

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Work Session
The Landing Hotel, Ketchikan, Alaska
January 19, 2023

Meeting Summary

The Board of Game (board) convened the annual Work Session at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2023, in Ketchikan, Alaska at the Landing Hotel. Seven board members were present: Chairman Jerry Burnett, Vice-Chairman Stosh Hoffman, Allen Barrette, Lynn Keogh, Jake Fletcher, James Cooney, and Ruth Cusack.

Meeting material and the audio are available on the meeting website at:

www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=01-19-2023&meeting=ketchikan.

Following opening remarks and introductions, the board held officer elections. The board re-elected Jerry Burnett as Chair and Stosh Hoffman as Vice-Chair.

Agency Reports

The following agency reports were provided:

- Ryan Scott, ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation (*Audio log: 09:09:27 AM*)
- Lisa Olson, ADF&G Subsistence Section (*Audio log: 09:28:13 AM*)
- Kristy Tibbles, ADF&G Boards Support Section (*Audio log: 09:32:42*)
- Cheryl Brooking, Department of Law, Legislative and Litigation Update (*Audio log: 09:35:16*)
- Grant Hildebrand, National Park Service (*Audio Log: 09:50:40*)

Board of Game Committee Reports and Assignments

- *Big Game Commercial Services Board (BGCSB):* Chair Burnett provided an update on the BGCSB (See Record Copy (RC) 2). Chair Burnett will continue to represent the Board of Game on the BGCSB per the membership requirements in Alaska Statute 08.54.591. (*Audio log: 09:56:19*)
- *Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Committee:* The board discussed the recommendation by Joint Board Committee of Fisheries and Game Committee for holding a Joint Board meeting in March 2024 (See RC1: Meeting Workbook, page 42). The board voted to schedule a Joint Board meeting March 25–29, 2024 in Anchorage and open the Call for Proposals to 5 AAC Chapters 96, 97 and 99, with a deadline of May 1, 2023. The board set a requirement that proposals requesting modification to or repeal of the existing nonsubsistence areas, or to establish new nonsubsistence areas, must address at least one of the 12 socioeconomic characteristics listed under Alaska Statute 16.05.258(c). Proposals failing to provide information related to at least of the 12 criteria will not be included in the proposal book for consideration by the Joint Board. (*Audio log: 10:25:21 AM*)

The Board assigned members Jake Fletcher, Lynn Keogh and Al Barrette to serve on the Joint Board Committee, with member Barrette designated as chair for the Board of Game committee members. (*Audio log: 10:39:40*)

- *Wood Bison Working Group:* Member Al Barrette updated the board about recent Wood Bison working group meetings. He informed the board there will be a new Wood Bison working group for the reintroduction of Wood Bison into the Minto Flats and Yukon Flats areas. Member Barrette was selected to represent the board on both Wood Bison working groups. *(Audio log: 10:40:54)*

Board of Game Findings

- The board discussed and updated the Bear Management and Conservation Policy which expired March 31, 2022 (See RC1: Meeting Workbook, page 13). *(Audio log: 10:43:09)*
- The board discussed and updated the Wolf Management Policy which expired March 31, 2022 (See RC1: Meeting Workbook, page 10). *(Audio log: 10:49:49)*

2023/2024 Meeting Dates and Locations

The board set the meeting dates and locations for the 2023/2024 meeting cycle as follows:

- Western Arctic / Western Region Meeting: January 26 – 29, 2024, Kotzebue
- Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting: March 15 – 22, 2024, Fairbanks

(Audio log: 10:55:05 AM)

Executive Session

The board held an executive session for the purpose of receiving confidential information concerning pending wildlife management related litigation. *(Audio Log: 11:14:25 AM)*

Other Business

- Chair Burnett referenced a public request for the board to schedule a revised Proposal #199 for the March 2022 board meeting (See RC 1: Meeting Workbook, page 59). As written, the board does not have authority to act on Proposal 199. No action was taken.
- The board discussed with the department staff the definition of “trophy” (5 AAC 92.990 (82)) specifically the interpretation for European mounts. The regulation is one the board’s 2024/2025 schedule for proposal submission. No board action was taken. *(Audio Log: 12:11:59)*
- The board unanimously agreed with providing Chair Burnett authority to draft and send letters to the legislature supporting the budgets for ADF&G and the appropriate sections of the Department of Law and Division of Wildlife Troopers. *(Audio Log: 12:23:56)*

Adjournment:

The board adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:27 p.m.