

Minutes

Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee February 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dave Lyon, at 6:10 PM

All regular members of the AC were in attendance, with the exception of Lee Martin, George Matz, Dennis Wade, and Gary Sinnhuber, who were all absent with permission. In addition, there were 2 Alaska Wildlife Troopers, 3 Alaska Fish and Game Personnel, and 5 members of the public present.

After a brief statement by the Chair that there were no outstanding items requiring a vote of the AC, he offered that the meeting would consist of reports and then an open discussion on potential proposals to be submitted to the Board of Game for moose hunting on the Kenai Peninsula.

Lynn Whitmore gave his annual report on the status of the Moose Habitat Mitigation program. Currently 761 acres with an assessed valuation in excess of \$3.1 million is held in trust with an additional \$331,000 available. Negotiations are ongoing for procurement of additional habitat at the south end of North Fork Road. He also reported on the status of upgrades to several culverts that would improve salmon as well as moose habitat.

Dan Anderson reported on the status of attempts to have the Board of Fish meeting on the Kenai Peninsula and on his authorized discussions with other Cook Inlet AC's concerning items of common interest.

The Chair then directed a general discussion on status of moose hunting on the Kenai Peninsula, including resource status, bull/cow ratios, calf production and survival, hunting opportunity, illegal take, enforcement issues, methods of take, alternate seasons, cow harvest, and other associated concerns. Though consensus was not found on all items, the majority of those present expressed that the following items were of primary concern: sustainability of resource, continuation of hunting opportunities, and reduction in the illegal taking of moose, particularly illegal bulls. The discussion included improving education, limiting entry (drawing permits or registration hunts), giving the F&G biologists greater flexibility in controlling harvest to maximize a sustainable resource, while increasing the numbers of large bulls present in the population. The prevalent view among those present was that some form of "any bull" hunt conducted under limited permits would be the best overall answer. The Chair then requested that individuals write up their proposals for review at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be on March 13, 2018.

Minutes recorded by Michael Craig
Approved 3/21/2018 by Chair Dave Lyon