

# Salvage, Sealing & Sale of Game

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## PROPOSAL 139

### **5 AAC 92.150. Evidence of sex and identity.**

Change the evidence of sex requirements for horned big game animals as follows.

Evidence of sex naturally connected to part of the hindquarter is not required for horned animals (sheep, goat, muskox). Horns are evidence of sex and must be kept with the meat until processed for human consumption. Horns may be transported simultaneously with final load of meat.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Sex organs are not considered edible meat. This adds to more bacterial growth in the field. Heavier pack outs. This is already not required for sheep. Where horns are enough to show evidence of sex, this statute is inconsistent with goats and musk ox.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?** Bethel advisory committee.

**PROPOSED BY:** Bethel Fish & Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F24-017)

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## PROPOSAL 140

### **5 AAC 92.150. Evidence of sex and identity.**

Eliminate the evidence of sex requirement for big game having bag limits restricted to one sex as follows:

The solution is fairly simple. Stop requiring evidence of sex to be left on big game animals when the hunt is limited to a single sex. When this regulation was put into place, DNA testing was not very common and was cost prohibitive. Today though, for <\$100, a sample of muscle can be submitted to a lab and the sex determined easily and relatively quickly. If the Alaska Wildlife Troopers were suspicious of meat that was claimed to be from a male when in fact was a female the Troopers could take a sample from every single quarter and any other piece of the meat that they felt suspicious of and determine if ALL meat was from the same sex. Further, if the Troopers felt meat came from another male, not associated with the antlers or horns they accompany, they could submit the samples for a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers analysis. This is a common technique in wildlife forensic science. Simply put, you could use DNA to test if the skull matched the meat.

Regardless of the method used, this genetic testing is much more versatile for troopers in the field and provides much better data than simply leaving a bit of gender identifying tissue on a single hindquarter.

Another factor that could be considered is to change the definition of the evidence of sex to include horns or antlers. Currently only the horns of a Dall sheep are considered as evidence of sex. Ironically, both male and female Dall sheep have horns so it does not make sense for moose antlers to not count as evidence of sex.

Ultimately, this proposal will simplify the hunters responsibility to care for their meat in the field and will not limit the Troopers ability conduct an investigation when suspicious of an illegal activity. The advances in DNA testing make this regulation obsolete.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** We would like to address the requirement to leave evidence of sex on moose. There are multiple issues with this regulation that I will mention here.

1. One option is to leave the penis attached to a hind quarter as evidence of sex. When choosing to leave the penis you must cut through the penis to have a section to leave on the hind quarter. When cutting through the penis there is always a small amount of urine that comes out and that comes in contact with your meat. This is less than ideal from a meat care standpoint. The tissue of the penis is one of the first places that bacteria will begin to cause spoilage and this can more easily infiltrate the meat once it is started. This is exacerbated when on a longer hunting trip.
2. The second option is to leave a testicle on a hind quarter. The testicles are connected very loosely by tissue that can be easily torn from the hindquarter once the quarter is removed from the animal and during hanging and transport. Besides the delicate nature of their connection to the meat, the testicle can also be one of the first places to spoil and in turn begin to spoil the meat. Again, this is exacerbated when on a longer hunting trip where the meat care is already difficult. Finally, leaving a testicle on the hind quarter does not allow them to be eaten in camp which is a tradition for many and ultimately ruins the testicle for consumption later on because they spoil faster than the rest of the meat.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?** We talked about this at the March Fairbanks Advisory Committee meeting. The committee was in favor of this change as written.

**PROPOSED BY:** Lance Nelson (EG-F24-013)  
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**PROPOSAL 141**

**5 AAC 92.135(a). Transfer of possession.**

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

Amend **5 AAC 92.135(a)** for both permanent (given as a gift) or temporary transfer for the purpose of transport to be conducted electronically via video recording on a smart phone or tablet. This would not replace the paper forms but would also be recognized as an acceptable Transfer of Possession.

Both hunter and recipient would simultaneously record video on their smart phones or tablets. The hunter would state all of the information requested on the paper form: Date, name, hunting license #, address/city/state/zip, species taken, specific parts of the animal being transferred, date of kill, kill location, whether it is a permanent or transport transfer, and the recipient's name and address/city/state/zip.

The hunter and recipient would be able to save the video on their smart phone or tablet as proof of Transfer of Possession. Upon request by law enforcement or an ADF&G official, the video could be reviewed for proper Transfer of Possession.

The ability to video the Transfer of Possession on a smart phone or tablet would provide proof of the Transfer of Possession. Videos on smart phones and tablets are also date & time stamped, which would provide further proof.

The new regulation would now read:

**5 AAC 92.135(a)** *for both permanent (given as a gift) or temporary transfer for the purpose of transport may be filled out on the paper form provided in the Alaska Hunting Regulations booklet or conducted electronically by video recording on a smart phone or tablet. All information requested on the paper form must be clearly stated and recorded by the Hunter. The Hunter and Recipient shall retain the video as proof of Transfer of Possession.*

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** To provide a secondary method to the Transfer of Possession of game meat.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?** No. I just believe many people have their smart phones or tablets within the field for photos, etc. and that video with audio is much better proof than a piece of paper. It also gives the hunter and recipient a secondary or back-up method to perform the Transfer of Possession should paper forms not be available.

**PROPOSED BY:** Regg Simon

(EG-F24-004)

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## **PROPOSAL 142**

### **5 AAC 92.031(h). Permit for selling skins, skulls, and trophies.**

Allow for the sale of legally harvested big game trophies without a permit as follows:

[ (h) A PERSON MAY SELL A LAWFULLY HARVESTED PREPARED BIG GAME TROPHY IF THAT PERSON FIRST OBTAINS A PERMIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT ]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Repeal (h). There is no data suggesting that there is an issue with Alaskans selling their big game trophies. Repealing this section would benefit the ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation staff.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Russell Knight

(HQ-F24-024)

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**PROPOSAL 143**

**5 AAC 92.200. Purchase and sale of game.**

Allow for the sale of legally harvested big game trophies without a permit as follows:

- (a) In accordance with AS 16.05.920(a) and 16.50.930(e), the purchase, sale, or barter of game or any part of game is permitted except as provided in this section.
- (b) Except as provided in 5 AAC 92.031, a person may not purchase, sell, advertise, or otherwise offer for sale:
  - (1) any part of a brown bear, except an article of handicraft made from the fur of a brown bear, and except skulls and hides with claws attached of brown bears harvested in area where the bag limit is two bears per regulatory year by permit issued under 5 AAC 92.031;
  - (2) **except a lawfully harvested big game trophy. [, OR A BLACK BEAR TROPHY OF ANY KIND];**
  - (3) **except a lawfully harvested big game trophy animal** -skull, except [THE -SKULL OF A BLACK BEAR, WOLF, OR WOLVERINE, OR] a horn or antler that is still attached to any part of the skull, **that in not a trophy;**
  - (4) the antler of a caribou taken in Unit 23, unless the antler is a naturally shed antler or has been made into an article of handicraft;
  - (5) unsealed marten taken in Units 1 – 7, and 15, or unsealed fisher taken in Units 1 – 5, except as provided in 5 AAC 91.170(a);
  - (6) unsealed beaver taken in Units 1 – 11 and Units 13 – 17;
  - (7) unsealed land otter, lynx, wolf, or wolverine;
  - (8) the meat of big game and small game, except hares and rabbits;
  - (9) the gall bladder of a bear.
- (c) A person may not barter, advertise for barter, or otherwise offer for barter
  - [(1) A BIG GAME TROPHY, OR A BLACK BEAR TROPHY OF ANY KIND;]
  - (2) The antler of a caribou taken in Unit 23, unless the antler is a naturally shed antler or has been made into an article of handicraft;
  - (3) the gallbladder of a bear.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** If 5AAC92.031(h) is repealed. We have suggested amendments to 5 AAC 92.200 The purchase and sale of game. To still allow the sale of trophies without a permit requirement.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Russell Knight (HQ-F24-023)  
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**PROPOSAL 144**

**5 AAC 92.031. Permit for selling skins, skulls, and trophies.**

Shorten the time period from six months to 60 days for taxidermist to obtain a permit to sell unclaimed furs, skins, and trophies as follows:

(a) A licensed taxidermist may sell unclaimed, finished skin or trophy under a permit issued by the department after the finished skin or trophy has been held unclaimed for [SIX MONTHS,] **60 days**, and after the taxidermist sends notice of intent to sell, by registered mail at least 15 days before the sale, to the last known address of the person who ordered the taxidermy work.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, a taxidermist has to wait SIX months or about 183 days for a customer who fails to pay on time, Before the taxidermist can take lawful steps in possibly recouping cost associated with the commissioned piece. This burdensome and unreasonable to expect a business to operate with such long restrictions in order to receive compensation for finished commissions.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?** Contacted Precision Taxidermy, Kin’s Taxidermy, B. Bear Tax, Knight’s Taxidermy, Gunsmoke Taxidermy, etc. etc.

**PROPOSED BY:** Josh Livingston (HQ-F24-046)  
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