



Understanding the Board of Game

Or...Do you know how hunting and trapping regulations are made?



It often comes as a surprise to many Alaskans to learn that the state's hunting and trapping regulations are not made by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). This job falls to the Board of Game, a group of seven people appointed by the governor and approved by the legislature.

While the board makes the final decisions, the process provides several ways in which all Alaska residents can participate. Here's how it works.

The board considers the needs of wildlife and Alaskans

The Board of Game receives written proposals, comments, and oral testimony from members of the public, local Fish and Game Advisory Committees, and ADF&G biologists. The board then attempts to pass regulations that respond to people's concerns, while also considering the need for long-term conservation and sustainable use of wildlife. Board of Game meetings are open to the public and provide opportunity for public comment.

The role of advisory committees

There are more than 80 advisory committees covering all areas of the state, each with up to 15 locally elected members. Each committee listens to and discusses local concerns about hunting and trapping regulations, and then submits proposed regulation changes to the Board of Game. The advisory committees also provide comments and recommendations to the board on proposals that would impact the resources in their area. These same advisory committees interact with the Board of Fisheries in a similar manner.

The role of ADF&G

ADF&G biologists share the results of their wildlife surveys and other biological and habitat studies with both the advisory committees and the Board of Game. The biologists work closely with the advisory committees to develop proposals for board consideration, and also submit independent ADF&G proposals to the board.

The role of the individual

Any individual may submit a proposal to the Board of Game for a change to the hunting or trapping regulations. The Board Support Coordinator for your region can assist you in writing a proposed change, and provide you a proposal form. You can also find the form at: www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/bbs/forms/propform.php. You may also submit written comments to the board on proposed changes, and sign up to present public testimony at a board meeting. Contact your regional coordinator (see list at left) for details and meeting schedules, or visit www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us.

The value of working together

While the board considers all proposals submitted by individuals, advisory committees, and ADF&G, a proposal that has first been reviewed and agreed upon by the above entities demonstrates to the board that there is broad support for the proposal.

Want to know more?

To find out more about advisory committees or how to submit a proposal, contact the Board Support Regional Coordinator for your area:

Arctic Region: Susan Bucknell, 442-1717

Interior Region: Rita St. Louis, 459-7263

Southwest Region: Joe Chythlook, 842-5142

Southcentral Region: Sherry Wright, 267-2354

Southeast Region: Scott Crass or Shannon Stone, 465-4110

You can also visit: www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us



Here's how regulations are made:

The Public



The public can bring concerns to their local advisory committee, submit their own proposals directly to the Board of Game, and provide written comments and oral testimony to the board.

Local Advisory Committees



Advisory committees discuss local wildlife observations and issues, seek information from ADF&G, and submit proposals about hunting regulations to the board.

ADF&G



ADF&G biologists provide information to the advisory committees, submit their own proposals to the Board of Game, and provide biological information about wildlife to the board.

Board of Game



Board of Game meetings are held 2-3 times a year. Proposals from each major region are typically considered once every two years. Meetings are generally held in the region whose proposals are being considered.

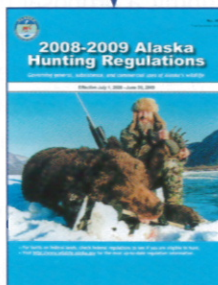
Board of Game meetings are open to the public, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Decisions are reached by a majority vote of the board

The decisions are given legal review and made official by the Lt. Governor

Want to know more?

Visit www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us



The **Hunting and Trapping Regulations** are made available to the public by ADF&G, and are enforced by the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

