

**Draft Agenda for
Bethel Advisory Committee Meeting
December 27, 2016 at 6:30pm
Bethel ADF&G Office**

Call to Order: 6:35 *Greg Roczika*

Roll Call/Establish Quorum:

Robert Lekander

Henry Hunter

Jon LaValle

Greg Roczika

Thad Tikiun

Henry Kohl

Invocation: Skipped

Introduction of Guests:

Patrick Jones

Phillip Perry

Alyssa Rogers

Jen Peeks

Elections:

1. Expired Terms/Vacant Seats

Henry Hunter

Jon Lavallo

Wade Renfro

Thad Tikiun

Gary Vanasse (vacant-deceased)

Re-elect *Henry Hunter*

Jon LaValle

Rafe Johnson Alternate

Robert Lekander

Nominations *Henry Hunter* motion to re-elect *LaValle*, *Hunter*, *Lekander*, and *Johnson*

2nd Tikiun

Motion Passes 6-0

Motion to nominate *Alissa Joseph* to *Louis Andrew's* seat, Motion passes unanimously

2. Clarification & Selection of Alternates- None present to fill. Need to recruit and/or get acceptance for seat before formal selection.

Comments:

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- Chair's Comments: Discussion of BOG and BOF meetings upcoming and desire to have meeting before.
- Concerns/Comments of Public: NONE
- Concerns/Comments of AC members: NONE

(Note: If concern/comment needs more than 5 minutes, item should be placed on the agenda to be presented later in the meeting)

Approval of Agenda: Motion passed

Approval Of Minutes:

- **March 3, 2016**
Add Robert Lekander to the March 3 minutes as he was present.
Motion passed

Staff Reports:

1. Fisheries Reports: (State/Federal)
No report necessary
2. Wildlife Reports: (State/Federal)
Perry gave rundown of current moose situation on Kuskokwim and Yukon, mentioning twining information, browse removal rate, calving survey and bull cow survey data

Board Of Game Arctic/Western Region Proposals (Comments due December 22, 2016)

GMU 18:

- i. Proposal 21 – Open a winter season for moose in Unit 18.
- ii. Proposal 22 – Open a winter nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 18 remainder.
- iii. Proposal 23 – Reauthorize antlerless moose season in Remainder of Unit 18.
- iv. Proposal 24 – Allow the harvest of brown bear at bear bait stations in Unit 18.
- v. Proposal 25 – Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 & 19.
- vi. Potential ACR Generated Proposal - Change RM 615 (Unit 18 Kuskokwim Moose) season management window from Sept 1-10 to Sept 1-30.

Regional/Multi-Unit Proposals:

- i. Proposal 5 – Change “general season” to “subsistence” for Arctic/Western Region black bear hunts (GMU’s 12 and 18-25).
- ii. Proposal 6 – Clarify resident general and subsistence hunting seasons and nonresident general hunting seasons for caribou in Arctic/Interior/Western Regions (GMU’s 12 and 18-26).

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- iii. Proposal 8 – Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western Region until harvest and population objectives are met.
- iv. Proposal 17–Change the definition of “edible meat” for game birds in GMU’s 12 and 18-26.
- v. Proposal 18 - Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in GMU’s 18, 22, 23 and 26A.
- vi. Proposal 19 – Remove the bag limit restrictions for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred in GMU’s 12 and 18-26.

Other/Miscellaneous Business:

- i.. State/Federal Memorandum of Understanding.
- ii. Bethel AC Rep for pending Board meetings.

Next Meeting Date: January 24th a6 6:30pm

Adjourn 9:40pm

Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
5	Change “general season” to “subsistence” for Arctic/Western Region black bear hunts having positive customary and traditional use findings		
OPPOSE	0	7	Motion to support Kohl, second by Tikiun Greg- It may be a way for outside people to claim subsistence. Don't see any reason to do it. There is no practical purpose for classifying all users as subsistence users. Alissa- does it change how animal must be processed? Phillip- do not have an ANS for black bear. Don't have a lot of money to spend on counting black bear. Greg- It;s unnecessary. It is making a political statement with no biological basis.
6	Clarify the resident general and subsistence hunting seasons and the nonresident general hunting seasons for caribou in Interior/Northeast Arctic and the Arctic/Western Regions		
OPPOSE	0	7	Same reasoning as Prop 5

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
8	Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western Region until harvest and population objectives are met		
OPPOSE	0	7	<p>Motion to support Kohl, second by Tikiun Phillip- Tier II is separate from Intensive management. Tier II is below ANS. Intensive management is a different part of the law looking at harvest and population objectives- predator control, habitat manipulation. Unit 18, intensive management for moose was set when populations were much lower. Greg- mixing subsistence with a whole separate statute of the law. Asking to replace the harvest objectives with the ANS. Making harvest objectives a Tier I. Waters down the subsistence law. Replacing ANS with intensive management objective.</p>
17	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
SUPPORT AS AMMENDED	6	1	<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun Jon- was an advocate against the last one. A lot of people use grouse carcasses for bait, wouldn't be able to with this proposal. You should be allowed to put a back out there other than eating. Under trapping not allowed to use edible meat for trapping. Oppose it with the back wording included Amendment: to remove the word "back." 6, 1 Kohl in opposition Jon- this would separate us from other parts of the state. We are creating more laws for this area than all the rest of the units. Greg- BOG will probably want to do it statewide and would. Jon- Reconsider and include the word "statewide", Kohl 2nd. Passed. Amend: exclude the word "back" out and be "statewide". 6,1 Kohl</p>
18	Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A		
SUPPORT	7	0	<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun</p>
19	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred		
NO ACTION	3		<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun Phillip- Would change back to the way it was. Controversial. Put in place mainly because of sheep hunting but was broadly applied. Dept. is neutral, but recommended that the BOG thinks about it statewide. Greg- asking to remove in Western and Interior,</p>

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	
			Jon-Only affects us with brown bears. Would affect drawn hunts as well
21	Open a winter hunting season for moose in Unit 18		
SUPPORT	7	0	<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun Bull cow ratio is good according to Phillip Perry and twining rates appear okay. Greg: Continuation of fall permit? Phillip- would give ADFG the discretion to do one or two permits. Henry Hunter- they are asking to be able to actually fill their quota now. Phil- 72 hour mandatory report, may need to change that with a winter hunter. Going to have to do more surveys in the area to see how many moose should be there. But at this point we are talking an additional harvest of bulls in late December/ early Jan. Thad- May be easier to issue new permits.</p>
22	Open a winter nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 18 remainder		
SUPPORT AS AMENDED	7	0	<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun Jon- purpose for this proposal to address the issue that a lot of people come and go in the communities and want to harvest a moose in their first year- medical personnel, teachers, would allow them to get winter meat. Phillip- the whole coast from Kong/Kwig to Nelson Island to Yukon. Most of the moose are near the Yukon. Limit is 2 for residents Aug. 1- March. Motion to amend: to antlerless only hunt in the same season hunt passed 7-0 Phil- will assume that it will need to be re-authorized each year.</p>
23	Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in the Remainder of Unit 18		
SUPPORT	7	0	<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun</p>
24	Allow the harvest of brown bear at bear bait stations in Unit 18		
SUPPORT AS			<p>Motion to support by Kohl, 2nd by Tikiun Non-residents would still have to be guided- sheep, goat and brown bear. Jon- Jaime wanted the proposal because there are lots of brown bears coming into bait stations and it is likely the bears breaking into fish camps. Fairly large brown bear pop on Kusko corridor. Thad- private/ corporation lands? Concerned if close to fishcamps. Patrick- needs to be at least a mile from a structure. Henry- there are nuisance bears, but we have to honor private lands Greg- maybe recommendation- prior to issuing permit needs to show approval of using the private lands. Henry K. – Likes the idea of showing a permit.</p>

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AMMEN DED	7	0	Amendment: Prior to giving permit , person needs Proof of permission of the private land owner prior to getting the permit Motion passed 7
25	Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 and 19		
OPPOSE	1	6	Motion to support by Kohl, 2 nd by Tikiun Dept. is going to ask BOG defer to Reg. 4 meeting- want to look at it only one meeting/per cycle since the herd wanders across the regions and would like to manage holistically. Also dept. doesn't think room to add a non-resident hunt Greg- when we look at bag limits being reduced, can't see opening to non-resident. Hunter supports proposal
156	Reauthorize the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Intensive Management Plan		
SUPPORT	7	0	Motion to support by Kohl, 2 nd by Tikiun Phil- we would like them to take action bc it expired last summer. Upper HoHo, Holitnas, Nushigak Rivers. Would like the option to do predator control if wolves, bears are affecting.
157	Set a customary and traditional use finding, and establish seasons and bag limits for Emperor geese		
SUPPORT	6	1	Motion to support by Kohl, 2 nd by Tikiun Perry- new survey methods show a much larger population than previously thought. Jon- so similar to the swan permit? Phil-yes Rogers against it until she sees the birds' population with more increase
160	Extend the moose season in Unit 18, Kuskokwim Area to September 30		
SUPPORT	7	0	Motion to support by Kohl, 2 nd by Tikiun Phillip- passed out mock-up of how it would look. Would keep flexibility for dept. Thad- if you split up the hunt area wouldn't that put a whole influx of people in one area? Phillip- that is the intent. Jon- they aren't getting enough shot in that area. Phillip- we do want more people in that area to try to reach the quota. Want to try to make it easier for people to go further away. Maybe should figure out zones by May. Thad- So we can go over and discuss the boundary line at a later date

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: _____
Minutes Approved By: _____

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Date: _____

