

Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

BP Energy Center, located at 900 E Benson Blvd

March 1, 2016 at 6:30 pm

1. **Call meeting to order** – 6:35pm
2. **Invocation** – Frank Neumann
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Kevin Taylor
4. **Roll Call to establish a quorum** - Jim Bolgiano, Neil DeWitt, Gerold Gugel, Ernie Weiss, Joel Doner (chair), Frank Neuman (vice chair), Brian Nelson, Phil Calhoun, Dino Sutherland, Trevor Rollman, Willow Hetrick (alternate), Kevin Taylor, Martin Weiser, Norm Stadem, and Brett Barringer (alternate).
Excused Absent – Kenny Rogers and Dwight Johnson
5. **Advise Guests of Public Testimony Sign-up sheet** – Joel Doner
6. **Approve Agenda** – With one change: Western Arctic Caribou Herd update be added to new business section. Gerold Gugel motioned to approve with amendment, Neil DeWitt seconded.
7. **Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – Frank Neuman motioned to approve with amendment, Dino Sutherland seconded.
8. **Public Testimony** – Dana Debernardi. Runs an orphan moose calf program, Alaska Moose Mamas. Have only release permit in the State of Alaska. Alaska Moose Federation took \$1.8 million and nothing to prove. Entity had \$40,000 and all 4 moose calves survived; 100% survival. 16B is chosen release spot, and last year was a great release year due to lack of snow. Must release calves at 3.5 months old, but believe that this is too young for survival issues. All calves have radio collars. 2015 calves included abandonments and not only orphaned from road kills. Human interaction is suspected to be the reason for abandonment. If one female calf survives, offspring throughout the lifecycle, that bloodline will produce over 780 moose. Females that are released are very important. Goals for next season include another successful program with new staff, new veterinarians, and new board of directors. Wants to help the ADF&G to reduce the disconnect between Orphan Moose Calf Program; currently the ADF&G requires that each person who sees a alone moose calf be left alone for 72 hours-ADF&G cannot prove where that # of hours came from. Dana would like to see 48 hours instead of 72. Wants to be an arm off ADF&G to take work load off ADF&G and help save more moose. Have Facebook and website – Alaska Moose Mamas.
9. **Committee Reports** -
Game Committee- Frank Neumann- Statewide BOG – Sheep Work Group meeting: suggested increasing the number of draw tags someone can apply for. Recommending a sheep tag/stamp for \$50 per residents and non residents (similar to a king (fish) stamp). The stamp would allow for funds raised by the sheep stamp to be allocated specifically for sheep magement. Discussed standardization of judging sheep score and making all ADF&G offices and public aware of how to age and seøræ judge the legality of sheep. Proposing a 5-day statewide head start for resident sheep hunters, attempting for consensus. Discussed allocation issues – 20% allocation for non-residents and

moving to a draw on lands where there are not guide use concessions. Meeting in April post Board of Game meeting in March. Proposing to increase the sheep draw application fee from \$5 to \$10 per hunt.

Fish Committee- Joel Doner- BOF Appointments, BOF call for Proposals – ACC will call a fish subcommittee meeting to potentially develop a proposal for the next Upper Cook Inlet round of proposals. Deadline in April 11th, 2016. Three vacancies on the Board of Fish. Three nominations from the Governor. Neil DeWitt motioned to have no comment on the Board of Fish nomination, Jim Bolgiano seconded. Question called: 14 support, 1 opposed.

10. **Old Business-** None

11. **New Business-**

USF&W New Proposed Rule-Drafted by Brett Barringer. Should send it to the Senate. Proposal gives the Refuge manager authority over the ADF&G to manage their wildlife populations if they see fit. Our letter would be helpful should this go to litigation in the future. Neil DeWitt motioned to accept letter as edited and send, Jim Bolgiano seconded motion. Send letter to: USFWS as they are in the public comment process, Governor, Legislature/Alaska deligates, Brad Palach at ADF&G. ACC approves the Chair sending to anyone else he sees fit. Call to Question: 15 support, 0 opposed.

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group Update – Conference all meeting to discuss proposal WSA16-01. Goal is to close 22, 23, 24, 21D, and 26A to hunting as numbers in caribou herd have been significantly declining. Area residents do not want non-residents in the region hunting. 12,000 animals thought harvested last year but the real count was 13,500. Population has decreased more than 50%. Residents are thinking its predators causing most of the deaths. Non-residents take mostly bulls and about 10% of the harvest each year. Typically residents are harvesting the cows.

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
		Number Support	Number Oppose
			Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	109		Add Units 7, 15, and 14C to the Seward Advisory Committee’s jurisdiction for authorizing antlerless moose hunts
Opposed	4	11	14C are not in the boundaries of Seward. Suggest taking 14C out and keeping 7 and 15. Supported because there is a significant number of people from the Seward area who would put in for tags like that and this would allow them to possibly have more.
BOG	110		Add Units 13 and 16 to the Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee’s jurisdiction for authorizing antlerless moose hunts
Support	14	1	Proposed amendment to 110 to include 12%-based inclusion in the reauthorization process. Opposed- Areas within a non-populated area may be heavily used by another geographic region. Like the idea of % assignment to jurisdiction at a more equitable way.
BOG	137		Modify the Intensive Management population and harvest objectives for moose in Unit 20A

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support	14	1	Trust ADF&G to make biologically sound decisions. ADF&G believes that the area cannot support the amount of moose they have counted. Not a huge swing in management of the moose population.
BOG	138	Change nonresident general sheep hunts on State and BLM lands to drawing hunts	
Opposed	5	9, 1 abstain	NPS and USFWs lands are operated under guide concession programs, none on State and BLM land so more pressure in those areas from non-resident hunters. Opposed – consider implementing in problem areas and not areas (such as 19C) that do not have sheep population issues. Blanket, statewide fix may not be the best approach. Alaska residents do not want to be restricted in sheep hunting.
BOG	120	Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14A and 14B	
Support	13	2	14B-16A moose often cross the river and be harvested in 14B. ADF&G will need their tools in order to reauthorize moose harvest in the area.

Next meeting place and time; The Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at the King Career Center, located at 2650 E Northern Lights Blvd.

Note –election of new members will occur at the next meeting. Dwight Johnson, Frank Neuman, Norm Stadem, Kevin Taylor, and Martin Weiser are up for re-election. Brett Barringer and Willow Hetrick’s alternate terms expire in June, 2016. ACC will discuss how to handle alternates in April meeting.

Adjourn – 8:35pm.

Minutes taken by: Willow Hetrick
 Approved by: Chair
 3/4/2016