

Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee Meeting
February 16, 2016 6:00pm
Anderson at Anderson Lions Club

Present: Myron Stokes
Paul Van Dyke
Wayne Valcq
Matt Nustvold
Coke Wallace
John Basile
Jacob Mattila
Nan Eagelson (late 6:49pm)

Excused: Allan Mortenson
Jason Reppert

Absent: Robert Kohlsdorf
Leroy Sutton
Joeseph Chatfield
John Carter

Special Guest : Dr. Wayne Heimer and Dr. Todd Brinkman

Coke proposes that Dr. Wayne Heimer present his sheep presentation on Dall Sheep pertinent history etc.

Minutes are approved by John Basile with Paul Van Dyke Second

Wayne Heimer presents Dall Sheep problems/perceived problems and the special interests groups vying for the resource.

Sheep proposal 21-49...

Post ANILCIA-Feds did extensive survey to inventory newly acquired lands. Approx 75,000 statewide. Cessation of predator control and coyote explosion have not helped. Coyotes are killing 1 out of four sheep in the first year.

Sheep Management questionnaire from early 70's. 750 people reported sheep hunting Aug horn length 27" under 3/4 curl regs.

Hunters who don't want to see other hunter should hunt other than the first 10 days of the season. over half of the hunters go the first 10 days.

Laws establishing the BOG are not being followed as written. TMA and DCUA were established outside the law. Should have been done through the legislature. Wolf Townships/buffer zone not legal without legislature approving Sanctuary/refuge system.

Environmental resistance to sheep growth—lower environmental resistance, i.e. -predator control- what we can control... weather plays a large role in lamb production...short winter, early good feeds-growth weight/rate will go up.

Todd Brinkman NASA invited to participate in research. changes in country-icepack, bush line, etc. Snow and ice effects in harvest.

NASA Community based research on environmental changes and the impact on hunting, trapping, and fishing. River ice, fires, erosion –extreme effecting access. Take pictures and compare with data from past. Data collection is advantageous to participating communities as the data can be used for changes in regs/rules for communities.

Don Young Presentation:
20A ANTLERLESS REAUTHORIZATION

Delta Caribou herd 43 bulls harvested out of 150 permits, Avg last year 55.8. 2004-2015 high 70's to the low 30's. Herd surveys 30 bulls 100 cows is good.

Tony Hollis sheep survey in 20A lambs 34/100 ewes. Poor productivity in 2014 from bad spring of 2013. Proportion of full curl good at 22%. 20A holding good.

Central AK Range/Wood River/Dry Creek

1983	100 sheep, 1991	607 sheep, 1994	408 sheep, 2010/11	800
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sheep

2013	625 sheep, 2014	516 sheep, 2015	755 sheep.
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Ruffed Grouse is on the way up with populations exploding.

1993	40 drumming stations	21 drummers
1997	40 drummers	
2000/01	7 drummers	
2005	34 drummers	
2010	0 drummers	
2015	19 drummers	

20A Wolf Survey 2015–8 wolves per 1000 sq km. Park Survey-4 wolves per 1000 sq km. 20-25 packs in unit 20A—Pack size relates to snow depth.

Moose: Any Bull—777 permits in 7 zones
August harvest 184-186 this year. 51% success.
Guided hunts—50/4 brow tines success rate 24% year to year. Bull harvested 2014–463

At a 12,000 Moose total equals a 5% harvest rate. Twinning rates have been dismal. 2015 was the first year that 20A twinning rates were

above 20%. 60-10 month old calves were weighed. 48 F at average of 373 pounds, 12 M at average of 422 lbs. Threshold is 385 lbs. 1983 Females weighed average of 362 and males were 364. Rob Boergetz November Moose Survey 12,315 estimated population. Managements proposed goal is 12-14,000.

John Basile supports **proposal 123**

3 oppose—Paul, Myron and Wayne

5 for —Jason, Matt, Nan, Coke, John.

Motion to amend proposal 137 from 10-12,000 to 12-15,000.

Proposal 137- all oppose as is ...10-12K, Amended to a population of objective of 12-15,000.
ALL FOR.

Proposal 141-Pat Owens from NPS-wolves at bear bait

3 oppose—Paul, Jason and Matt

5 for —Coke, Nan, John, Wayne and Myron

Coke supports and Nan seconded

Proposal 147-Intensive Predator Control in Unit 13.

1 oppose- Nan

7 for- Coke, Myron, John, Wayne, Jason, Paul, Matt,

Paul proposes support for 142, John seconded

Federal changed to refuge regs-

John motions to oppose Federal changes, Paul seconded

7 oppose-Paul, Jason, Matt, Coke, Myron, Wayne and John

1 for - Nan

John motions for adjournment, Jasons seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Middle Nenana River
Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting
1/20/2016 in Healy

6:15 Call to order.

Roll Call:

Present: Myron Stokes, Wayne Valcq, John Basile, Nan Eagleson, Paul Van Dyke, Matt Nustvold, Jacob Mattila, Coke Wallace,

Absent: Robert Kohlsdorf, Allen Mortenson, Leroy Sutton, Jason Reppert, Joseph Chatfield, John Carter

Approval of Minutes: Approved

Approval of Agenda

New Business:

It may be possible to have a conference call with the department biologists to receive information rather than have them present at the meeting.

Staff Updates:

No staff present.

Sheep working group discussion:

Coke attended the meeting and gave a review of the events.

Coke: "The meeting was well represented. There were a lot of resident hunters that have shown opposition to the changes that were made last year."

Coke: "Sheep hunting is a mountain sport and it should stay that way."

Coke: "Joe Want has a compilation of data that is very informative. This compilation of data shows that over the last thirty years there has been little change in sheep harvests. I can ask if he would be willing to set up a presentation for the AC."

Matt: Do you think that the aircraft restriction placed on sheep with spill over to other game species?"

Coke: "This was not mentioned."

John: "What is the next sheep meeting agenda?"

Coke: "They seem to feeling out what direction the group is going. The next meeting will be held January 30-31"

Reviewed Proposals:

Proposal 26

Matt: "Was there many violations from last year due to the aircraft restriction that was implemented."

Trooper Stang: "Not exactly sure, but there was an email sent out that was gathering that information. I can get that information for the AC."

Proposal 78

John: "this is not a practical thing for Alaskan Trappers. This will only add to the complications and has very little benefit."

Vote: 7 approve, 1 abstain

Proposal 79

John: "Again this is a regulation that is not practical for Alaskan's. Many times the weather does not permit a trapper the opportunity to get in the field to check traps. This would create risks for trappers that would be going out to check traps in unfavorable weather"

Vote 8 Opposed

Next Meeting : Tuesday Feb 16 in Anderson

Meeting Adjourned