synopsis of probable components to include. This proposal would have the aim of providing a reasonable opportunity for harvest of chinook in the upper river Kusko villages, at times when there is a harvestable surplus available.
Components discussed were –1 -a nested ANS for sections of the river /
2 -an in-river run goal, (this includes escapement, ANS, & sufficient fish to provide a reasonable opportunity for success.)
3 – Some sort of permit system, (household, community, Tier II)

Doug Molineaux Presentation & Discussion – SHAC members all had hard copies of Doug’s presentation. There are graphs and explanations that Doug explained and answered questions about. Included were -

- Graphs were used to illustrate the problem - that in the last 5 years, villages above Bethel had a larger decrease in harvest compared to Bethel and villages below Bethel.
- **Defined what ANS, “reasonable opportunity”, & in river goals mean in this context.**
- Defined a **“Nested ANS”** as being part of a larger ANS that already exists, (on the Kusko River)
- How nested ANS would aid upriver village chinook harvest – provides a defined number & a measureable outcome at season’s end, to judge the success of management tools that had been used
- **In- river goal** provides an “in-season guide” to judge management decisions/ how to set that goal. (escapement/ANS/enough fish to ensure a reasonable opportunity for success)

Discussion, Questions & Answers

- Rick/Doug M. - Reasonable Opportunity is set by BOF
- John/Doug M. -There is no long term/5-year forecast – only one issued in the spring - for the coming summer.
- Federal control was from Aniak to the mouth of the Kusko.

- Fred/Aaron -(Down river has larger villages & boats, and cheaper fuel) Why doesn’t the ADF&G limit net size? Ans. –If approved, proposal 272 will allow limits to be put on the length of any net.
- **Fred -Lime Villagers are prevented from fishing for reds – don’t fish for kings.** Reds are the important runs for human use in Lime. Kings are in poor condition & not wanted. I caught 50% less reds in 2014, due to restrictions – not the Red run health.
- The Red run was early, overlapped with King run, so restrictions affected Red fishing ability more than in a normal year.
- Rick – When I set a net, if I’m catching kings – I move it. I don’t want them – are poor quality.

Doug Molineaux – on Escapement

- The entire escapement goal range is below the median King escapement from 1976 thru 2013.
- Due to the low escapement goal - a directed commercial chum fishery is more likely to be opened & will result in a higher incidental King catch. (No directed chum opening in 2014)
This will cause a lower King escapement and lowering the abundance of Kings passing above the commercial fishing districts below Bethel



Lower abundance = Less reasonable opportunity for subsistence Chinook harvest above Bethel – and a minimum effect on subsistence King catch opportunity below Bethel, (which occurs prior to a commercial Chum opening.)

OPEN COMMERCIAL CHUM = POOR SUBSISTENCE KING

More discussion, questions & answers / RE: Doug's talk, potential SHAC proposal, Lime Village fishery

DRAFT BOF Proposal for nested ANS with in-river goals for Chinook. (2015-16/due April 10)

Barb – How to arrive at nested ANS #s, and what areas in which to apply them must be determined by user input, and interaction between ADF&G subsistence division and BOF

Options for arriving at an in-river goal –

- Combining escapement/ANS/enough fish to ensure a reasonable opportunity for success)
- Use the historical average King salmon escapement +/- 30% + ANS range

Options for monitoring the in-river goal –

- Bethel test fishery
- Upriver test fishery above the Aniak. (The subsistence Chinook fishery below Aniak is under federal control.)
-

Possible types of permits to limit Chinook catch in times of shortage – (household, community, Tier II)

- Under state regs – household & community permits can be used at the same time / in same community.
- Can have household with no community permits
- Tier II

Discussion & preferences –

David – household

Rick & Fred support a SHAC proposal and getting rid of unreasonable regs affecting Lime fishing

Susan – household

Barb – Hard to believe it, but many people don't realize the effect on the Lime Red harvest.

Fred Lime is only 70 miles from Stony, and Stony gets **good** Kings. As late as 1970s -Kings used to go up creek in Lime

Doug M. - a pocket of Kings spawn on the Stony in tributaries just below Two Lakes.

Read/ Discuss / Vote on support of –

- Proposal to change BOG cycle from 2 to 3 years (2015/due Dec.26) - **Opposed Unanimously**
- **Proposal 139 – Support Unanimously** -Reauthorize no Brn Bear tag requirement for GMU 19 & others.(Due Jan.30,2015 –Central/Southwest Region BOG meeting)

Comments on proposals 271 & 272 for March, 2015 BOF/statewide meeting/ACR (due March 3)

Proposal 271 — Supported Unanimously / 4” mesh must be used for set nets – not drifting

Closes the loophole in State regs - that allowed people to drift with, target, & catch Kings

This is not allowed below Aniak, which is operating under federal regulation

Proposal 272 – Supported Unanimously / Lists gear types and methods of operation to be used in Kusko King fisheries (A good list of tools & would provide ADF&G ability to limit length of any net at its discretion.)



There is unanimous SHAC member Support -
 for a potential SHAC proposal, authored by Barb Carlson, which was discussed previously– in this meeting. Whether or not this proposal has life will be dependent on whether or not the **Kusko Salmon Panel, (a BOF subcommittee)**, generates a proposal that meets the needs of SHAC villages.

Adjourn at 1 p.m

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOG			BOG CYCLE CHANGE
OPPOSE	0	7-Unan.	SHAC doesn't want to see public input reduced /If a proposal is not approved, SHAC doesn't want to wait 3 years rather than 2, for another chance to remedy issue.
BOG	139		Reauthorize the current resident tag exemptions for brown bear in Unit 19and others..
SUPPORT	7- Unan.	0	Brown bear are targets of opportunity & SHAC area folks want to help reduce hunting competition due to Brn. Bear predation

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	271		4inch mesh gear not allowed for Drifting – only set nets to be allowed
SUPPORT	7-Unan.	0	Closes the loophole in State regs - that allowed people to drift with, target, & catch Kings This is <u>not</u> allowed below Aniak, which is operating under federal regulation. It would be best to have the same regs both above & below, to discourage possible abuse / targeting of Kings.
BOF	272		List of Gear types & methods of operation for Kusko Chinook fishery
SUPPORT	7- Unan.	0	This is a good list of tools & would provide ADF&G the ability to limit length of any net at its discretion. Down river has larger villages & boats, and cheaper fuel Why doesn't the ADF&G limit net size? If approved, proposal 272 will allow limits to be put on the length of any net.



BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal



Upper Tanana Fortymile Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Leif Wilson
Chairman
PO Box 707
Tok, AK 99780

Central	Middle Nenana River
Central Kuskokwim	Middle Yukon River
Delta Junction	Minto-Nenana
Eagle	Ruby
Fairbanks	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
GASH	Upper Tanana/Fortymile
Koyukuk River	Yukon Flats
McGrath	

Dear Board of Game Members;

The Upper Tanana Fortymile AC has compiled the following comments/recommendations for the Board of Game (Board) to consider during its upcoming Work Session (on 1-8-15) and C/SW Meeting in Wasilla (on 2-13-15). The AC believes that instead of commenting on each individual deferred sheep proposal that it would better serve the Board to provide comments pertaining to the overarching concepts in the sheep proposals and issues identified in Dr. Todd Brinkman's recent sheep survey, so the Board could better understand our AC's points of views/desires.

If the Board chooses to make changes to sheep hunting regulations we recommend the following:

1. Establish draw hunts in place of early general seasons as follows:
 - a. Would apply to residents and nonresidents:
 - i. Draw season dates: prefer Aug. 10-20; 2nd choice Aug. 10-25
 - ii. Covers all lands (state, federal, private, etc.)
 - iii. How to proportion permits throughout the state?
2. For that portion of the season that is not a draw hunt, retain it as an open general season.
 - a. Would apply to residents and nonresidents
 - b. Prefer Aug. 21-Sept. 20; 2nd choice Aug. 26-Sept. 20.
3. Statewide, prohibit surveying of sheep from aircraft beginning 3 days prior to the season and continuing through the remainder of the sheep season.
4. Leave same day airborne restrictions as they are.
 - a. Believe restriction on surveying from aircraft (point #2) will solve the issues.
5. Motorized vehicle restrictions



- a. No sheep hunting allowed the same day you've operated a motorized vehicle. Use wording similar to the Same-Day-Airborne law.
 - b. Allow use of motorized vehicles on state maintained roads
 - c. Rational/Notes: People using motorized vehicles have a tremendous advantage over someone who flew in to an area. Once a plane lands, hunters are all on foot, and have to wait until the next day to hunt. With the advancements in ATVs, ORVs, boats and other motorized equipment, hunters are using them to travel long distances, spot and harvest sheep in the same day. This was the reason the same-day-airborne law was created, was to restrict hunters from doing just this with airplanes. We agree with the same-day-airborne law and feel it should apply to other motorized equipment equally to create an even playing field. The AC thought that there could be some sort of condition worked out so that sheep could be retrieved with a motorized vehicle. In this discussion, 'motorized vehicle' included land and water based machines. One member was concerned with grouping boats into this, and would prefer it to just be restricted to ATVs and ORVs.
6. Starting resident season prior to nonresident season
- a. The AC does not support starting resident season prior to the start of the nonresident season
 - b. Rational/Notes: Resident guides, who are very familiar with their use areas, would be able to hunt while waiting for the ability to take clients into the field. This has the potential of not relieving any perceived hunting pressure, but also increasing the actual overall harvest of sheep.
7. Changes to Second-Degree-of-Kindred (SDK) regulations
- a. Allow SDK to hunt with their resident relative, but have SDK harvest count against the resident relatives bag limit. If a SDK harvests a sheep, the accompanying Resident relative may not harvest a sheep in the same regulatory year and may not accompany another SDK in the same regulatory year. Nonresidents would still need to purchase the required locking tag in order to take a sheep.
 - b. Rational/Notes: Many members on the AC have concern over the current SDK regulations. They believe that just because a person is a resident, that does not mean that they spend anytime participating in hunting activities. Members came to the agreement that a change to how this is done is necessary. The AC



believes that anyone circumventing this regulation would already be doing so by not having their relative purchase a sheep locking tag anyway.

The AC also discussed the proposed shift from a 2 year cycle to a three year cycle for the Board of Game. The Upper Tanana Fortymile AC is against this shift at this time.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Leif Wilson, Chairman



Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Don Quarberg
Chairman
PO BOX 605
Delta Junction, AK 99737

Central	Middle Nenana River
Delta Junction	Middle Yukon River
Eagle	Minto-Nenana
Fairbanks	Ruby
GASH	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
Koyukuk River	Upper Tanana/Fortymile
McGrath	Yukon Flats

December 8, 2014

Members of the Alaska Board of Game;

The Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Delta AC) discussed the proposed changes in the Board of Game schedule that will be taken up at your January 8, 2015 work session.

While the AC believes that 3 years is too long to react to certain resource related issues, we understand that a 3 year cycle is probably a better time frame with which to evaluate the effectiveness of new regulations. We also recognized that in the event of some disaster, the emergency order option will remain valid, and we would still have the option of offering an Agenda Change Request if we felt that unusual circumstances were developing or that something developed that had not been considered previously.

At this time the Delta AC tentatively supports the proposed change from a 2 year to a 3 year cycle.

Don Quarberg
Chair



RECEIVED

DEC 24 2014

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

To: The Alaska Board of Game

From: The Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee

This letter is to inform the Board of Game of the Anchorage AC's opposition to the BOG going to a three year cycle.

Our reasons are, but not limited to the following:

1. The AC's already have less than adequate time to advise the BOG as is our responsibility under the Statutes of the State. Going to a three year cycle will cause even further delay in the Department having adequate information on a given subject (population, winter browse conditions, snow conditions) in a timely manner on a proposal written 2 years before it is to be considered. All these conditions may have changed by the time it would be before the board in a three year cycle calling for all the work to need to be done twice. The Department does not have the scientific data need by the AC's now I.E. The SE region has a proposal from the Department on the Archipelago Wolves yet on the website there are still no comments from the Department. This is a clear violation of regulations with no action from the BOG to correct the problem. Having comments on something 2 years out would become even more problematic. Another example would be the number of proposals that would be called "placeholders". AC's and the public hate these as we are asked to make comments without knowing what the proposal really says at all. The Department and other Agencies would be tempted to write even more of these which completely subverts the intentions of the Statute which is designed to get comments from a well-informed public body (the AC's and the public in general) We would also see a rise in the number of ACRs as the need to do something before the next cycle year would become more urgent.
2. The reputed cost savings are unsubstantiated: Money allocated to board support is often redirected to other areas as the departments sees fit. Any savings that would occur would get directed to things such as focus groups or surveys which are not supported by Statute but often easier for the department to manipulate than ACs.

The Process used in Alaska is intended to empower the public. Going to a three year cycle would only decrease the public's ability have any meaningful dialog and would strengthen the Department even more than it already is. We have never had a member of the public speak in favor of this idea, to our knowledge AC's on the whole are opposed to it. It would also mean that it would be possible for all Board and Committee members could be different between one Cycle and the next, because of term lengths, which could further dilute the continuity of between cycles.



Paxson Advisory Committee
11-7-2014
Meiers Lake Roadhouse

*to HQ
11-19-14
BOA PWS
BOG Central SW
Supplemental
Worksession
BOG cycle*

I. Call to Order: 6:45pm by John Schandelmeier

II. Roll Call:

John Schandelmeier, Advisory Chair

Greg Swope, Secretary

Gary Alcott, Member

Lee Harper, Member

Mark Schlenker, Member

Members Absent:

Alan Echols; (excused)

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 4

List of User Groups Present: N/A

III. Approval of Agenda:

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

From meeting date....



V. Fish and Game Staff Present:

Frank Robbins, ADF&G Glennallen

Scott Maclean, ADF&G Glennallen

VI. Guests Present:

Dave Wilson, Meiers Lake

Andrea Wilson, Meiers Lake

Donna Russell-Swope, Paxson

VII. New Business:

Board agreed to only comment on Proposals with direct impact on Game Unit 13 and surrounding areas.

ADF&G Proposal to change Board of Game from 2 year cycle to 3 year cycle like Board Of Fisheries.

All Members Opposed this Change.

Greg: Be as responsive as possible. Keep it 2 years

Mark: 3 year BOF cycles are okay. Fisheries are

more stable than Game. 2 Years makes sense for Game, especially given changing environmental conditions.

John: We need to be very responsive to changing weather and hunt pressure. Keep shorter cycle

Lee: Keep it 2 years

Federal National Park Service Proposals

Comments on the following two issues to be sent to Barbara_cellarius@nps.gov

Regulation – NPS proposal on prohibiting the taking wolf when they are not useable, black bears with artificial lights at dens and bear baiting are all supported by this Advisory Committee. We also support the proposal prohibiting the use of drones for any purpose in National Parks and Preserves.

The support for these proposals was 4 in favor with one member abstaining.

The Paxson Fish and Game Advisory Committee strongly opposes the recent Federal opening of portions of the Paxson Closed Area to subsistence hunting. This closed area was set aside fifty years ago as a viewing area for a few big game animals. It is also an area that the Nelchina caribou herd uses

regularly as a migration path during their October migration. Hunting in this narrow constricted corridor has the potential to seriously change the patterns of this very vulnerable, important herd. He would like to petition the Federal Subsistence Council to reinstate the hunting prohibition in this locally important area.

We would also like to remark that we believe the Federally unencumbered lands within the Clearwater Controlled Use area need to retain their non-motorized hunting status.

The opening of the Paxson Closed Area and Clearwater Creek Closed Areas to Federal Subsistence Hunting.

Opposed by All Members.

Garry: Hunting has been banned for a number of years. No need to change. Dangerous due to number of animals and proximity to highway.

Greg: Paxson Closed Area is a Funnel for Game animals. Best to leave it closed.



DRAFT MINUTES DRAFT
December 11, 2014
Seward City Council Chambers

RECEIVED

DEC 24 2014

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

- I. Call to Order: 1902 hours by Chairman Jim McCracken
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: McCracken, White, Casey, Hall, Flood, Hanneman, Herbert
Members Absent: Dubuc, Hatch, Foldager, Campbell, Hubbard, Clemens
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6, quorum present since membership of Seward AC is now at 11 members.
List of User Groups Present: hunting, game guide, personal use, non-consumptive, sport fish
- III. Approval of Agenda: Approved without objection but to include discussion of 3 year cycle for Board of Game meetings.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting of October, 23, 2014 approved; notes from meeting of November 13, 2014 distributed. This latter meeting lacked quorum and no official business was conducted.
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jeff Selinger, Game Biologist Soldotna. Thanks to him for traveling a second time to Seward to help with our deliberations.
- VI. Guests Present: None
- VII. Old Business: none
- VIII. New Business: Regarding the proposed three year cycle for the BOG, most felt the two year cycle was better. Seems more people and issues kept coming up that required attention. Two years allow better reaction time. There are issues such as the annual renewal of antlerless moose hunts that need to be authorized. The state will see significant budget problems in the coming years and the legislature and various agencies will have to decide what is of greatest importance and how to pay for those services.

Casey volunteered to be Chair of the Kid's Fishing Day next spring. He will receive the fishing poles and gear from Collman. The scheduled date is May 16, 2015. Organizing, fund raising and prizes need to be taking care of before the event. We encourage all AC members to participate.

The main business for this meeting is to review and make comments on the proposal that will be considered by the Board of Game at their March 13, 2015 meeting for GMU's 6,7, and 15 as well as relevant statewide proposals.



Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee
January 29th 2014---KNWR Visitors Center
Paul Chervenak: Chairman

(Minutes represent a paraphrased summary of the KAC, department staff and public comments and are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting. Tapes of the meeting are available for public review by contacting the committee secretary)

Call to order: 6:04pm

Roll call: Members present: Chariman Paul Chervenak(Big game Guide/Outfitter), Oliver Holm(Small Boat crab/Herring & salmon Seiner), Pete Hannah(Salmon Gill-Net South End), Secretary Don Fox(Alternate-retired commercial fisherman), Kip Thomet(Salmon Gill-Net West Side), Jason Bunch(Alternate-Coast Guard & Big Game Guide), Patrick O Donnel(for Curt Waters-Trawl Seat), Rolan Ruoss(Transporter), Andy Finke(Kodiak Subsistence), Duncan Fields(Old Harbor/Ahkiok Subsistence), Vice-Chair Julie Kavanaugh(Interested Citizen), Randy Swain(for Tuck Bonney-Processor Seat)
Unexcused absences: Larsen Bay/Karluk Subsistence and Lou Dochtermann(Large Boat Crab).

Excused absences: Ron Kavanaugh(Small Boat/Crab/Herring/Salmon Seiner).

Quorum: Achieved with 12 members present(8 needed).

User groups present: Subsistence, sport fishermen, charter and lodge operators, trawl fishermen, jig fishermen, commercial salmon fishermen, big game guides, sport fish guides, processor.

Department Staff: . Nate Svoboda, John Crye and Larry van Daele.

USFWS: Bill Pyle, Kent Sundseth and KNWR manager Anne Marie La Rosa.

Southwest Regional Co-ordinator: Susie Jenkins-Brito.

Audience: 5.

Approve agenda: Approved unanimously as amended. Susie Jenkins-Brito would be introduced under new business and would have some comments and information for the committee.

Approve minutes of our previous meetings December 17th & 18th : Minutes approved unanimously.

Correspondence: ADF&G information pamphlet.

Chair Announcements: Mr. Chervenak said he was HEALTHY and BACK.

Old Business; None.



New Business:

- 1) Ms. Brito our new co-ordinator was introduced. She talked about the AC news letter we should be receiving. That the board support was favoring a switch from a 2yr to a 3yr cycle and there was a hard copy or online survey the committee members could use to voice their comments. The board approved term date changes for AC members the terms would run from July 1-June 30th. There would be an AC website coming online very soon.
- 2) **Committee elections:** The floor was opened to the public for nominations. As all open seats were being unopposed the candidate slate as submitted was adopted unanimously.
- 3) **Selection of committee officers:** All serving officers were unopposed so they were re-elected unanimously.
- 4) **New department staff:** Nate Svoboda was introduced by Dr. van Daele.
- 5) **Staff reports:** Department staff gave overviews of game populations and recent harvest information. Larry van Daele felt that there were no regulatory recommendations or concerns by the department for the next regulatory cycle for Kodiak. There would probably be some public proposals.
- 6) **Karluk brown bear:** USFWS gave a presentation and voiced their concerns over low cub survival and low male populations in the Karluk drainage. These would be addressed at the next CUBS meeting.
- 7) **Discussion and KAC action on Statewide(cycle A) Game Proposals:**
- 8) **Selection of KAC member to attend the March 14th-18th BOG meeting in Anchorage:** Don Fox selected to attend the BOG meeting in Anchorage and represent the committee.

Adjourn: 10:20pm



BOG proposals

BOG-PROPOSAL #133: Mandatory IBEP education for all bow hunters.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Staff comments: There were some problems with archery only moose hunts in the Anchorage area which resulted in this statewide proposal.

Committee comments: The AC supported the status quo. The committee felt that it would place a unfair burden on village and remote hunters. There was no card requirements for other weapons. In Kodiak the certification is required for certain **designated hunts** where only archery and primitive weapons are allowed.

BOG-PROPOSAL #139: Eliminate harvest tickets.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Staff comments: Harvest ticket information is needed for both enforcement and management.

Committee comments: Agree with and support department comments. KAC members support the current status and felt adoption could lead to enforcement problems on the Kodiak road system.

BOG-PROPOSAL # 140: Identify if game was killed for food or recreation.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Committee comments: Not needed especially in Kodiak where subsistence, food and recreation apply equally to all Kodiak hunters. This proposal is a backdoor approach to future allocation issues.

BOG-PROPOSAL #141: Would clarify where non-resident game tags need to be placed.

Support-support 11-oppose 1.

Committee comments: Clarifies where Public Safety wants to see locking tags placed on the parts of the animal being brought out of the field not on a portion left in the field.

Minority opinion: Too variable. Doesn't see how it would work.

BOG-PROPOSAL #142: Eliminate authority for enforcement agents to inspect game or gear.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Committee comments: Would make it more difficult if not impossible for Public Safety to inspect firearms, search for illegal game and enforce game regulations.

BOG-PROPOSALS #143 & 144: Eliminate raw fur export permit.

Support-support 12-oppose 0.

Staff comments: House keeping proposal to match current postal regulations.

Committee comments: Agree with and support staff comments.



BOG-PROPOSAL #145: Increase the number of people who can apply for a party permit.

Oppose-support 0- oppose 12.

Committee comments: Would reduce the number of permits available to individuals especially in areas where there are a limited number of permits available.

BOG-PROPOSAL #146: Eliminate guide-client contracts statewide.

Support-(AS AMENDED)-support 11-oppose 1.

Amendment supported 12-0-Main motion supported 11-1.

Staff comments: Our guide-client agreements have developed over time they work really well for Kodiak. Kodiak's history in this effort is different than areas in the rest of the state.

Committee comments: This should not be a statewide proposal but be area specific. Adoption of the proposal would have a severe adverse affect on the Kodiak brown bear hunt. What we have now prevents guides from obtaining tags and then shopping for a client. It prevents anti-hunter groups from applying for permits to keep hunters from obtaining them. Kodiak is unique as our guide-client agreements were developed and refined over time. The department, guides and advisory committee members support our current system which works very well for brown bear. Our history is different from the rest of the state where guide areas and game registration areas are a mix max and don't match up. Here in Kodiak our guide areas and brown bear registration areas basically mirror each other.

AMENDMENT: If this proposal is adopted Kodiak should receive an **EXEMPTION** until the department and the industry (Big Game Commercial Services Board) can resolve the issue for the rest of the state.

Minority opinion: Can't change regulation in the midst of discussion between the state and industry is putting the cart before the horse.

BOG-PROPOSAL #151: Require sea duck harvest log book.

Oppose-support 0-oppose `12.

Committee comments: The KAC agrees with Chairman Chervenak comments on talks he had with the bird management division he was told that they get all the harvest data they need from the state duck stamp harvest card returned by all water fowl hunters so the log book information is not needed by the department.

BOG-PROPOSALS #152-153-154: Expand bird meat salvage requirements.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Committee comments: Water fowl are being added to other game as a band aid to other statutes. All water fowl can't be treated the same due to size and edibility differences.

BOG-PROPOSAL #155: Redefine migratory bird possession limits.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Committee comments: a confusing proposal that is a round about way to limit season limits on migratory birds. Committee members believe that daily bag limits are a adequate enough way to protect the resource.

BOG-PROPOSALS #156-157: Redefine big game meat salvage requirements.

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.



Committee comments: Unneeded regulation . The current system is fine. Quality of meat should be left to the hunter. The vast majority of hunters take care of their meat.

BOG-PROPOSAL #162: Allow the taking of brown bears over bait.

Support-support 12-oppose- 0.

Committee comments: KAC members felt that this was more a “house keeping” proposal. It doesn't affect Kodiak regulations. Its more area specific it can be used in areas where intensive management is required where brown bear populations need to be thinned out. In certain areas where black bear bait stations are allowed adoption of the proposal would allow hunters to harvest brown bears who come to bait stations.

BOG-PROPOSAL #172: Remove black bears from the “fur bearer” definition.

Discussed: NO ACTION TAKEN.

Committee comments: Since you don't have to salvage the meat and can sell the hide this practice “belittles the bear”.

BOG-PROPOSAL #173: Change the definition of “wounded” for brown bear and elk

Oppose-support 0-oppose 12.

Committee comments: Committee members like the regulation as currently written it works well in Kodiak. Elk and brown bear if touched by a projectile and not recovered must be considered as part of the bag limit. Adoption of this proposal could create a disincentive to tracking a wounded animal. Its very difficult to determine if an animal is mortally wounded without tracking it down.

BOG-PROPOSAL #174: Modify falconry regulations to allow for a non-resident take of raptors.

Support-(AS AMENDED)-support 12- oppose 0.

Committee comments: KAC secretary Don Fox led the AC through a brief history of how the current falconry regulations were adopted in 2012 and that the non -resident take proposal #40 now proposal #174 was deferred till the 2014 BOG meeting. Committee members looked over Proposal #174 as well as the Alaska Falconers Association substitute language that was submitted at the 2012 BOG meeting as RC 45. Mr. Fox was told by AFA members that they were going to re-submit RC 45 at the March 2014 BOG meeting. The AC used RC 45 as the vehicle and added amended language to the areas we disagreed with. Committee members also agreed with **department comments** from the 2012 meeting that this was a purely **allocation issue** and there were no **biological or conservation concerns** fornot allowing a limited take of nestlings(eyass birds). KAC members did not have the departments 2014 comments to review



prior to our committee meeting. KAC members agreed with member Mr. Fields that this was a more **balanced** and **equitable** change in regulations for a non-resident raptor take compared to what was being proposed by the Alaska Falconers Association.

AMENDMENT(substitute language for proposal #174):

5 AAC.xxx. Nonresident Permit for Falconry.

(a) A non resident permit issued by the department and a valid, current nonresident Alaska hunting license is required for the taking , transporting, or possessing a raptor for falconry purposes. The permit will be issued under the standards, procedures, and conditions of the **Alaska Falconry Manual no. 9** dated July 1, 2012. The **manual** is here by adopted as reference,. Only a bird defined in **5 AAC 92.037(f)** may be taken, held, transported, and exported from the state under a valid export permit issued by the department.

(b) Up to twelve(12) nonresident take permits may be issued each calendar year for the take of raptors in Alaska. For the twelve(12) permits issued no more than three(3) of any single species may be taken. For the purpose of this regulation only three(3) total peregrine falcon permits may be issued irregardless of sub-species(ie-anatum, tundra or peali).

(c) Applicants for a nonresident raptor capture permit must apply to the department prior to (date at departments discretion). The list of successful applicants will be published by (date at departments discretion). Each capture permit will be valid for the take of one(1) raptor from the approved list of raptors from **Alaska Falconry Manual No, 9**. A valid Alaska nonresident hunting license must be purchased prior to applying for a capture permit(this is the current requirement for all drawing permits). **Upon notification, successful applicants may purchase a nonresident take permit for**(amount to be set by the department, BOG or the legislature) **(other states vary from \$100-\$300) The permit must be purchased by (date at departments discretion)or it will be made available to other applicants.**

(d) The permit-tee must hold the appropriate class falconry license issued from a state with an approved falconry program to possess the species of raptor he or she plans to take.

(e) Capture dates for nonresident take of raptors are June 1 through November 30.

(f) Each permit-tee must check in -in person with the departments regional falconry representative or his/her designee prior to entering the field to take a bird. The permit-tee must provide information to the department about the species of bird to be taken, location of take, time frame efforts will be undertaken and any additional information required by the department. Permit-tees who successfully take a raptor must check-in in person with the departments regional falconry representative or his/her designee and produce the raptor for inspection with in (time frame at departments discretion).

(g) Written land owner permission must be in the permit-tee's possession when taking a raptor on private or public lands where required.

(h) Raptors must be banded at the time of take using the appropriate black marker if appropriate for the species taken.

(I) A permit winner may not apply for another nonresident capture permit for a period of five(5) years.

(j) A person may not receive financial or material remuneration for accompanying a nonresident permit holder in the field in the attempt to locate and take a raptor for the permit holder. **This does not apply to licensed guides or transporters.**



Further Committee comments: KAC member Mr. Fox informed the advisory committee of what other states allowed for nonresident raptor take. This is not a comprehensive list.

California: Eyass take allowed for nonresidents no limit that I could find on permit numbers. Only residents could take peregrines or prairie falcons.

Colorado: 20 permits for nonresident take of raptors. Passage birds only.

South Dakota: Nonresident take not allowed.

Oregon: 20 permits for nonresident raptor take. No nonresident take for gyrfalcons and a total of 7 peregrine falcon permits allowed One(1) allowed for non residents for either an eyass or post fledgling. Peregrines are a lottery even for residents all other nonresident are issued in the order received by the department. Eyass take is allowed and a unlimited # of permits for goshawks and prairie falcons.

Idaho: Peregrine falcon permits limited to residents. Nonresidents limited to one(1) take permit per year per person. Eyass take allowed.

Wyoming: Issue 5 take permits a year for peregrine falcons one(1) of which is for nonresidents. Unable to determine if nonresident take allowed for other species.

Washington: Allows nonresident take for the coveted species Goshawks, gyrfalcons, peregrine falcons and prairie falcons plus other raptor species.

Montana: Eyass take allowed. Montana has 70 active peregrine falcon eyries from which they allow a take of five(5) birds either passage or eyass. One(10 Permit is reserved for nonresident take of either an eyass or passage bird. This represents 20% of the allowed peregrine take. For nonresidents Three(3) gyrfalcons passage only are allowed as there are no nesting gyrfalcons in Montana. Three prairie falcons are allowed bringing the total of the large falcons allowed for nonresident take to seven(7). In Montana if you issue permits to nonresidents for all the species that could reasonably be used in falconry it comes to a total of 34 permits. Deduct the raptors most falconers can obtain in their home states and issue them for peregrine falcons, gyr and prairie falcons, goshawks, coopers hawks, merlins and sharp shinned hawks then the total of permits is nineteen(19). Montana officials informed me that all the peregrine permits aren't even issued in a given year. Interest in nonresident take is very low. They haven't experienced any problems with the nonresident program.

MONTANA FALCONRY REGULATIONS:

12.6.1136 APPLICATION AND PERMITTING FOR NONRESIDENT RAPTOR TAKE

(1) Three take permits for each species of raptor allowed to be removed from the wild will be available to nonresidents through a drawing.

(2) Nonresidents may only possess one take permit.

(3) Nonresidents applying for a take permit must submit to the department by March 15:

(a) a completed application;

(b) a \$5 application fee; and

(c) a copy of their valid federal or state falconry license.

(4) Upon notification, successful applicants may purchase a nonresident take permit for \$200. The permit must be purchased by May 1 or will be made available to other applicants.

(5) Permits are valid from June 1 through March 31 and only for the species specified on the permit.

(6) Nonresidents must comply with the following requirements of ARM. History:**87-5-204 MCA**



IMP,87-5-204 ,87-8-208;MCA;NEW,2012 MAR p.501, Eff.3/9/12. (Was implemented in March 2012) Reciprocity repealed.

Change from a 2 year to a 3 year cycle for the BOG : KAC discussed the change and agreed with and supported the departments reasons for doing so. It would bring consistency to the board process as the BOF is in the three year cycle. Committee members felt that for the cycle A and B cycles it should be 3 years and not 6 years which is too long a time. This was discussed at our February 26th 2014 Statewide King and Tanner Crab meeting and I was instructed to give this information to the BOG at the March meeting. **Supported 12-0.**



Lower Bristol Bay Fish and Game Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes
Excepted for Statewide Board of Game
Monday, February 24, 2014 10:00am

I. Call to order – 10:10 am by Chairman Mitch Seybert

II. Roll call –

Members Present

Kim Rice
Mitch Seybert
Tom Bursch
Eric Beeman
Hattie Albecker
Eddie Clark
Roland Briggs
Tim Enright
Bob Dreezen
Myra Olsen
Tracy Vrem
Mark Kosbruk

Members Absent

Gerda Kosbruk
John Bragg
Emil Christiansen

Quorum Established with 12 out of 15 members present.

III. Approval of Agenda – All in favor

IV. Approval of minutes: January 24, 2013 - Approved

V. Introduction:

- Staff – Susie Jenkins-Brito ADF&G, Paul Salomone ADF&G, Scott Quist AK Wildlife Troopers
- Guests – Courtenay Gomez BBNA, Danielle Stickman BBNA, Joel Dutton, Ted Wolfson, Victoria Briggs, John Christiansen

VI. Staff Reports: Paul Salomone ADF&G Commercial Fisheries, Susie Jenkins-Brito ADF&G Boards Support, BBNA Natural Resources, Scott Quist Enforcement.

VII. New business:

- I. Elections for expired terms, 5 At Large seats, 3 year terms. July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017 (with an interim term Feb 24, 2014 – June 30, 2014 for members elected today)
 - a. Members terms expired, Kim Rice, Mark Kosbruk, Tracy Vrem, Tom Bursch and John Bragg



- b. Nominees: Victoria Briggs, Kim Rice, Tracy Vrem, Mark Kosbruk, Tom Bursch, John Bragg, John Christiansen
- c. Newly Elected Members: Kim Rice, Mark Kosbruk, Tom Bursch, John Christiansen, Tracy Vrem

- II. Elections for Officers, Chairman, Vice chairman, Secretary. 1 year terms.
 - a. Mitch Seybert – Chairman, Eddie Clark – Vice Chairman, Mark Kosbruk – Secretary
AC voted unanimously to elect these members as officers.

***Bob Dreezen goes offline, John Christiansen is seated, 12 of 15 members present.

- III. BOF Statewide Proposals: Minutes available upon request.
- IV. BOG Statewide Proposals, Region IV Call for Proposals

General Discussion: Tracy Vrem states he is happy with the regulations in place now in GMU 9. Predator control is implemented and now there is nothing to do but use it. Hopefully the extension of the Brown Bear season will be helpful and he feels more wolves need to be harvested. NWR also needs to get onboard with predator control.

Roland wants to talk Proposal 168 regarding Brow Palms.

Proposal 168: Roland moves to adopt, Eric 2nds **ACTION:** Support for a clear definition that will be helpful to hunters and enforcement (12-0)

Description: Establish a definition for brow palm.

Discussion: Eric states he would like to see a definition that allows the hunter to be able to implement it before the kill.

Roland questions using the blood line as a definer, however this would only be clearly visible after the kill.

Neil Barton from ADF&G in DLG gives a little background.

All are in consensus a better definition would be useful but unsure what that would look like.

Board of Game Cycle Change: Group discusses the merits of having the BOG meet every three years instead of two. Myra states it is a bigger workload than needed and other agree especially on years where the BOF and BOG meet in the same cycle.

Myra moves to support the change, Roland 2nds.

All in Favor 12-0

VIII. Old Business: Representation at BOF

- I. Set date and location of next meeting, call of the Chair.

Adjournment 12:45pm

***Minutes recorded at the request of the AC by Susie Jenkins-Brito



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes

February 26, 2014

at MTA Building in Palmer --7 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Jehnifer Ehmann at 7:04.

Members present:

Jenifer Ehmann, Andy Couch, Steve Bartelli, Eric Beckman, Mike Buirge, Dave Young, Jeff Tuttle, Terry Nininger, Bill Folsom, Israel Payton, Rick Ellis, Dan Montgomery, Mel Grove

Members absent: - Tom Deland -- excused Stephen Darilek -Unexcused , Tony Jones - Excused, Max Sager - unexcused

Public present: Todd Rinaldi ADF&G wildlife biologist, Neil DeWitt, AK State Wildlife Trooper John Cyr, Rod Arno -- AOC, Patrick O'Connor, William Shank, Frank Neuman, Hank

Public --- Neil DeWitt thanked members of the Mat Valley AC who where at the BOF meeting and helped him.

Frank Neuman / Anchorage AC member -- proposal 175 dealing with antlerless moose jurisdiction --- Anchorage AC opposed 175 unanimously 0-14-0. Anchorage AC was disappointed they had no jurisdiction over Unit 13 antlerless moose where Anchorage hunters make up 40% of those hunting for moose. Anchorage AC would like to have a say in Unit 13 moose. Bill Folsom asked what the Anchorage AC position is on antlerless hunts.

Rod Arno -- proposal 140 was put in by Alaska Outdoor Council and would ask on the harvest report / permit if the permit was being used to provide wildlife harvest for subsistence uses or for recreational value. Currently no record is being kept of the people who live in a nonsubsistence area, but hunt for subsistence use in subsistence areas using a standard harvest ticket. All Alaskans are allowed to hunt for subsistence purposes -- but currently it is not recorded that way. Steve Bartelli asked Rod about proposals 136 and 137 which would define sport hunting -- would these two proposals help with proposal 140. Could help. Joint Board took some action at the statewide meeting. All Alaskans have not been treated equally -- those living in nonsubsistence areas have been treated differently. Rod Arno -- said the AC should also appoint someone for the March 7 meeting on Community Harvest hunt -- Dan Montgomery will not be able to attend. Bill Folsom said he is the alternate for the AC on the Communtiy Harvest situation in Unit 13.

Patrick O'Connor -- talked about having problems with inconsistencies in wildlife regulations between units or sub units.

Minutes from Jan. 22 meeting will be sent out by e-mail for member consideration and vote of approval.



Motion to accept the agenda by Andy Couch 2nd by Mike Buirge: amended to add AC -- BOG timeline survey, Dan amended to discuss 136, 175, and 140 first, since people attended this meeting and spoke to those proposals. Amended motion passed with no objection.

While Proposals 136, 175, and 140 were dealt with first --they have been listed in chronological order with the other proposals we considered to make finding our actions on each proposal easier. Proposal 137 was also dealt with before our break.

Meeting break.

Called back to order at 8:45

Upper Cook Inlet report --- by Andy Couch --- Board passed conservation measures for Kenai king salmon and Northern salmon stocks through a revised Central District Drift Fishery Management Plan. Thank You letters to the Board would be appropriate.

Jennifer Ehmann mentioned that letters of support to the Board would be appropriate.

Israel Payton mentioned that Reed Morisky is up for reconfirmation to the Board of Fisheries and the AC may want to send a letter in support if he is put forward by the Governor for another term.

Todd Rinaldi talked about a youth hunt proposal ADF&G is discussing for the Hatcher Pass Area. ADF&G also discussed possibly putting another proposal. Andy Couch had problems with the proposal -- that all hunting would be closed in the area except for a two week period where youth hunting of small game only would be allowed. Andy also mentioned having hunted the area and not seeing many other hunters -- how many hunters are in the area. Trooper Cyr would like to see blaze orange required to be worn by the youth hunters -- he also would like to see only youth doing the hunting. Bill echoed that thought. Steve Bartelli did not see the need for hunter orange. Jennifer mentioned the use of hunter orange as a good thing --- especially in a situation like this.

Board of Game meeting cycle -- potential switch. Andy Couch made a motion for the AC to approve switching the Board of Game cycle to 3 years per area rather than 2 years. 2nd by Steve Bartelli. Todd Rinaldi said this would be partly to save money and that it would provide opportunity to see what happened from a changed regulation before it might be proposed to change again. Todd said in addition to saving money -- his time could be spent for other things rather than preparing for a board meeting every other year. Motion approved unanimously 13 - 0-0.

Proposal 133 -- would require IBEP certification for bowhunting all big game, in all areas of the state. Dan mentioned that if a requirement was approved -- it should be any archery program from any state. Mike Buirge said the IBEP course is a good one and he is in support. Steve Bartelli felt like a basic hunter education program should suffice -- and is opposed to requiring. Motion failed 2-11-0.



Proposal 134 Steve Bartelli moved to approve option 1. 2nd by Andy Couch. This would take away the needed certification for bowhunting bears over bait in Units 14, 15, and 16. Steve Bartelli maintains that having a certification does not make a hunter a better shot but shooting does. Jehnifer talked from a hunter education certification perspective that she supported option 2. Steve wanted to withdraw. And made a motion to vote on options individually 2nd. approved without objection.

Option 1 passed 10-3-0; Option 2 opposed 3-8-2. Option 3 opposed 0-12-1.

Proposal 135 -- would require that big game taken for religious ceremony be used instate. Motion passed 13-0-0.

Proposal 136 would define general hunts -- the wording is somewhat confusing for multiple AC members --- but AC members would like to see a definition for a general hunt. Bill Folsom moved to table until the next meeting --- comments -- Bill thought it was confusing and should possibly be voted down for that reason -- withdrawn. Mel said perhaps we should vote up the proposal or nothing might happen for 3 years. Rick said vote it up or down -- but our AC is only an advisory committee. Eric Beckman said the proposer is requesting clarity -- like AC members would like. Motion passed 7 - 6 - 0. Minority opposed definition seem too complicated.

Proposal 137 -- Motion to take no action as joint board has already accomplished this. No Objection to taking no Action.

Proposal 138 motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposal 139 would do away with harvest tickets -- does not want to notch a harvest tag? how would someone know if animal had been harvested. motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposal 140 -- would require each harvest report of permit to specify whether the hunt was conducted to provide for subsistence uses or recreational value. Resident hunters should all have this opportunity to choose to hunt for subsistence or to have their choice listed as recreational / sport. Dan Montgomery asked Rod Arno if the intent was to raise the ANS number --- Rod answered the intent was for ADF&G to have good data on what the ANS number should be. That could cause the Board to raise the ANS number. Dan was concerned that the ANS could become so high that all hunting might be by Tier II with some Alaskan residents excluded from hunting. Mel would like to have his harvest considered as subsistence and not sport. Rod said currently there is an allocation for subsistence and for nonresident hunters --- but nothing for Alaskan residents living in nonsubsistence areas other than the general hunt opportunity. Andy Couch felt fishing could see some benefit from this type of use. William did not want to see getting closed out of opportunity -- and does not think that subsistence allocates fairly. Motion passed 10- 0 - 3.

Proposal 141 Would require Locking Tag affixed to portion of animal required to be salvaged. According to Steve Bartelli -- the only requirement for Musk ox is for the animal --- and for bear the requirement is for the hide. Motion failed 6 - 5 - 2.



Proposal 142 would change what is required to show peace officers and ADF&G staff to what is required for fishing. Trooper Cyr said hunting is a highly regulated activity and regulations are tighter. Motion passed 9-4-0.

Proposal 144 Repeal export requirement for raw fur. Motion approved 13-0-0.

Proposal 145 would allow a party hunt of up to 3 people. In some hunts will few tags one party may get all or most of the tags. Motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposal 146 Would take away guide client agreement for drawing hunts. Motion opposed 0-10-3.

Proposal 148, 149, 150 No Action.

Proposal 151 Require migratory bird logbook. This requires lots of extra work. Who is Se Ducks Unlimited -- is it only one individual? Motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposals 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157 Motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposal 160 would redefine edible meat on brown bear to what is required for black bear -- 4 quarters and backstrap. Motion passed 12-0-1.

No Action on 158, 159, AND 161 based on Proposal 160 action.

proposal 162 -- can shoot brown bears over bait. Motion passed 13-0-0.

Proposal 164 -- would require annual predator management /control report by ADF&G. Motion opposed 0-13-0.

Proposal 165 -- ADF&G would remove requirement for permit to sell black bear hides. motion passed 11-0-1.

Proposal 166 and 167 opposed 0-12-0.

Proposal 168 no action.

Proposal 169 Definition of broken sheep horn --- no action

Proposal 170 Definition of full curl sheep. Support to look at better definition. 8 - 2 - 2.

Proposal 171 Make any ram legal if can not come up with definition of full curl opposed 1-11-0.

Proposal 172 opposed 0-12-0.



Proposal 173 failed 0- 6 - 6.

Proposal 175 seeks to clarify which Advisory Committees would have jurisdiction over antlerless Moose hunts in area Game Management Units. Steve Bartelli said he reads the proposal as asking the ACs which areas they would like to have jurisdiction over. Bill wants AC to stick to local areas. Dan sees some of the language as more expansive allowing our AC vote to mean something in other GMU's if we so please. Mel Grove mentioned wanting to have a say in GMU 20 A -- because that is where he hunts -- Mel's thought AC's should be allowed to vote depending upon how many participants - perhaps more than 10% of the hunters in an area. Andy Couch amended the motion to provide Matanuska Valley AC jurisdiction over antlerless moose hunts in all subunits of GMU 13, 14, and 16. 2nd by Steve Bartelli. Amendment passed 10-3-0. Minority comment we could be getting other ACs commenting on our areas which could be trouble. Other Members felt we should comment on other areas. Mel moved for a 2nd amendment that AC's with a 10% constituent hunter use in any specific GMU or subunit be allowed jurisdiction as well. Rick 2nd. Frank mentioned that Anchorage AC has jurisdiction over all types of game in some units but not for antlerless moose hunts. 2nd Amendment to motion failed 3-9-1.

As previously amended to give Matanuska Valley AC jurisdiction over antlerless moose hunts in all subunits of GMUs 13, 14, and 16 motion passed. 10-3-0.

The meeting concluded in the dark and adjourned after the lights were automatically turned off.

Minutes recorded by Andy Couch



Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee

10 Feb. 2014

Healy

I. Call to Order: 18:15, Allan Mortenson (Vice Chair)

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: 8

Allan Mortenson – V. Chair (Clear/Anderson C)

Paul VanDyke (Alt. Clear/Anderson)

Pat Owen (Healy A)

Coke Wallace (Healy C)

Jacob Mattila (Healy D)

Jason Reppert – Secretary (Healy E)

Joseph Chattfield

Nan Eagleson (McKinley Village)

Members Absent: 6

Robert Kohlsdorf - excused

Myron Stokes (Clear/Anderson B) - excused

John Basile – Chair (Healy B) - excused

Leroy Sutton (Alt.) - absent

Tyler Dynes (Ferry A) - absent

(Alt. Healy) – absent

Larry Haddock (undesignated) – absent

Number Needed for Quorum on AC:

6

User Groups Present: Friends of Stampede

III. Approval of Agenda: Approved

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved; January 13, 2014

V. Fish and Game Staff Present:

Don Young

VI. Guests Present

Brian Napier, Cass Ray, Hannah Ragland, Ivana Haverlikova, Molly McKinley, Jim Ellison, DPS

VII. Old Business:

Jacob Mattila – Started working on expanding bow hunting area within Usebelli mine. Archery only was requested by the owner. Initially no hunting was allowed.



Joe Chattfield – Is the expanded area open to firearms hunting?

Don Young – Everything outside of designated archery area is open to firearms, but the access to these areas may be restricted by the mine.

Paul Van Dyke – Basically its walk in only.

VIII. New Business:

Allan Mortenson – A new pamphlet is available about trapping safety. ADF&G and Alaska Trappers Assoc. worked on it together.

Also he and Wayne Valkie met with Todd Brinkmann. He is working on a survey, looking for input from sheep hunters. Should be in the mail by April.

Was approached by public about drawing permit timing. Person was discouraged because they applied and paid and the hunt was canceled. Do we have any opinions or discussion?

Paul – Reading the supplement, it states the hunt is subject to change.

Allan – There can sometimes be less time to prep for a hunt.

Don – Some discussion from 20A hunts for antlerless hunts. It states if cancelled no refund will be awarded. ADF&G recognizes the problem and know they are in a precarious spot. Heard a rumor division management team have agreed to have a spring draw for antlerless hunts. This works well with the survey time.

Nan Eagleson – how did this decision come about?

Don – Survey numbers are down. They want to be cautious.

Nan – Was it before the Jan. meeting?

Don – It was brought to the advisory committees about mid-December. Decision was made as soon as the numbers were in.

Nan – Heard that Allan was a great spokesperson. Thanks for representing.

Hannah Ragland – House Bill 148, addressing the Stampede Recreation area, has been in Juneau since 2009. Middle Nenana Advisory committee had been in support of the bill in the past.

She works with friends of Stampede



Denali Borough Assembly came up with the idea in 2007. This Bill will likely be on the next few agendas. The bills move slowly.

The bill does not change wildlife management. Management of the area falls under state parks and recreation.

The bill deals with Tour operators and heavy fall use.

The area would be managed by a local advisory committee.

Would like to know if we would write a letter and support the bill.

Nan – Received many emails asking us to support. Would like to draft the letter.

Coke – Is there some planning about structures?

Hannah – State does not have funding. Has been looking for grants. An outhouse was ripped down and burned. Likely not locals. Would like to see the state do something about it.

Jason Reppert – Who put in the pullout?

Hannah – DOT

Paul – Moves we should support it

Nan – Second

All members support

Jason – How much time?

Hannah – A week from Friday

Nan- Seeing an increase in bear baiting and snaring. Adamantly opposed to baiting and snaring. Does not know how it is used. Missed the concept of why. What is the deal with bear baiting and how many people use it?

Paul – Lower 48 doesn't bear bait, but use hounds.

Coke – being used as a management too. Big states, MT, WY. Access is tough for hunting bears.

Jim Ellison – in Colorado, very opposed to bear baiting and using hounds. Had to remove many bears.



Jacob – People opposing bear baiting have rarely been on a bait site.

Pat Owen – Baiting allows you to be selective

Allan – As far as being hazardous, rules and regulations are in place to keep folks safe.

Nan – travels Rivers a lot in the summer time.

Coke – The bears will likely run. Mostly being used as a management tool.

Joe – Proposal 177, Looking at more traditional use. Some conversations he recalls from locals.

Coke – it's not fair chase. It's a fine line? Are they being prosecuted?

Jim – Fair chase? No need to chase

Allan – seems to be targeting wolves and wolverines

Coke – It's not fair chase and it's not ethical

Allan – any more proposals to comment on?

Nan – Has more of a problem with bear snaring. Understands some of bear baiting.

Jacob – An idea of how many bears are out there. Harvested 27 bears off a bait station in Skwenta area.

Joe – Discussion on proposal 145,

Paul – Two seems like a small number for a party. Other states have larger parties. Agrees the number should be larger.

Allan - Could go the other way

Jacob – Each person gets a permit

Nan – Looking for some clarification of 165

Jason – Seems to clean up the process

Nan – Did we vote on 99 and 100? What is the consensus of the AC?

Coke – Against it



Paul – Didn't comment because we never approve these
Jacob – Likely overlooked.

Don – Did we discuss 98?

Jim – Need more Wildlife troopers.

Coke – They take it easy on self-turn ins.

Jim – No criminal record

Coke – How many?

Jim – 25/35 self-turn in. Half dozen wanton waste.

Don – These can be brought up to the board and game

Nan – Should we get a consensus to present to the board and game?

Don – Yes

Nan – Motion to support 99 and 100

Pat – 2nd

All opposed / none in favor

Don – 98 would cause a reduction in season length

Paul – Figured BOG would shoot this down.

Don – Don't count on the board of game

Paul – Motion to support 98

Pat – 2nd

All opposed / none in favor

Joe – would going to 3 brow tines be a future proposal?

Jim – Thinks this proposal is attempting to eliminate wanton waste, but it doesn't do it.



Coke – Is there a proposal talking about Red Sheep creek in the Brooks range?

Don – did not hear anything about it.

Hannah – Proposal 116, is this a proposal to reinstate an old area? Curious about our opinion?

Paul – Thinks this has to do with airboats.

Allan – rumored for ag development

Joe – some of the best ag land

Don – Nenana control use area dealt with use of airboats. There is a proposal to allow airboats in Minto Flats. This adds another layer

Allan – Are they just reinstating?

Nan – Does controlled use automatically mean non-motorized?

Don – It can vary greatly. Nenana controlled use was to eliminate air boat use. The Department is neutral

Joe – A grant has been approved to build a bridge

Allan – Any more statewide proposals?

Jacob – Should we talk about 152?

Coke – Most waterfowl hunters only take breast.

Jacob – Proposal 170, it overcomplicates the issue

Jim – Sheep hunters know and won't pull the trigger. They want black and white.

Coke – Depends on who is in charge. It won't put the sheep back on the hill.

Jim – First self-turn in not a big deal, 2nd time not as lenient. Troopers will have some discretion.

Jacob – adding more language isn't going to solve the problem

Coke – It take time to learn to judge



Discussion of Board of Game meeting cycle

Don – Current time frame of the process is never ending. The BOG adopted everything to do with the 3 year cycle, but the 3 year cycle.

Pat – Things change too often too quickly.

Don – One advantage is to work on issues and proposals. Would give more time. The BOG of been bogged down, spend so much time on antlerless hunts.

Nan – Wasn't it suggested that it would give us time? Great to see the survey

Allan – Gas reimbursement. It can be done on an individual basis. I one person does, we don't all have to do it.

Nan – Emphasize the Yanert controlled use area. Will also prepare and circulate the letter for the Stampede rec area.

**Next meeting: 10 March 2014, 6pm, Anderson
Adjourn 20:40**

IX. Statewide Proposals

Statewide BOG Meeting Comments 2014			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
REGIONAL AND MULTIPUL UNITS			
BOG	144	Repeal the Requirement for an export permit or shipping tag and an export report or postcard prior to transporting raw skins of furs and fur bearers from Alaska.	
Support	8	0	Joe – Looks like an unnecessary step Allan – Is the state using it? Don – Used the data in the past, but not used as much. Supports the departments position Jason – Sealing seems sufficient Coke – varies among the unit Nan – Is there another way to look at the number? This is basically redundant.
BOG	135	Specify game taken for certain religious ceremonies is to be used with this state.	
Support	8	0	Nan – Wandering about abuses and potential overharvest from Potlachs? We



Statewide BOG Meeting Comments 2014			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
			lose a handle if we lose species. Don – Making it clear that meat taken in AK, stays in AK.
BOG	175		Review and determine the advisory committees that have jurisdiction for approving antlerless moose hunts.
Support	8	0	Paul – Confused to what unit/subunit mean Don – All committees would have say in reauthorization of antlerless hunt Pat – So long as you're in the unit you have a say Don- Attempts to remove the ambiguity Coke – Trying to clearly delineate Pat – We couldn't in the past Paul – We can comment Don – Giving all AC's equal representation in the unit



**Nushagak ADFG Advisory Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes**

EXCERPTED FOR THE BOARD OF GAME STATEWIDE MEETING

Full Minutes Available Upon Request

January 21, 2014

Dillingham City Council Chambers

Minutes

I. Call to Order: 9:29 AM

II. Roll Call:

Present in chambers

Frank Woods – Dlg Chair,
Joe Chythlook - Dlg - Vice Chair
Dan Dunaway – Dlg Secretary
Lloyd (Tom) O’Connor – Dlg
Robert Heyano - Dlg
Kurt Armstrong - Dlg
Gary Kline - Alt.
Jon Forsling -Togiak by phone
Chris Carr - Portage - by phone

Absent

Robin Samuelson – Dlg excused
Travis Ball - Aleknagik excused bad weather

Joe Kazmirowicz - Ekwok
Glen Wysoki - Koliganek
Louie Alakayak - Manokotak

Peter Christopher - New Stuyahok - by phone
Mariano Floresta - Clark's Pt. - by phone

When it was clear there would be sufficient members for a quorum without them, J. Forsling (Togiak) and M. Floresta (Clark's) asked to be excused to attend other duties.

Quorum established with 9 members attending.

Other Agency staff in Attendance:

Susie Jenkins-Brito ADFG Boards
Craig Schwanke ADFG Sport Fish
Ted Krieg ADFG Subsistence
Sarah Evans ADFG Subsistence

Tim Sands ADFG Com Fish
Lem Butler ADFG W Cons. by phone.

Gayla Woods BBNA

Danielle Stickman BBNA

Dave Bendinger KDLG News
Suzanna Henry Spt. Togiak Refuge
Tevis Underwood, Togiak Refuge

Andy Aderman - USFWS Togiak Refuge
Pat Walsh, Togiak Refuge.

Jim Woolington – Public

A full list of public attendance is available through the Dillingham Boards Support Office



III. Approve Agenda:

Robert H. moved to adopt, Joe C. 2nd: Friendly amendment added to include Peter C's request to add caribou and moose season extension topics to the agenda. **Carry unanimous.**

IV. Approve Minutes of September 17, 2013 meeting

Robert H. moved to adopt, Joe C 2nd:

Susie noted that the provided copy of the minutes was in the format as presented to the Joint Boards Workshop in October 2013. **Carry unanimous.**

V. Introductions: All present briefly introduced themselves.

VI. Reports: Full copy of Minutes regarding Staff Reports available upon request.

1) ADFG Wildlife Conservation Report, Lem Butler by phone: GMU 17 Overview

Reviewed the current situation for the soon to open 17A winter moose hunt including 2 moose bag limit, quota of 10 cows, weather considerations and logistics. ADFG is working closely with Togiak Refuge staff.

Lem reviewed the state actions recently denying requests to extend winter moose season in 17C. State viewed the alternatives of coming 17A opening and hunting opportunities for caribou on the Nushagak Peninsula. He expressed concerns for lack of current moose population data and recent harvest tallies might suggest declining trend. He recognized extremely poor travel and hunt conditions limit alternatives. He emphasized that moose surveys will be top priority for the new biologist.

Caribou - Lem said a new photo census technique had been used in summer 2013 to get an actual population estimate. The estimate has not been finalized but it appears Mulchatna herd has not grown and is about 30,000 animals; overall est. 19 calves/ 100 cows is ok, 27 bulls/ 100 cows ok but calf recruitment poor. Eastern portion of their range, only estimated to be 14 calves/100 cows and seems related to predation - probably brown bears.

Questions regarding new caribou registration hunt: Too early to know how well harvest reporting will go as season will remain open until March 15. Lem has not heard complaints; he wonders if some vendors provided sufficient explanations to hunters but is hopeful.

AC members asked what they could do to help ongoing predator control efforts. One issue is that part of the herd calves in GMU 19 where there is a different regulatory cycle. The problems of controlling brown bear numbers was discussed for a while: very difficult and controversial. Current seasons and harvest regulations are pretty liberal in GMU 17.

An AC member says mining exploration activities in the area are disrupting caribou and add to the problems from predation.

Peter C. New Stuyahok noted current dangerous travel conditions are limiting village efforts to hunt especially east, across the Nushagak River.

AC asked Lem if there were any proposals of special interest in the book. No really critical ones but we might want to consider the moose brow palm proposal (168). He said he doubted the hunt definition proposals would succeed.

2) USFWS Togiak Refuge report, Andy Aderman.



Andy gave a quick review of Nushagak Peninsula caribou herds and hunts. Not much new since fall meeting. Counted 926 animals in July, only 4 reported harvested this fall. Hunt reopened Dec 1 and remains open into March. A Nush. Pen Caribou Planning Team meeting is scheduled tomorrow, 1-22-14 to discuss permit allocations to villages. Would like to take 176 animals including the 4 already reported. Composition surveys found 40 calves/100 cows and low 30's for bulls/100 cows. Looks good. In 2012-13 season 209 permits available, 179 issued, 147 hunted, 109 animals killed.

17A moose covered well by Lem of ADFG. 17C moose extension request was denied by State and then taken to Federal system. After Federal review, they decided to open Federally managed lands by permit only. Opening was to be announced any minute, awaiting some clarification and good maps, permits were to be available online for Federally qualified residents. Federal lands only.

AC commented that this is unprecedented in our area. This is how it is supposed to work when needed. There is considerable interest in how the hunt works out. There was a discussion whether a proposal should be written to make the winter bull hunt for Antlered bulls vs any bull.

3) ADFG Board Support Staff Report, Susie Brito

BOG is considering going to a 3 yr. cycle at the request of the Department; the BOG is soliciting AC input and Public input. This issue WILL be addressed. ADFG suggested and is in favor of this change the longer cycle would be useful. Budget is certainly an issue but also an extent of time between meetings could allow for wildlife issues to be given more time for review by the Department and a better gathering of information to occur. Some comments that longer cycle might actually allow the BOG to be more responsive and effective.

Comments to Interior BOG meeting due January 31. BOG Proposals for our area due May 1 2014. Nushagak AC should plan to meet early April.

Break 10:45 to 11:05

4). Wildlife Troopers report, Fred Burk, overview of hunting season and summer sport fishery enforcement.

VII. New Business:

Statewide BOF Proposal Discussion/Interior BOG Proposals – Full minutes available upon request.

Chris Carr departs meeting due to phone connection problems and interference w others on teleconference.

NOTE: These minutes reflect the order in which the AC addressed the proposals. Proposals were not reviewed in numerical order.

A. Proposals.

Comments for Interior Region BOG meeting due January 31. Comments for Statewide Regulations meetings due February 28. BOG Proposals for our area due May 1 2014.

New Stuyahok Representative Peter Christopher stated his village would like to see the fall Moose season extended from September 15 to September 20th in GMU's 17B and 17C. He also feels very



strongly that the caribou season should be extended an additional two weeks in the spring time to allow for more local hunting opportunity and when the caribou are usually closer to their community.

MOTION: AC Draft New Moose Proposal Robert H moves, Joe C 2nd. Action: Carry 8-1

Description: AC will draft a proposal to extend the 17 B & C resident registration moose season until September 20 (instead of the current Sept. 15 closure date).

Discussion: Seek ADFG comment at next AC meeting before submitting by the May 1 deadline this spring. Several spoke in support. One member opposed as there is too much hunting pressure now, guides will want more opportunity, moose get rutty by then.

PROPOSAL 175 - Joe C. Moves, Robert 2nd ACTION: Carries as Amended 8-0

DESCRIPTION: Review and determine the advisory committees that have jurisdiction for approving antlerless moose hunts.

AMENDMENT: Amend motion to include Nushagak AC as having jurisdiction in 9B.

DISCUSSION: Extended discussion whether we should be able to speak to hunts in 9B since Nushagak Communities regularly hunt there. Should some Kuskokwim ACs should be able to address portions of 17? What about King Cove and nearby communities, do they really actively use 9B or other subunits up at the north end? Other communities probably have similar concerns. Wording in proposal reflects what is in state statute - but no statute available for review. Some confusion on this proposal. Let's support how we think it should be.

Discussion whether to re-address proposal 132. Troopers prefer winter hunts for antlered bulls, easier for hunters, and enforcement, reduces potential for accidental take of cows. Long discussion. Concern that for now the new 17A winter hunt allows antlerless bulls, will there be problems? Nobody knows of problems and we should let Togiak AC take the lead on that issue. Let the soon to open season run, if there's a problem we have until May 1 to write a proposal.

Subcommittee Authorization:

MOTION: Robert moves, Gary 2nd. ACTION: Carries 8-0

DESCRIPTION: AC chair will form a subcommittee authorized to act for the whole AC to complete deliberations and comments on remaining proposals and action items.

DISCUSSION: We are about to break for lunch, some of us have other obligations and may not be able to participate afterward. Subcommittee will be made up of those who can continue: Dan D, Kurt. A, Tom O. Frank W. Joe C. and Peter C.

Recess for lunch 12:25 to 1:43.

Resume Meeting.

Some members had to depart for other duties.

Subcommittee Members present:

Kurt Armstrong	Tom O'Connor	Dan Dunaway
Frank Woods	Joe Chythlook	Peter Christopher (by phone)



PROPOSALS 133 & 134 - Dan Moves, Tom 2nd

ACTION: Fail 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Require IBEP certification for all big game bow hunters, statewide; modify the IBEP requirements for all bears taken over bait by bow and arrow, statewide.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: How hard is it to get bow certified, how long does it take? We have a few local bow hunters, we may have some instructors in Dillingham but what about all the other villages? This could be really onerous and hard to get programs in the bush. Would this spread to all other types of traditional hunting methods?

PROPOSAL 151 – No Motion

ACTION: - No Action, - need more info.

DESCRIPTION: Require guides to keep migratory bird log books /questionnaires.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: This proposal was discussed, whether there was enough local activity to address, what is the real problem? We might be supportive if we had more information.

PROPOSAL 155 - Dan Moves, Tom 2nd

ACTION: Fail 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Modify the definition of possession limit for migratory birds.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: STRONGLY Opposed, we don't want to be prevented from the practice of accumulating our food supply when its available. Too restrictive and invasive. Goes against the traditions of subsistence out here. I like to shoot a few ducks for the freezer then eat them through the winter. Biologist Lem didn't seem to know if there is a biological issue. If this was a problem wouldn't the waterfowl biologists seek to change the regulations.

PROPOSAL 152 – Dan Moves, Tom 2nd

ACTION: Carry As Amended 6-0

DESCRIPTION: Modify the definition of edible meat for wildfowl.

AMENDMENT: to require salvage of leg meat and breast meat.

DISCUSSION: Would this require we salvage wing meat and backs of teal? I can support salvaging the leg meat, especially of large birds like swans. I support leg meat but not pelvis bone; I cut meat off pelvis along with the leg meat. We could support with amended language.

PROPOSALS 153 & 154 – Dan Moves, Tom 2nd

ACTION: NO Action

DESCRIPTION: Modify the definition of hindquarter for wildfowl; modify the definition of trophy to include salvage of edible meat, and to include wildfowl.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: We should take no action based on what we did in 152. Current wanton waste regulations are sufficient. The person who wrote all these is a chronic proposer.

PROPOSAL 168 – Tom Moves, Joe 2nd

ACTION: Fails 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Establish a definition for brow palm.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Troopers want a definition of brow palm apparently encounter problems with brow tine only. It can be clear in the field when antlers are in hand but very hard in words. ADFG doesn't have final comments but there is a lot of variability in antler configurations, brow palm is hard to explain. AC, could be very messy if definition is poor or unclear. There is a LOT of



differences in antlers. I'm opposed until a better explanation of the problem and better definition of a palm can be provided.

PROPOSAL 173 Tom Moves, Joe 2nd

ACTION: Fails 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Modify the definition for bag limit, and define mortally wounded.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Too vague. How certain can a hunter be of mortally wounded if the animal runs off? Seems like it would be very hard to enforce. I've found caribou that might have run a mile or more before they died. Sometimes it's a problem if people herd shoot or use small rifles. Its good ethics to try hard to recover wounded animals but if you can't find it how do you know it died?

PROPOSAL 172 Tom Moves, Joe 2nd

ACTION: Fails 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Remove black bears from the furbearer classification.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Aren't some areas trying to reduce bear predation on moose? Opposed current regulation is fine.

PROPOSAL 137 - Tom Moves, Joe 2nd

ACTION: Fails 0-6

DESCRIPTION: Establish definitions for subsistence hunting and subsistence uses.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: We should oppose; there is a clear and sufficient definition of subsistence already. State human population has doubled since about 1989. Currently all state residents have subsistence opportunity. Seems like proposers are using a state proposal and system trying to address federal regulations. Are they confusing state and federal regulations?

******END of Proposal Review.**

Susie Brito Statewide BOG meeting is March 14-18 in Anchorage. Statewide Fin Fish BOF meeting starts March 17.

Board of Game Meeting Cycle Motion: Tom Moves, Dan 2nd ACTION: Carry 6-0 (On the condition that BOG and BOF don't conflict and meet the same year on one area.)

DESCRIPTION: Allow Board of Game to address areas on a 3 year cycle.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Probably good to go to a 3 year cycle given the discussion earlier. The one condition is that BOG and BOF don't conflict. Having both in the same year is really burdensome to AC members and staff. Too often for wildlife issues, regulation changes have been made but not enough time has passed to evaluate the effect before the next round of Board meetings come around. This leads to place holder proposals which are not a good way to do business. Some comments that longer cycle might actually allow the BOG to be more responsive and effective.

Adjourn 2:45 PM



- I. **Call to Order** at 11:30 am, February 11, 2014, by Chairman Jonathan Forsling
- II. **Approval of the Agenda**, amended to included addressing Togiak AC's concern regarding extending the current winter moose hunt under New Business.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**, January 2013 tabled until next meeting.
- IV. **Roll Call (11 members)**

Members Present

Chair, Jonathan Forsling (Togiak)
Vice Chair, Frank Logusak (Togiak)
Leroy Fox (Togiak)
Gust Bartman (Togiak)
Teo Pauk (Togiak)
Moses Tuyakuk (Manokotak)
Peter Luckuk (Alt.)

Absent

Micheal Gloko (Mano.)
Christian Gloko (Mano.)
Julius Henry (Twin Hills)
John Bavilla (Togiak)
Wassillie Tugatuk (Mano.)

Quorum Established by with 7 of 11 members present.

V. **Staff Reports:**

- a. Andy Anderman Togiak NWR – Nushagak Peninsula Caribou/ 17A moose
- b. Susannah Henry Togiak NWR - Introduction
- c. Susie Jenkins-Brito ADF&G Boards Support – BOG cycle change issue, News Letter information, Joint Board Meeting results
- d. Lem Butler ADF&G Wildlife Conservation – Fall and Winter Moose hunts, herd population summaries, 17B & C predator control, discussion of winter hunt concerns with AC members and possible avenues they could pursue to request an extension
- e. BBNA Natural Resources Gayla Hoseth and Danielle Stickman – BBNA's offered assistance to AC and public
- f. Sarah Evans ADF&G Subsistence, no report but present for questions
- g. Fred Burke Alaska State Troopers asks for questions, he addressed a public member's concern for individuals bringing moose heads and carcasses into the community and enforcements interactions with village members. Fred also addressed several AC and public members concern of Trooper activity in helicopters during fall moose hunts. Helicopter activity disrupts hunts and AC would like to see more skiff patrolling and less air traffic.

**VI. Elections of New Members and Officers**

- a. Frank moves to open the floor to nominations, Leroy Fox 2nds.
- b. Teo Pauk is nominated to renew his term and Thomas Dock is nominated to fill a vacant undesignated seat.
- c. Floor is closed. Everyone present votes unanimously to seat Teo and Thomas.
- d. Thomas joins the table and members present are now at 8 of 12.
- e. Floor is opened to election for officers.
- f. Jonathan nominated Leroy Fox as Chair, Leroy respectfully declines
- g. Leroy Fox nominates Jonathan Forsling as Chair and Frank Logusak as Vice Chair
- h. AC unanimously consents
- i. Susie encourages AC to elect secretary, no one steps forward, Gayla Hoseth BBNA takes notes along with Susie for duration of meeting.

VII. New Business**a. 2014 Interior BOG Proposals****Proposal 122** - Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemption Region IV**ACTION: Support 8-0****Discussion:** Leroy Fox moves to Adopt, Frank Logusak 2nds

Lem Butler gives AC an overview of the proposal and its intent. Moses Tuyakuk from Manokotak voices his support for anything that makes hunting bears easier for villagers is good. Igushik setnetters have many bears causing problems during fishing season and some predator control for bears would be a positive thing. Jonathan Forsling agrees anything that makes bear hunting more appealing is positive. If DLP's salvage requirements could be lightened in the future it would also be very helpful for villagers. Ester Fayer, public, would like to see more bear control and was unaware of the DLP allowances. Peter Lockuk cautions everyone the community as a whole needs to be better about disposing of trash and more careful when processing fish and game in the village.

Moses Toyakuk calls for the question, All in Favor. 8-0

Proposal 132 – Reauthorize 17A Anterless Moose hunt.**ACTION: Support 8-0****Discussion:** Moses moves to adopt, Frank 2nds

Lem lets AC know ADF&G is in support of the reauthorization. Andy Aderman notes the Togiak Refuge is in support because this hunt helps slow population growth, moose habitat is very adequate. Susie notes Nushagak AC also is in support of the reauthorization. Jonathan encourages supporting this proposal, it is a very good tool to keep the population within its threshold. This hunt is also currently underway and without actually having all the information making any changes does not seem wise. The hunt also gives the 17A communities, Manokotak,



Dillingham, and people from Goodnews Bay more opportunity to harvest subsistence needs. Leroy Fox appreciates the additional opportunity this hunt provides. Jonathan adds the second moose bag limit allows for more sharing.

Frank Logusak calls for the question, All in Favor. 8-0

b. 2014 Statewide BOG Proposals

Proposal 175 – Renewal of AC Antlerless hunt authorization **ACTION: Support 8-0**

Discussion: Leroy moves to adopt, Gust 2nds.

Lem explains the annual purpose of this proposal and gives overview of AK Statue that it reflects. Nushagak and Togiak AC both have jurisdiction in GMU 17 and all of its subunits A, B, and C. Leroy and Jonathn discuss Goodnews Bay, Quinhagak, and Platinum having a say in 17A antlerless hunts and Togiak AC traveling to Units 9A, 9B and 9C and having the Lower Kuskokwim AC and Naknek/Kvichak AC having expanded jurisdiction and Togiak AC having a say in GMU 18 and 9.

Leroy Fox calls for the question, All in Favor. 8-0

BOG Cycle Change Potential Change (2yr. to 3yr. cycle) **ACTION: Support 8-0**

Discussion: AC members Moses and Jonathan voice their support of this potential change. Jonathan notes a 2 year cycle is almost too short, the AC is consistently discussing changing hunts that haven't even completed with harvest information to review when trying to make decisions. This would eliminate the BOF and BOG falling on the same year every six years, those "double whammy" years are far too exhausting, 2012-2013 was a good example of that. Three years would give more information to consider when talking about making changes. Gust Bartman agrees. Frank offers that it likely have a large savings for ADF&G, Susie provides AC a little more information about the cost savings estimated.

AC unanimously supports this proposed change.

c. BOG Call For Proposals Region IV

AC discussed the Call for proposals with the public present, Susie offered more information. No proposals generated at meeting but discussion will be on going with the Togiak Traditional council and the Tri-council.

VIII. Next meeting to be set by the call of the chair, meeting is adjourned.