

## Craig AC Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting February 26, 2025-Craig Tribal Office @ 6pm

Call to Order: 6:18pm

### Roll Call:

Members present: 8

14 total Members & 1 alternate

Number needed for a quorum: 8

Craig AC Members	Officer	Designation	Present	Absent	Expiration
Ellen Hannan	Chair	Hunting	x		June 2026
Mike Douville	Vice Chair	Longline	x		June 2025
Kurt Whitehead	Secretary	Hunting Guide	x		June 2026
Mike Sheets		Trapping		x	June 2026
Dave Creighton		Charter		x	June 2027
Ray Douville		Shellfish		x	June 2027
Braden Harding		Charter	x (online)		June 2025
Mike Kampnich		Gillnet		x	June 2025
Joel Steenstra		Herring Pound	x (online)		June 2027
Derek Anderson				x	June 2027
Julie Yates				x	June 2027
Sandra Marker			x		June 2025
Clinton Cook		Subsistence	x		June 2026
Madison Stumpf		Charter		x	June 2026
Kirk Agnitsch		Alternate	x		June 2025

**ADFG Staff present:** Kristy Tibbles (ADFG board support-online), Deanna Perry (RAC), Mark Williamson (ADFG Unit 2 asst. biologist), Ross Dorendorf (ADFG Unit 2 biologist), Craig Schwanke (ADFG sport biologist), Dave Loring (Board of Game)

### Guests present:

#### Approval of Agenda:

Moved and seconded to approve the agenda for 2.26.2025.

**Vote: Unanimous approval**

#### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes from Nov. 20 & Dec. 2

## Reports:

**Public:** None

**Chair:** BOF update

**ADFG:** None

**Kurt:** HB 93/BOF

**Old Business:** HB93/BOF

## New Business: Statewide Hunting Proposals

**Prop 90/91:** Require all goat hunters to pass an online mountain goat quiz prior to hunting

**Discussion:** This is already required in SE AK and educating hunters statewide via an online quiz is a good deal and will result in fewer nannies being harvested.

**Vote:** Pass 8-0

**Prop 92:** Require sheep hunters to complete an online education course

**Discussion:** See comments above

**Vote:** Pass 8-0

**Prop 126/127/128:** Allow the use of electronically enhanced night vision and forward-looking infrared devices for taking furbearers statewide

**Discussion:** *This will be a poaching nightmare in SE AK relating to our deer.* We are OK allowing this prop up north where they have less daylight and harsher Wx but *allowing this in SE will be a bad deal b/c of the potential for illegal activity.* Enforcement in SE is already very difficult b/c so much hunting takes place on the water by boat, which is very hard to enforce, not to mention the 1000+ miles of logging road on PoW. The legal take of wolves on PoW with a rifle is already very low b/c we live in a rainforest and using night vision likely won't change this much and the potential for illegal activity in SE is not worth it.

**Vote:** Pass 8-0 with the amendment to restrict these props to mainland AK only, blocking these props from all of SE AK b/c of poaching concerns with our deer.

**Prop 130:** Establish a minimum standard of center fire rifle cartridges for taking big game

**Discussion:** *Our group had a robust discussion on this issue and decided to amend the prop. to: A minimum caliber of .243 when hunting bison, brown/grizzly bear, elk, moose, mountain goat, muskox.* This will mirror the regulation in place for bow hunters that need to shoot a stronger bow when hunting these animals. **The minority voted against b/c his daughters can shoot a moose in SE with a .22 Creedmoor the has low recoil, plus bullet placement is more important than bullet size.**

**Vote:** Pass 7-1 as amended; A minimum caliber of .243 when hunting bison, brown/grizzly bear, elk, moose, mountain goat & muskox.

**Prop 131:** Require ID tags to be attached to traps & snares as follows

**Discussion:** Many of our islands best trappers still have their gear marked from prior years and are not opposed to this prop. Dog owners need to do a better job of controlling their dogs during trapping season and unethical trappers placing traps near high use trails need to do a better job and move their traps further away.

**No Action**

**Prop 136:** Limit bison and musk ox drawing permit hunts to once in a lifetime and only allow applicants to apply once per hunt

**Discussion:** The group discussed the pros and cons to this issue and do not like this exact method. We also agreed there is a better way to do it. What if you finally drew the tag but couldn't hunt due to extenuating circumstances like a medical or family emergency.

**Vote:** Fail 0-7

**Prop 141:** Allow the transfer of possession of game meat and game parts to be captured in a digital video format or on paper

**Discussion:** *This a commonsense, solid prop should be passed.*

**Vote:** Pass 7-0

**Prop 146:** Exempt sterilized cats from the list of species prohibited from being released into the wild

**Discussion:** Feral cats cannot be rehabilitated without years of care but *the main reason we are opposed to this is the harm these cats cause our birds.*

**Vote:** Fail 0-7

**Mountain Lions:** Three Mountain Lions have been killed in SE AK, Two have been killed on Wrangell Island. We should allow folks to harvest them if the state doesn't want them. This could be one of our upcoming proposals.

**Kurt Whitehead** was unanimously selected to represent the Craig AC @ the Statewide Board of Game Mtg. Mar. 21-28, 2025 by calling into the meeting.

Federal RAC proposals are due April 4, 2025

Ketchikan is now considered a rural community and has the ability to harvest on PoW under subsistence regs. There is a way to challenge Ketchikan's rural designation. There was no deference given to the SE RAK who voted against KTN becoming rural. This is very unusual and not OK.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:26pm

Minutes recorded by: Kurt Whitehead

Minutes approved by: Ellen Hannan

Date: Mar. 4, 2025