

## NAKNEK/KVICHAK AC MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2013

The meeting was called to order by William (Sonny) Regan at 7:05 PM.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ken Pulice and seconded by Richard Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2012 was made by Everett Thompson and seconded by Brian Cato. Motion passed unanimously.

Scott Quist, ADPS was in the audience, by teleconference we had Lem Butler ADFG, game biologist, Chris Peterson, ADFG, game biologist, and Susie Jenkins-Brito, ADFG board support southwest regional coordinator.

Richard Wilson expressed his appreciation for the efforts that Susie has gone through in providing the necessary materials for our meetings. We all agreed that it is much improved from the recent past.

**Elections-** Seats up for election were Sonny Regan, Everett Thompson, Marc Watson, and Fred Pike. All four members ran for election unopposed and a motion was made by Dan O'Hara to elect said members by unanimous consent and seconded by Richard Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

Marc Watson made a motion to maintain status quo with the co-chairman of Sonny Regan and Everett Thompson, seconded by Ken Pulice. Motion passed unanimously. Richard Wilson made a motion to retain Fred Pike as the secretary, seconded by Everett Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Game Report-** Lem Butler

The **brown bear** harvest has remained about the same even with the new RB525 registration hunt. Bear numbers remain at approximately 8000 bears in Unit 9.

**Mulchatna Caribou Herd** has not had a good aerial count since 2008 when 30,000 animals were approximated. Recently various problems have enabled a similar "belly-mounted camera aerial count but through other means the department has estimated the number to still be around 30,000. Bull to cow ratio has improved, mostly in the western region; thought to be do to the intensive management efforts on the wolves. The eastern region is not doing as well. Cows continue to lose calves primarily due to predation of brown bears and some black bears and wolves.

**Northern Peninsula Caribou Herd** is still struggling and remains somewhere in the 2500-3000 animal range. Some improvement is being seen with 22 pregnant cows/ 100 cows ratio is reported.

**Moose-** There has not been a population count for the last few years but it is felt that the numbers remain relatively stable. Permit reporting indicates hunter success is declining from 31% in the 2000's to 27% most recently. The number of hunters in Unit 9 is also

decreasing, most dramatically in 9-E where there were 244 hunters in 2000 and only 140 in 2012.

Lem ended his report by letting the AC know that Dave Crowley has been hired to be a new area game biologist for King Salmon.

Richard Wilson spoke of his concern for the lack of recent and accurate moose count for Unit 9. He feels there are far fewer animals than ADFG is willing to admit. Dan O'Hara asked about the possibility of contracting out the survey flying to private entities?

Several members spoke to the use of local pilots trained in survey techniques that would be available more easily and on shorter notice. Scott Quist stated that they are willing to help out when possible but the DPS plane is not always available for surveys.

**Department of Public Safety (DPS)-** Scott Quist reported that there has been a drop in non-resident hunters in both Units 9 & 17. Four troopers have logged 700 hrs. of flying, made 594 hunter contacts and have written 30 citations which dealt mostly with not validating harvest tickets and failure to harvest all meat. There was not a bear season this fall so that may have some bearing on the reduction in hunter effort.

Everett Thompson had a concern that some area hunters felt the DPS has been over zealous in their enforcement efforts recently. He asked how it was determined that DPS would stop and check individuals? Scott stated that it was not always easy to see what was going on or the identity of individuals from the air as they patrol and that sometimes different personnel may check the same individual unintentionally.

### **Board of Game Proposals-**

**45:** Motion to approve Fred Pike, 2<sup>nd</sup> Richard Wilson; Ken Pulice questions the necessity of the registration hunt, stating that the law-abiding hunters will be forced into this and poachers will continue as is. Richard Wilson was concerned with the requirements and availability of forms in villages. He went on to state that he knew of individuals that lost their privilege to hunt for failure to turn in reports. **Passed 6-2** minority opinion was that it was unnecessary paperwork.

**46:** Motion to approve Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; Scott Quist would rather see October remain open as it may cause more problems for DPS with uninformed hunters. Brian Cato was concerned about the undue stress on pregnant cows during the extended period. **Passed 5-3** minority opinion was the makers of the proposal voted their own proposal down.

**52:** Motion to approve Marc Watson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Richard Wilson; Joe Klutsch stated that this proposal was about allocation and not science. **Failed 0-8**

**54:** Motion to approve by Fred Pike, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; Fred Pike stated that he put this in due to frustration with the amount of bears in unit 9. Lem Butler felt that this would increase pressure on the moose when non-residents bear hunt they would also put in for a moose hunt, as this would overlap the moose season. Brian Cato thought that this was too broad. **Passed 5-3** minority opinion too broad and seasons' overlap.

**55:** Motion to approve by Marc Watson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Pulice; We were opposed to this proposal as we felt that RB525 was necessary to eliminate problem bears. **Failed 0-8**

**56:** Motion to approve by Marc Watson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Cato; There was support for this as sometimes it is necessary to eliminate more than one problem bear. **Passed 7-1** minority opinion was that it was more a people problem than bear problem.

**57: NO ACTION**

**58:** Motion to approve by Fred Pike, 2<sup>nd</sup> Richard Wilson; Harvest numbers are reportedly decreasing, bear numbers remain stable- no reason to support. **Failed 0-8**

**59: NO ACTION**

**60:** Motion to approve by Brian Cato, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; no numbers to justify this. **Failed 0-8**

**61:** Motion to approve by Marc Watson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Richard Wilson; We have been working toward this for years! **Passed 8-0**

**114:** Motion to approve by Richard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; considered to be too broad. **Failed 0-8**

**119:** Motion to approve by Joe Klutsch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; There is no biological concern for coyotes. The proposer is concerned with lambs. **Failed 3-5**

**120:** Motion to approve by Everett Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cato; We attended a NPS meeting and are opposed to this. **Failed 0-8**

**121:** Motion to approve by Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; oppose for the same reasons as 120. **Failed 0-8**

**122:** Motion to approve by Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; This is housekeeping. **Passed 8-0**

**126: NO ACTION**

### **Board of Fish Area M Proposals**

**179-181: NO ACTION -Enforcement problems and wasted fish (chum chucking)**

**182:** Motion to approve by Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; We support some sort of limit in light of the WASSIP report. **Passed 7-1** minority opinion is that they felt it should be less than 8.3%.

**196:** Motion to approve by Brian Cato, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Pulice; This would exasperate the present interception problem of Bristol Bay salmon. This gear is presently illegal for salmon in Alaska. **Failed 0-7**

**201-202:** Motion to approve by Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; We have heard of subsistence problems for villagers in that area and the WASSIP report identifies interception problems on the north peninsula. **Passed 7-0**

**203: NO ACTION-** Not enough information.

**205:** Motion to approve by Fred Pike, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marc Watson; We support all reductions to present fishing regulations in Area M due to the results of the WASSIP report. **Passed 7-0**

**208-210: NO ACTION –See 211**

**211:** Motion to approve by Richard Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Pulice; Based on the results of the WASSIP report we ask the BOF to take appropriate action to limit the interception of Bristol Bay bound salmon through all means available to them. **Furthermore we ask the Commissioner of Fish and Game to direct both Area M and Bristol Bay ADFG**

**staff, to work together and develop a plan that is a workable compromise to achieve this goal; keeping in mind that salmon is a state resource which they are in trusted to manage for the benefit of all state residents. Passed 7-0**

We will try and have an AC member at both the BOG and BOF Area M meetings who will be determined after everyone's schedule is figured out.

### **No Old Business**

Our next meeting will tentatively be scheduled for October 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34PM by general consensus.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Fred Pike, Nak/Kvi AC Secretary

**AC Members:**Co-chairs Sonny Regan (2015), Everett Thompson (2015), Secretary Fred Pike (2015), Marc Watson (2015), Joe Klutsch (2013), Joey Klutsch (2013), Richard Wilson (2013), Ryan Willson (2014), Ralph Zimin (2014), Howard Nelson (Level Rep),  
**Alternates:** Ken Pulice (2013), Brian Cato (2014).

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