



# 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us)

# Here's how regulations are made:

