

Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee
01/05/22
Zoom

I. Call to Order: 7:01pm by Herb Mansavage

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

- Dan Montgomery
- Chad Schierman
- Herb Mansavage
- Andy Couch
- Bob Cassell
- Mike Barnett
- Birch Yuknis
- Neil Dewitt
- Dom Nickles
- Glenn Helmuth
- Hunter Hongslo (Left at 8:45pm)
- Aaron Bloomquist
- Austin Manelick
- Gene Sandone (Joined at 7:53pm)

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

III. Fish and Game Staff Present:

- Fari Sylvester
- Tim Peltier
- Chris Brockman
- Todd Rinaldi

IV. Guests Present:

- Mark Richards
- Mike Harris
- Al Barrette
- Don Dygert
- Rod Arno

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Andy motioned to amend 12/15/2021 Meeting Minutes with changes on Proposals 211/215/217/219 and 12/15/2021 Meeting Minutes with changes on Proposals 206/207/224, Neil seconded – Accepted as amended.

VI. Approval of Agenda: Neil motioned to amend agenda to include Proposals 27/67/80, discussion AC representation at Board of Game meeting, and vote to authorize Chairman to approve minutes, Andy seconded – Accepted as amended.

VII. Public Comments

- Mike Harris
 - Representing Alaska Bowhunters Association (ABA).
 - Asked for AC support on ABA Proposals 57/68/82/91/94.
 - ABA supports extending brown bear hunts for all weapons but would like support on Proposals 68/91/94 in case of limitations.
 - ABA also supports other bowhunting Proposals 56/60/85/87/88/89/97 and asked for AC's support.
 - ABA opposes Proposal 61 based on department's comments.

VIII. Proposals

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals January 22-29, 2021 Wasilla, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
27	Reauthorize the Northern Alaska Peninsula (NAP) Caribou Herd Intensive Management Plan (IM)		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	13	0	Support: More opportunity, similar to Proposal 209 except Line 2 Subject D.
28	Remove the resident bag limit of one brown bear every four years in Unit 9		
Support	9	3	Dept: Neutral, no conservation concern, keep seasons the same. Support: More opportunity, no conservation concern. Oppose: Managed conservatively, not necessary, managed for trophy potential and every 4 year limit gives more people opportunity. *1 Abstain (Not Enough Data)
29	Lengthen the season and liberalize methods and means for trapping beaver in Unit 9		
Support	13	0	Dept: Neutral, no conservation concern, safety concern of shooting into water, opposed to reduced sealing requirements (opportunity to talk to trappers, gain feedback/information). Support: Overpopulation of beavers, damming little creeks which affects salmon spawning, also used as food in addition to pelt, opportunity for statewide proposal of hunting for furbearer.
33	Allocate 50% of the permits for harvesting Emperor geese in Units 9, 10, and 17 to nonresidents		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
34	Allocate 50% of the permits for harvesting Emperor geese in Units 9, 10, and 17 to nonresidents		
Support	9	4	Dept: Neutral, no biological concern with current harvest. Support: Quota is not being met, resource not being used, opportunity for more, Emperor Geese are federal trust and should be equal opportunity. Oppose: Resident opportunity should be increased before increasing non-resident opportunity, beginning of limit creep for non-residents. *1 Abstain (Late on proposal, not enough information)
35	Allocate 50% of the permits for harvesting Emperor geese in Units 9, 10, and 17 to nonresidents		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
36	Allocate a 50/50 split for resident and nonresident Emperor goose permits for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
37	Allocate 500 permits to nonresidents for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
38	Allocate 500 permits to residents and nonresidents for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17 as follows		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
39	Allocate an equal number of permits for residents and nonresidents for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
40	Double the number of nonresident permits for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
41	Increase the number of nonresident permits for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
42	Allow more years of nonresident Emperor goose tags to be allotted for a lottery for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
43	Increase the number nonresident permits for harvesting Emperor geese to 10% for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
44	Allow nonresidents to purchase un-issued Emperor geese permits for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
45	Increase permits and require use of an outfitter for nonresident harvest of Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
46	Increase nonresident permits and establish preference points for harvesting Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
47	Increase the number of nonresidents permits for taking Emperor geese or set a hunt quota with 24-hour harvest reporting requirement for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
48	Increase the number nonresident permits for harvesting Emperor geese or offer a second drawing for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
49	Establish resident and nonresident quotas per region for taking Emperor geese with reporting requirements, or offer a second drawing for un-issued permits for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
50	Increase the number nonresident permits for harvesting Emperor geese or allow for a second lottery for Units 9, 10, and 17		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 34.
51	Expand the DI454 bison hunt area in Unit 11		
Support	14	0	Support: Bison have expanded south, more opportunity, more public land, AHTNA has closed land to bison hunting.
52	Repeal the “pre-2018” caribou hunting regulations for Unit 13		
Oppose	5	9	Dept: Housekeeping. Support: Trust department on housekeeping. Oppose: Seems to be more than housekeeping.
53	Increase the community subsistence caribou hunt allocation in Unit 13		
Oppose	0	14	Oppose: Not necessary, equal allocation.
54	Increase the youth hunting season for caribou in Unit 13		
Support	13	1	Support: More opportunity for youth. Oppose: Youth have opportunity to hunt regular season and do not need more opportunity.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
55	Open a registration goat hunt for residents in Unit 13		
Support	8	5	Dept: Opposed, population does supply harvest surplus, may affect 13D population which is draw area. Support: Not viable population, opportunity to hunt, suggested shortened reporting time to reduce harvest if needed. Oppose: Low population.
56	Extend the general season for moose by bow and arrow only for residents and nonresidents within Unit 11, remainder		
No Action	-	-	See comments on Proposal 57.
57	Establish a registration hunt for bull moose open to certified bowhunters only within Unit 11, remainder		
Oppose	6	7	Dept: Neutral, allocation, likely high success, good bull/cow ratio (50/100), no biological concern. Support: Unit 11 is remote and underutilized, additional opportunity, bow hunting is low success. Oppose: Moose are most vulnerable during this time, shouldn't be restricted to just bowhunting.
59	Increase the community subsistence any bull moose hunt allocation in Unit 13		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Equal allocation.
60	Create a registration archery only hunt for bull moose in Unit 13		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Too long of season.
61	Establish a drawing permit hunt for bull moose limited to resident certified bowhunters only within Unit 13E		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Conservation concern.
62	Establish an antlerless moose season in Unit 13E		
Support	10	3	Support: Population over objective and increasing, more opportunity, good management tool. Oppose: Not enough moose to take cows.
63	Eliminate the restrictions of one harvest report per household and one bag limit per household in the community subsistence caribou hunt for Unit 13		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Strongly against, equal allocation.
	Clarify the Unit 13 Tier I subsistence caribou permit condition that members of a household may not hunt caribou or moose in any other state hunts in other locations		
No Action	-	-	See comments from Proposal 212.
67	Change the salvage requirements for sheep taken in Unit 11		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Not necessary, added weight, low spoilage risk, personal choice.
68	Extend the general season for brown bear by bow and arrow only for residents and nonresidents within Unit 11		
Oppose	4	9	Dept: Neutral due to allocation, slight harvest increase expected. Support: More opportunity, predator control. Oppose: Low quality hide during propose season, not needed, extend for everybody.
69	Increase the bag limit for brown bear in Unit 13		
No Action	-	-	See comments from Proposal 218.
70	Open a fall baiting season in Unit 13 for brown and black bear		
Support	7	6	Dept: Neutral on method/Opposed on harvest, population low and declining based on surveys, moose/caribou populations are good (bears not affecting), concern for hunter conflicts. Support: More opportunity to harvest bears. Oppose: Low population.
72	Extend the wolverine trapping season in Unit 13		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	13	0	Dept: Neutral, no conversation concern, vulnerability concern during denning season. Support: More opportunity, predator control.
74	Limit motorized access during the community subsistence moose hunt in Unit 13		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Poorly written proposal, contradicting facts, support more access, likely turn hunt into road hunt.
78	Extend the caribou season in Unit 16B		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Risk of meat waste due to caribou being inedible, not opposed to more opportunity.
80	Create a resident youth hunting season for any bull moose (YM4XX) in Unit 14A		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Too late of season.
82	Extend by two days the current bow and arrow only general moose season in Units 14A, 14B, and 16A		
Support	8	5	Dept: Neutral due to allocation, likely low impact on harvest, eliminates barrier between seasons. Support: More opportunity, bowhunting has low take.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Oppose: Unnecessary, give moose break between seasons, possible enforcement issues.
83	Remove the 50-inch bag limit requirement for the resident and nonresident moose hunt in Unit 16A		
Oppose	2	11	Support: Population declining, lots of sublegal moose being taken. Oppose: Likely increase sublegal take, won't help population.
84	Establish an antlerless moose season in Unit 16B		
Oppose	5	8	Dept: Population still in objective, management tool. Oppose: Population is low, not needed, propose as tool when population increase and needed.
85	Establish a registration hunt for bull moose limited to resident certified bowhunters only within Unit 16B		
Oppose	2	10	Support: More opportunity for bow hunters. Oppose: No special season.
86	Change the bag limit for Dall sheep in Unit 14A to full-curl ram		
Support	8	5	Dept: Neutral, can manage either way, same impact as other areas.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Support: Full curl would allow more permits, high trophy quality area, mismanaged with too many permits, take pressure off mature rams. Oppose: Low pressure opportunity for hunters intimidated by legality requirements.
87	Change the bag limit for the Dall sheep permit hunts in Unit 14A and convert the early season to archery only permit hunts		
Support	9	4	Support: Mixed bag, opportunity to archery, more permits, more opportunity. Oppose: Takes away opportunity from rifle hunters.
88	Establish an archery only general season hunt for Dall sheep in Unit 14		
Oppose	4	9	Support: Opportunity for bow hunters without pressure of other hunters, challenging time to hunt. Oppose: Interferes with youth season, increased pressure to sheep, conflict that could target pilots.
89	Establish a registration hunt for Dall sheep open to certified bowhunters only, by longbow or recurve bow only within Unit 14A, Metal Creek area		
Oppose	6	6	Support: More opportunity, specialized/challenging.

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Oppose: No special season, possible support if archery but too restrictive, increased woundage. *1 Abstain (Should be all archery)
90	Extend the brown bear hunting season in Units 14A and 14B		
Support As Amended	13	0	Dept: Neutral, no biological concern, may increase harvest. Support: Increase in brown bear population, more opportunity, align with Unit 16A. *Dan motioned to amend to change season end to 6/15 instead of 6/30, Andy seconded – Approved as Amended*
91	Establish a general season by bow and arrow only for brown bear within Units 14A and 14B		
No Action	-	-	See comments from Proposal 90.
92	Open a year-round season for brown bear in Unit 16		
Support	13	0	Dept: Neutral, no biological concern. Support: More opportunity, re-establish year-round season as prior, cabin defense method as opposed to DLP.
93	Open a year-round season for brown bear in Unit 16		

Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 22-29, 2021 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action	-	-	See comments from Proposal 92.
94	Establish a general season by bow and arrow only for brown bear within Units 16A and 16B, remainder		
No Action	-	-	See comments from Proposal 92.
97	Allow beaver to be taken with firearm or archery equipment in Unit 16		
Support	13	0	Support: More beaver harvest opportunity, another resource.
99	Close areas within Units 14A, 14B, and 16A to trapping		
Oppose	0	13	Oppose: Too restrictive, acknowledge concern and something needs to be done.

IX. Other Topics:

- Andy motioned to authorize Chairman to approve meeting minutes, Neil seconded – Accepted.
- Andy motioned for Herb to testify for committee at Board of Game meeting with Dan as alternative, Neil seconded – Accepted.

X. Closing Comments:

- Neil Dewitt
 - Need to sign in online for attendance at Board of Game meeting due to COVID.
- Dan Montgomery

- Board of Fish meeting cancelled.
 - Strongly suggest public comments.
- Andy Couch
 - Suggested attendance at Board of Game meeting for opportunity to see the process.
 - AC members can comment but need to be clear they are personal comments and not on behalf of the AC.
- Birch Yuknis
 - Encouraged attendance at Board of Game meeting for opportunity to see the process.
- Herb Mansavage
 - Next meeting around 1/26-2/2 timeframe as Statewide comments are due 2/18

XI. Adjournment: 11:13pm

Minutes Recorded By: Chad Schierman

Minutes Approved: Herb M.

Date: 01/05/2022