

Alaska Board of Game

On-Time Advisory Committee Comments

RC2



Southeast Region Meeting

January 23-27, 2026

Wrangell, Alaska

Brady Baeten

On-Time Advisory Committee Comment Index

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**Anchorage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 4th, 2025
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery**

I. Call to Order: 6:01 by Matt Moore, Acting Chair

II. Roll Call

No	First Name	Last Name	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
1	Kevin	Taylor	Excused
2	Matt	Moore	Present
3	Nicole	Schmitt	Excused
4	Bryce	Eckroth	Excused
5	Paul	Warta	Present
6	Christina	Ahlstrom	Present
7	Ernie	Weiss	Present
8	Katya	Karankevich	Present
9	Kneeland	Taylor	Present
10	J R	Gates	Present
11	Michelle	Bittner	Present
12	Ed (Harold)	Horton	Excused
13	Scott	Crowther	Present
14	Tom	Vania	Present
15	Lynette	Moreno Hinz	Present/Late
16	Matthew	Stone	Present
17	Grace	Kirkey	Present

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 11 required for quorum; 12 and then 13 present with Lynette Moreno Hinz arriving just prior to consideration of Proposal 12.

List of User Groups Present:

Neil DeWitt, former AAC member and hunter

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Leila Williams, Regulatory Program Assistant for the Southcentral Region and Board Support

IV. Guests Present: Neil DeWitt

V. Approval of Agenda



Motion to approve agenda, motion seconded, agenda approved.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous Meeting Minutes already approved.

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report: No report from the chair
- b. Fish Subcommittee: No report from the Fish Subcommittee.
- c. ADF&G: None present.
- d. Others: None present.

VIII. Public Comment: No public comment.

IX. Old Business: No old business to conduct.

X. New Business

- a. Board of Game Southeast Proposals
- b. Board of Game Agenda Change Requests
- c. Other Fish and Game Business as Needed

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting

January 23-January 27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK | Comment Deadline January 16, 2026

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
Regionwide & Multiple Units			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		



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2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Unit 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Unit 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
Oppose	6	6	Scott Crowther, never knew there was cougar in Southeast Alaska. Kneeland Taylor, opposed to the killing of cougar in Alaska because they are rare; If there is no season, does that mean that they are an unclassified animal that anyone can shoot? Yes. Opposed because the season is too long, it's open, and the SDA prohibits shooting wildlife for game. Paul Warta, if you put a season and limit on cougar then it's classified and hunting seasons and bag limits apply so I'll support it.
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	12	Paul Warta opposed because the Department needs the information on beaver numbers harvested; Kneeland Taylor



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			opposed because the Department requires sealing so the requirement should not be removed.
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Unit 1-5		
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	10	3	(Lynette Moreno Hinz arrived so the numbers of members voting changed from 12 to 13). Kneeland Taylor thinks that night vision devices should be prohibited. Scott Crowther, so it's infrared devices and they are currently legal now. Question to Tom Vania, do they have any data that night vision devices are a problem? Matt Moore, no data. Kneeland Taylor, one of the reasons for prohibiting the use of night vision devices is because deer hunters would cheat and say that they are just out there trapping. That's why I support this proposal
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Unit 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
Support	11	2	Paul Warta supports because it is during deer season. Lynette Moreno Hinz is originally from Southeast and the people of Southeast need deer meat to survive. Tom Vania asks what is the season for deer? J.R. Gates responds that it's a long season. Matt Moore states that the season for hunting deer is October 15-31 for the youth hunt and November for the rest of hunters. Matt Stone states that the Unit 1 season starts August 1 for deer. Lynette states that her brother hunts deer in Southeast and they start taking deer during September through December.
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
No Action (13 support)			Kneeland Taylor, I ended up supporting this because Paul Warta made a good point that if you take one fisher you are done trapping and trapping marten can result in trapping fishers so if you trap one fisher then you would have to stop trapping for the season altogether. Paul Warta states that there is not a huge



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			number of fishers. Doesn't think we have any good estimates for how many fishers there are. J.R. Gates states that this is a proposal that we should take no action on because we don't have any good information. I wouldn't know how to vote on this without making a mistake. We should have a wildlife biologist to provide us with information about fishers and whether this is a problem. Lynette Moreno Hinz asks what is a fisher. Matt Moore states that it's like a marten but bigger. Grace Kirkey notes that this is the only furbearing animal in this region that has a bag limit so there must not be very many so we do need more information. Paul Warta states that they don't have much value so not very many people trap them. J.R. Gates proposes that we take no action on this proposal because we do not have enough data. 13 vote to support taking no action.
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
No Action (13 support)			J.R. Gates proposes that we take no action because we do not have enough data.
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Unit 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
<i>Sitka Area – Unit 4</i>			
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
	9	3	Kneeland Taylor states that he voted against this because the end of May is good kayaking season and it's summertime so he is opposing this proposal because of hunter conflicts with nonconsumptive users and recreations users. Christina Ahlstrom asks if bears change their behavior at the end of May. Katya



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			Karankevich states that brown bear behavior does change at the end of May. Matt Moore states that brown bears behavior changes at the end of May because they start mating. J.R. Gates states that we don't have data. Lynette Moreno Hinz states that there is a big problem with bears down there getting into trash cans. She doesn't agree to extend the season to May 31 until we hear from the people in Southeast. J.R. Gates states that he would support this proposal because it's a registration hunt so the Department would know how many bears are being taken. Tom Vania states that he would rather vote on this proposal because it provides regulatory consistency and gives priority to resident hunters over nonresident hunters. (1 abstention)
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
24	Modify the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
<i>Juneau, Haines, Skagway & Yakutat Areas – Units 1C, 1D, & 5</i>			
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
Oppose	4	9	J.R. Gates states this is a well-intentioned proposal and would solve a problem but it's very difficult to tell a nanny goat from a billy



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			goat. Residents would get penalized for four years and nonresidents really wouldn't be penalized because they are unlikely to return during to hunt goats. So this proposal overpenalizes resident hunters. Instead, they should reduce how many goats are shot. Kneeland Taylor supports this proposal because it's no good to take a nanny goat, for conservation purposes, and because he likes to see goats while he's hiking. Lynette Moreno Hinz states that, in Southeast, they use goat hair for weaving traditional blankets. Agrees with J.R. Gates that this would penalize residents. J.R. Gates states that they can shut this hunt down early if too many nanny goats are shot.
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		
29	Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side		
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in the Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
31	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year		
32	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually		
33	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
Oppose	6	6	Michelle Bittner is opposed because there is no population data on the density of brown bears. Kneeland Taylor notes that this is not a Department proposal. J.R. Gates states that Unit 5 encompasses



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			the areas in and around Yakutat and that we don't have information or know anything about the biology and population of brown bears in this area. Proposes to take no action on this proposal due to lack of information. 11 people opposed taking no action so that failed. (One person voted to abstain)
34	Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C		
35	Open the area within ¼ mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		
36	Shift the ptarmigan season in Unit 1C to start August 15 instead of August 1		
<i>Ketchikan Area & Prince of Wales Island – Units 1A & 2</i>			
37	Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks		
38	Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three		
39	Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two		
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for resident and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		



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45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG085, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
47	Eliminate the Unit 2 meat salvage requirement for resident black bear hunting in May		
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in unit 2 to December 15		
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		
No Action			Kneeland Taylor states he wants to vote on Proposals 51-55 and asks why we would take no action on these proposals. Paul Warta states that we took no action on the Prince of Wales proposals because they are very controversial among the people in Southeast, there are a couple of advisory committee proposals on these issues, so we should let them decide.
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		
Oppose	0	10	Kneeland Taylor strongly opposes intensive management of wolves. Requires information on the prey and predators including population data in order to adopt an intensive management plan. Katya Karankevich asks if there's data to suggest that other causes for why the population of deer are declining other than wolves. Michelle Bittner states that one of the primary reasons deer are declining is because the old growth forests which provide habitat for the deer have been clear cut. J.R. Gates states that a proposal for intensive management should be proposed by the Department. Paul Warta states that intensive management proposals are



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			generally targeted at the prey population and not the predator population. Lynette Moreno Hinz states that all she knows being originally from Southeast Alaska is that the indigenous people use wolves for traditional regalia, some people want to limit the wolves, and some people want to conserve the wolves. Her grandmother was almost attacked by a pack of wolves and promised the wolves that she would not harm them and they did not attack her so Lynette Moreno Hinz has mixed thoughts on this proposal. Paul Warta is opposed to this proposal because the Department is already having to restrict the season for harvesting wolves. This is not a good time for intensive management targeting wolves. Scott Crowther asked if there has been a history of intensive management in Southeast. Kneeland Taylor stated that he doesn't know. Grace Kirkey stated that deer populations ebb and flow with logging as the forest regrows after being clear cut. (3 abstained from voting)
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
54	Require the identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2		
Oppose	5	5	Katya Karankevich states that they have ID tags on traps in the lower 48. Kneeland Taylor states that he proposed ID tags on traps statewide and that law enforcement requested ID tags on traps statewide about 5 years ago but the Board did not adopt the requirement. He made the proposal again, law enforcement came in and supported it, and the Board rejected it again. But Kneeland Taylor supports this proposal. J.R. Gates does not support this proposal because he doesn't think we should make it easier for people to find out who is trapping and where they are trapping because some people harass trappers. ID tags could ruin trap sets and he is opposed for those reasons. People can easily look up the numbers on traps if names are not used. Katya Karankevich states that people could set up a game camera if they want to know who is trapping. Kneeland Taylor states that there would just be



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			numbers on ID tags and they would be confidential. Kneeland Taylor asked law enforcement whether if you have a dog caught in a trap or you are injured from being caught in a trap, then could you get information and law enforcement stated that the public is not entitled to that information. Christina Ahlstrom stated that they could amend it. Tom Vania stated that, for myself, this seems like it shouldn't be a big deal, but the proposal isn't specific enough and doesn't state the problem to be addressed. The proposal doesn't identify that there's a problem and what is going to be on the ID tag so he is leaning towards opposing the proposal. Katya Karankevich states that there could just be a serial number on the ID tag. Tom Vania states that generating serial numbers could result in a cost to the Department. Katya Karankevich states that people already get hunter ID numbers so the system is already there. Tom Vania states that new systems are never as simple as you think they are going to be. Kneeland Taylor states that law enforcement wastes a lot of time trying to figure out who owns the traps at the end of a trapping season if trappers don't retrieve their traps. Ernie Weiss states he is going to abstain. (3 people abstained from voting)
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		
56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
<i>Petersburg & Wrangell Areas – Units 1B & 3</i>			
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		



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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
59	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
60	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
61	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
62	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
63	Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September		
64	Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C, and 3		
65	Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October		
66	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year		
67	Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
68	Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
69	Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15		



Alaska Board of Game Agenda Change Requests

December 2, 2025 | Web conference | Comment Deadline November 24, 2025

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<p><i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i></p>			
ACR 1	Require antler destruction of moose taken in Unit 18		
Oppose		12	<p>Matt Moore states the geographic boundaries for ACR 1 and that the intent of the ACR is to correct an error in the regulation. J.R. Gates doesn't understand how this passed muster to become an ACR. Tom Vania states that we need to decide whether this ACR meets the requirements of an ACR and not discuss the merits of the ACR. Matt Stone asks if there is an emergency to consider. Tom Vania states that he finds it difficult to believe that the problem this ACR is trying to correct is unforeseen. J.R. Gates states that if there is illegal hunting taking place, then probably, but are poachers going to follow the law, then no. So this doesn't meet the requirement of an ACR. (1 person voted to abstain)</p>
ACR 2	Establish a guide concession pilot program for sheep hunting in Unit 19C		
Oppose	4	9	<p>J.R. Gates states the history on this is this area is the Alaska Range West of Denali National Park and the sheep population has decreased so there was a decision to shut down sheep hunting. Even though the Department shut it down, there was an outcry among resident hunters. The Board voted to establish a Sheep Working Group and which submitted a plan, the Board passed the Sheep Working Group's proposal and the Department of Law said they did it wrong. So this group is trying to deal with a technicality. Katya Karankevich asks what is a guide concession program. Scott Crowther states that only one guide and assistant guides can hunt in a specific area with nonresidents. The concession area is the area where they can hunt. J.R. Gates states that Alaska is unique in that the Alaska Supreme Court ruled that assigning guides to one area is unconstitutional so there is a difference between hunting and guide concessions on state and federal lands. The big game guides really want a concession because they want the business on state lands so the Department would decide which guides can hunt on state lands. This would be a pilot program to launch a concession program. Katya Karankevich asks is an ACR appropriate at this time to establish a guide concession program. Scott Crowther states that he was on the Sheep Working Group and we tried to determine the appropriate rules for when the population had crashed. The purpose of the committee was to review current regs and propose future regs to help the sheep population rebound. One guide, for resident</p>



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			hunters, 20 permits. 20 people would be allowed to hunt. The guide also proposed that we start the guide concession area. The original purpose of the committee was not what came out of the committee. There really wasn't much discussion about the process and we were caught off guard when the proposal was thrown out. Scott Crowther thinks we should oppose this proposal because it would be better to give it time for discussion and thought by stakeholders. Christina Ahlstrom asks whether the resident hunter tags went through. Scott Crowther states yes. J.R. Gates states that he would oppose because not an emergency. Matt Stone states that the Board passed 20 tags, 16 are resident, 3 nonresident, 1 nonresident guided by a relative. In the past two-three years, residents have only shot 13 sheep. Might actually have more hunting pressure by having 20 tags. Kneeland Taylor states that he likes the idea that the BOG will talk about both of these issues at the upcoming meeting. Tom Vania states that if you think ACR 4 meets the criteria then ACR 2 meets the criteria for an ACR. This is the classic reason why the ACR process is here. There was an error in regulation in ACRs 2 and 4. The BOG should consider. Scott Crowther states that the sheep population has crashed and they need more time to recover before they are hunted. What the sheep need is time to recover with no hunting pressure on them. Tom Vania states that we are here to vote on whether this meets the criteria or not. J.R. Gates doesn't think this ACR meets the criteria because there is no error of regulation, the Department of Law struck it down. Matt Stone states has he needs to understand that there is not a concession cycle but there is a regulation that will allow 4 nonresidents to hunt in 2026 so confused about how this will work. Tom Vania states that nonresidents can hire any guide. Scott Crowther states that there's no need for a guide concession.wv49
ACR 3	Remove conflicting and redundant methods and means for taking beavers during trapping seasons across the state		
Support	10	1	J.R. Gates states if the Department is going to say that this is an emergency because there's a patchwork or different regulations around the State, then that doesn't make sense because there are lots of statewide conflicts among regulations. Why did this one come in as an ACR by the Department? Tom Vania states that it's probably risen to the level where they can't put it off anymore because there's too much conflict, they can't keep ignoring it, or it's crossing multiple regions but it's not statewide. Kneeland Taylor is opposed. There's no mention of Unit 14, but on the



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			other hand, don't want to go messing with all these regulations. Paul Warta state that he wants the Board to clarify what you can do and where. Katya Karankevich states that she doesn't care that they are not taking up all the confusing language and conflicts in state regulations and that they can resolve this one. (2 people voted to abstain)
ACR 4	Open a resident only general season hunt for sheep in Unit 19C		
Support	12	1	Scott Crowther states that his ACR will open resident hunting in Unit 19C. I think they are trying to say that any resident can hunt in 19C. J.R. Gates states that Scott is are correct. They want a general resident hunt in 19C. Christina Ahlstrom asks if a general season hunt is different from a registration hunt. Matt Stone states that they can still close it through an emergency order. Kneeland Taylor states that he is going to support this ACR because he think that the Board will take up the whole issue and he does want them to talk about whether there should be a resident hunt.

- XI. Set next meeting date: Currently slated for Tuesday, December 2nd at the Hatchery at 6pm
- XII. Other: There is a Fish Subcommittee meeting on November 10 at 3:00 pm, need to reach out to Kevin Taylor to confirm. There is a Game Subcommittee meeting on November 12 at 6:00 pm at Bass Pro Shops.
- XIII. Adjourn at 7:42 p.m.
- XIV. Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Michelle Bittner
Minutes Approved By: Matt Moore
Date: 11/13/2025

Anchorage Advisory Subcommittee
Tuesday, January 6th, 2026
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery

I. Call to Order: 6:00pm by Matt Moore

II. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
Matt	Moore	Present
Nicole	Schmitt	Present
Paul	Warta	Present
Kneeland	Taylor	Present
J R	Gates	Excused
Michelle	Bittner	Present
Ed (Harold)	Horton	Excused
Matthew	Stone	Present
Scott	Crowther	Present
Kevin	Taylor	Excused
Bryce	Eckroth	Present
JR	Gates	Excused
Ernie	Weiss	Excused
Tom	Vania	Excused
Lynette	Moreno Hinz	Excused
Grace	Kirkey	Excused
Katya	Karankevich	Present
Christina	Ahlstrom	Present

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: N/A

III. Fish and Game Staff Present:

- a. Cory Stantorf
- b. Nick Docken
- c. Kyle Smith
- d. Tom Lohuis
- e. Leila Williams



IV. Guests Present:

- a. Adam Montuoro
- b. Ernesto Lopez

V. Approval of Agenda

- a. Approved.

VI. Reports

- a. Chair's report

- b. ADF&G

- i. Cory Stantorf: 14C moose

- 1. Moose don't get much relief from snow, move down the highway. When population gets above 185 tends to crash (range of 150-185); winter of 2024 had more cows than had in the decade, willows grown taller and hunter success is 60% for bulls, 10-15 antlerless harvested each year. Currently around 200-210 moose.
 - 2. If there's a heavy winter we'll lose some of the population. Working with Forest Service to do habitat enhancements (knock back willows), restart vegetation out of reach from those moose. Placer is dual managed 7A and 14C
 - 3. Hunts designed to catch moose as they come out of the foothills to prevent them from vehicle collisions
 - 4. 14C drivers kill 100+ moose per year (some are train strikes): trying to manage for harvest and population objectives but also reducing human-wildlife interactions; Glenn Highway mortalities higher in deep snow year; JBER told will have no gaps in fencing on the north side; can get gates open for individual animals but have to go out there; only south side that's closed is by Ship Creek, all north side wildlife gates closed.
 - 5. Questions:
 - a. What are the causes of population decline (when it happens)? Winter mortality, don't often see wolves down there
 - b. Any consideration of winter hunt? Possibility, way that it's set up right now doesn't have reg authority to do that, would need to be a proposal before BOG. A few cycles ago BOG gave more permits, mgmt. intends to increase tags.

- c. Why not liberalize bull hunt? What drives population increase is number of cows.
 - d. How often do surveys, are some easier? Fly entire drainages looking for minimum count, looking for 150-185; twinning and calves to determine increasing, stable, decreasing; JBER Ship Creek totally different, try to fly surveys before first week of Dec but snow coverage is a variable, sometimes don't get to fly those; controlled air space is tricky.
 - e. Is a high Bull:Cow ratio a problem? No, indicates healthy population and ADFG adjusts. Ex: winter 2021 was hard, lost a lot of calves and pulled any sex permits; harvest for 24 went down from 20some moose to 9 because no snow meant they didn't come down from the foothills
- ii. Tom and Kyle on goats and sheep
- 1. In 15 and 7 sheep populations are teetering; Kenai has low populations likely because wet on both sides; expect population to go extinct but persist at low level; weather and climate is a big factor; had collars on sheep since 2009; giving a talk on Feb 11th at Campbell Creek Science Center for research report; Chugach sheep confined by low productivity, poor nutrition, weather/climate play much larger factor (avalanches and malnutrition) than predators in Chugach.
 - 2. Questions:
 - a. How many sheep hunters in the Kenai? 50-75 hunters/year, success rates lower than other parts of the state, 3-5 sheep per year; threshold by region and statewide
 - b. What else can we do but stop hunting to help the sheep? Probably don't have a disease problem, predation doesn't affect sheep in Chugach much (distributed across species, to PC probably wouldn't be effective); some are trying burning and mineral supplement but land mgmt. is tough and not seeing mineral deficiency; pregnancy rates fairly low, malnutrition year-round is tough
- c. Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group (Matt) is declining/critical (less than 130,000) harvest now less than 6,000. Suggestions from working group meeting: limit cow harvest, closing harvest to non-residents, predator control for wolves. Will see next year what the numbers will be.



d. Fish Stocking Management Plan – comments due Jan 31st.

VII. Public Comment

a. None.

VIII. Old Business

a. Motion to adopt unanimous votes for SE, seconded. Passed unanimously.

IX. New Business

a. Board of Game Southcentral: Remainder of GMU 14C Proposals

b. Board of Game Southcentral: Start of GMU 8 Proposals

c. Other Fish & Game Business as Needed

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK | Comment Deadline January 9th, 2026

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
	10	0	Support for a goat being counted toward bag limit if it was killed and not recovered or wounded and not recovered.
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK | Comment Deadline January 9th, 2026

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	0	10	Opposed: Too vague hunting/trapping with no closed season.
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
	10	0	Support for humane trapping reasons and to decrease potential loss.
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
	0	8	2 Abstain and need more information. Opposed for reasons that residents need meat versus Non Residents who will primarily trophy hunt and have greater food options.
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
	9	0	Support: Support for the purpose of clarification. 1 Abstain
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
	0	6	4 Abstain Opposed as no special group should be given preference for game resources, unconstitutional.



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK | Comment Deadline January 9th, 2026

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
	10	0	Support up to 20% available permits for non resident hunters.
45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
	10	0	Support up to 20% available permits for non resident hunters.
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
	10	0	Support up to 20% available permits for non resident hunters.
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
	10	0	Support for conservation reasons and for retaining genetics of an isolated wolf population.



Alaska Board of Game Southcentral Region Meeting

March 20-March 25, 2026 | Kodiak, AK | Comment Deadline March 6, 2026

Proposal Description

Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
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Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.

105	Close Dall sheep hunting on the Kenai Peninsula in Units 7 and 15		
Support	7	3	<p>Support: Need to do something, shouldn't be harassing the declining sheep population when sub-populations are less than 50; Don't know impact of having hunters in the field for malnutrition; hunter have some effect</p> <p>Oppose: In full curl management only 2-4% population is harvested, sheep population takes ~20 years to recover; in a new paradigm with climate where we're seeing consecutive bad winters; closing this adds pressure to other areas</p>
106	Change the general season sheep hunts in Units 7 and 15 to registration hunts with hunt areas set by ADF&G		
Oppose	0	10	Proposal asks for a lot of different things, not sure if registration permit can handle once/lifetime and one/4 year qualifications
134	Shorten the resident hunting season, reduce the bag limit from three to one, and require registration permits for hunting black bear in a portion of Units 7 and 15. Additionally, close the nonresident season		
Oppose	0	9	<p>Oppose: Asking for too many things at once, though some members don't like the currently no closed season.</p> <p>One abstain.</p>
144	Lengthen the trapping season for lynx in Units 7 and 15 to align with Units 6 and 14C		
Oppose	1	9	<p>Support: Not concerned about population, want uniformity across neighboring GMUs, should take advantage of increase while we can</p> <p>Oppose: Don't see reason to lengthen season lengths beyond what they already are; season is longer in 14c because there's barely any trapping pressure, compared to 7 and 15 which experiences much more trapping</p>



145	Establish trapping and snaring buffers along specific roads and pullouts in and around Cooper Landing in Unit 7		
Support with amendment to reduce setback from 100 yards to 50 yards	9	1	<p>Amended to reduce setback to 50 yards – unanimous.</p> <p>Support with 50 yard amendment: This is a lynx trapping area which make conflict more damaging, seems reasonable.</p> <p>Oppose with 50 yard amendment: Think trappers should be responsible for safe/responsible trapping and don't need regulations</p>
146	Establish trapping and snaring buffers along specified trails and trailheads in and around the Cooper Landing Area in Unit 7		
Support with amendment to reduce setback from 100 yards to 50 yards	9	1	<p>Amended to reduce setback to 50 yards – unanimous.</p> <p>Support with amendment: Trails affected are clearly listed, support the concept of exceptions for trap set up types. Support with an amendment for a 50 yard setback.</p> <p>Opposed with amendment: Think trappers should be responsible for safe/responsible trapping and don't need regulations.</p>
147	Establish trapping buffers along two areas of Kenai Lake beaches near Cooper Landing, in Unit 7		
Support with amendment to reduce setback from 100 yards to 50 yards	7	3	<p>Amended to reduce setback to 50 yards – unanimous.</p> <p>Support with 50 yard amendment: High-use recreation area with known conflicts; proposal was developed by local community group and trust local knowledge.</p> <p>Oppose with amendment: Concerned about precedent of setbacks along waterways, trails and roads are man-made but water bodies are natural animal movement corridors; think trappers should be responsible for safe/responsible trapping and don't need regulations</p>
175	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C		
	9	1	<p>Support: Recent survey results 199 animals, bull:cow 31:107; 59 calves, lots of twins which could indicate that population is ready to go up soon; good management tool for ADFG to use as needed</p> <p>Oppose: In recommended level, no reason to have a cow hunt when meeting existing goal</p>



176	Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14(C)		
	9	1	Support: Management tool for ADFG to use Oppose: Don't want any hunt in Anchorage

X. Next meeting date: February 3rd, Hatchery 6pm

XI. Other:

a. ADFG Nelchina Caribou Herd presentation

b. Game Subcommittee meeting Jan 7th at Bass Pro, 6pm

XII. Adjourn- Passed.

XIII. Adjournment: 7:59pm

Minutes Recorded By: Nicole Schmitt

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____



Craig Advisory Committee
Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Agenda

Join via Zoom at:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84936259097?pwd=tT2pFWxfxoUGuPqD97LoyUxaxvnuIn. 1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84936259097?pwd=tT2pFWxfxoUGuPqD97LoyUxaxvnuIn.1)

Meeting ID: 849 3625 9097

Passcode: CRAIG

By phone: +1-408-638-0968

I. Call to Order:

II. Roll Call

Name	Seat	Present or Absent	Excused?
Ellen Hannan	Chair	Present	
Michael Douville	Vice Chair	Present	
Kurt Whitehead	Secretary		Excused
Julie Yates		Present	
Clint Cook		Present	
Elijah Winrod		Present	
Madison Stumpf	Charter	Present	
David Creighton	Charter	Present	
Mike Kampnich	Commercial\Gillnet	Present	
Raymond Douville	Commercial\Shellfish		Excused
Joel Steenstra	Herring Pounding	Present	
Braden Harding	Charter\Sport	Present	
Mike Sheets	Trapping	Present	
Derek Anderson	Undesignated	Present	



Sandra Marker	Undesignated	Present	
Kirk Agnitsch	Alternate		No

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8;

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Craig Schwanke

IV. Guests Present: Aaron Bean, Natalie Anderson, Ron Durgan, Chuck Hansen, Ross Dorendorf (online), Mark Williamson (online)

V. Approval of Agenda Moved by Mike D. Seconded by Joel S.. Approved. Unanimous

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VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Meeting Minutes from Oct. 29, 2025

Moved by Mike D. Seconded by Joel S. , Approved Unanimous

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report , Moved to Nominate Ellen H. Seconded by Mike K, Unanimous support.
- b. ADF&G ; Ellen mentioned MMPA letters.
Deer and wolf information presented in handouts. Department positions on proposals are not yet available. (by Mark Williamson)
- c. Others

VIII. Public Comment : none

IX. Old Business :

- a. Appointment of two alternates to serve a one-year term

Clinton: moved to nominate Chuck Hansen and Aaron Bean.. Seconded by Mike D. Unanimous support. Chuck and Aaron are now alternates.

X. New Business

- b. Discussion of [Board of Game Southeast Region Proposals.](#)
- c. Discussion of [Board of Fisheries Statewide Proposals](#) if time allows. If time is low, these proposals will be discussed on Dec 10th.



- d. Selecting someone to go to the Board of Game meeting from Jan. 23-27 in Wrangell

XI. Set next meeting date

XII. Other

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK Comment Deadline: January 9, 2026			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
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Regionwide & Multiple Units			

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Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK Comment Deadline: January 9, 2026			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended,	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes



Oppose, No Action			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Opposed	0	15	<p>Joel Moved to adopt prop 1 and 2: 2nd Aaron B.</p> <p>Joel mentioned he has been out before and after civil twilight with a scope to investigate this and states with a scope you can clearly see a target .</p> <p>Ellen asked if that was ½ hr before sunrise?</p> <p>Joel stated he was using his phone for civil twilight timing.</p> <p>Joel believes it is overly complicated</p> <p>Unanimous opposed</p>
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Opposed	0	15	See above
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
Opposed	0	15	<p>Move to adopt Mike D, 2nd by Joel</p> <p>Ellen doesn't support, She feels there are a lot more animals available now that there are not planes landing and shooting.</p> <p>Ellen: Doesn't seem like fair chase to her.</p> <p>Mike S says he'd be upset if he hiked up, scouted, and then a plane landed and that group took the animal he had been watching.</p> <p>Unanimous opposed.</p>
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		



7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
Support	15	0	<p>Mike D moved to adopt, Joel 2nd, Mike D sees this as an invasive species. Same as Green Crab Aaron B asks if it is not a native species, can't you take it? Ross clarifies you cannot take if there is no season.</p> <p>Unanimous support</p>
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
Support	15	0	<p>Moved to adopt by Dave C, Second Mike K Ellen pointed out pretty much same as prop. 8 but doesn't mention a season.</p> <p>Unanimous support</p>
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
Support	15	0	<p>Mark states there isn't much concern of population. According to sealing data, more are taken out of unit 2 than any other area. No concern for data collection. Ellen points out it may have been a relic from when beaver were worth something. Joel move to adopt , 2nd Mike D</p> <p>Unanimous support</p>
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	15	0	<p>Move to adopt by Mike D, Joel S 2nd. Mike D doesn't think of an advantage to fur trappers in terms of take. Perhaps an advantage knowing if a trip had been successful. Mike asked if it must be used for or in relation for trapping? Mike S. concern is if you open up immediate information</p>



			<p>from a scouting point, it may present too much advantage. Could be used as more of a scouting advantage.</p> <p>Dave C. asked if there are other regs associated with cell cams.</p> <p>Response states you cannot use them for hunting.</p> <p>Mike points out the economics of the cameras will prevent a camera on every tree type situation.</p> <p>Elija states it could eliminate some suffering, and perhaps increase odds of recovering a quality animal, not all torn up from struggle.</p> <p>Unanimous support.</p>
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	9	5	<p>Joel Moved to adopt 12 and 13 ; 2nd by Mike D</p> <p>Support : 9</p> <p>Opposed: 5</p> <p>Undecided : 1</p>
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
			See above

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Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK Comment Deadline: January 9, 2026			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose,	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes



No Action			
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
Opposed	0	15	Joel moved to adobe, 2nd Mike D. Ellen, Cranes migrate 3rd week in september Season already goes to end of december. Unanimous opposed.
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
<i>Ketchikan Area & Prince of Wales Island – Units 1A & 2</i>			
37	Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks		
opposed	0	15	Mike D Motion to adopt 37 Clinton C. Second Ellen mentioned looking at Kodiak regulations. States it goes to a 1/buck per non-resident off the road system. She believes POW is getting a lot of notoriety due to the large road system and 4 bucks. The playing field is not so level. Joel mentioned local stores all ran out of locking (non-resident tags) Craig Schwanke agreed that he dipped into department's backup tags. Stated it did seem like it was more than usual. Clinton mentions perhaps a future proposal selecting tag numbers, maybe 1 and 2 only, for POW.



			<p>Joel, Easy access spots are no longer available to locals due to pressure by non-residents.</p> <p>Darek, Raise Non-res deer tags?</p> <p>Clinton: Ketchikan's rural status has allowed significant increase in ketchikan hunters and they were on island earlier than usual due to rural status.</p> <p>Ellen noticed 29 gun cases on the ferry Hollis bound</p> <p>Darek Anderson stated other states have become tighter and social media has marketed POW deer hunting. He also asked if tag prices should go up. Would it make a difference.</p> <p>Ellen noted it did seem there were more deer this year.</p> <p>Joel opposed any reduction in bag limit.</p> <p>Clinton: Agree's with Joel. easy to go down ,, difficult to ever go back up. Clinton mentions only tags one and 2 will work on POW for Ketchikan Residents.</p> <p>Mike D notice 37 and 38 are almost the same and will only apply on state and private land.</p> <p>FYI the RAC will not be taking up federal proposals at this meeting.</p> <p>Mike D states he does not support 37</p> <p>Unanimously opposed. Proposal Failed</p>
38	Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three		
Opposed	0	15	<p>Mike D moved to adopt, Joel S. Second</p> <p>Discussion same as above, intertwined and all agreed similar.</p> <p>Unanimously opposed. Proposal Failed</p>
39	Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two		
opposed	0	15	<p>Clinton Moved to Adopt: Joel S. Second the motion.</p> <p>Ellen noted the amount of difference this will make will be negligible but the goal may to make a point.</p> <p>Mike asked for a reminder as to why this proposal was made.</p> <p>Ellen stated it was to align with regs of Wrangel, Etolin, and those areas.</p> <p>Clinton Call for the question.</p> <p>Unanimously opposed. Proposal Failed</p>
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
Support	15	0	<p>Joel S Moved to Adopt 40 and 41: Sandra Marker Second.</p> <p>Mike asked current regs</p>



			Ellen and Joel updated Mike. Statement of all tag expenses have doubled for non-residenmts. Ellen, remind us that most Non-residents don't get more than one buck. Unanimous support
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
Support	15	0	See 40
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
Support	15	0	Joel Moved to adopt, Seconded by Clinton C. Discussion about areas that apply to this. Joel likes it because of the number of people that have seen tv shows. For that reason Dall island has gained some support. Joel states the bucks can have a little more time to get rid of some velvet and get a little smarter. Unanimous support.
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to "up to" 20% of the available permits		
45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to "up to" 20% of the available permits		

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Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK Comment Deadline: January 9, 2026	
Proposal Number	Proposal Description



Support, Support as Amende d, Oppose, No Action	Numb er Suppo rt	Numb er Oppos e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
47	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
Support	15	0	<p>Update by Ellen: in last discussion, AC was in favor of this to encourage residents to take more bears before fawns drop.. Residents don’t want to deal with the meat. Ellen stated she was surprised at the number of residents taking bears, perhaps not POW residents though. She heard reports of alpin deer hunters be inundated by bear. You can still keep the meat if you want.</p> <p>Mark asked “what’s stopping people from hunting in June? Ellen mentioned there is more to do in June and it’s hard to find a bear that isn’t rubbed up.</p> <p>Moved to Adopt by Dave C. Second by Mike D. Dave C mentions the concern by residents wasn’t an issue prior to the Non-Resident going to a draw. Agreed by Cook. Mike D asked if they are fur bearers? Ross, Answers the question, they are not managed as a fur bearer, however they are and the skull and hide can be sold. You can sell it in the raw, but if a trophy(lifelike representation)or made into a mount or product, you must have a permit. A tanned hide does not require a permit.</p> <p>Discussion of night vision occurred in regards to it being a fur bearer.</p> <p>Mark williams, States Black bear is not on the list of fur-bearers.</p> <p>Ellen mentions in some areas you used to be able to set traps</p>



			for bears, like a fur bearer Unanimous support
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
Opposed	0	15	<p>Moved by Joel, 2nd by Mike K</p> <p>Mike D notes the department wants the population to be 200-300. It was 150-200. There was a small uptic in population last year but Mike isn't sure why. He doe's feel an additional 100 wolves is to any hunter's benefit.</p> <p>Ellen notes estimate from 2020, they've all be over 200.</p> <p>Joel states if this passes it will give the department to further over manage and limit trappers.</p> <p>Mike D feels its about biodiversity. Feels there are other ways to do this such as a few transplants from other locations. He mentions the department's position of Genetic diversity being too narrow. .</p> <p>He has not seen any inbred, deformed or unhealthy wolves.</p> <p>Elija states concern for carrying capacity with 2nd growth limiting feed, we may not be able to feed that many wolves.</p> <p>Mike D. states he read the previous biologist on the island states each wolf will eat 25 dear/year. With current population estimates, that s over 6000 deer. he isn't willing to sacrifice deer to grow wolves</p> <p>Notes the biologist is willing to sacrifice deer to grow wolves.</p> <p>Ellen mentions Genetic diversity is fine but if you don't have species diversity due to all deer being eaten, it wont do any good.</p> <p>Notes the deer population is still slow on the rise.</p> <p>He thinks</p> <p>Unanimous opposed, Prop fails.</p>
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
Opposed	1	14	<p>Mike D moved to adopt, second by Joel</p> <p>History by Mike D. It used to start Dec 1, on the federal side, the RAC is always looking to give rural priority, so they changed to Nov. 15, Then the change was made to align the seasons,</p> <p>Ellen, then the year they aligned, and by the time it got to</p>



			<p>private land, there had already been so many wolves caught, take was big.</p> <p>Mike, this would only affect state and private land.</p> <p>Mike isn't historically in support of the season.</p> <p>The rationale is that the further you get into winter, the weather goes bad, Then concern of catching deer if using snares. Younger generation is using snares with less caution.</p> <p>Ellen, this leads to trapping classes to educate.</p> <p>Mike D states the concern is the deer rut. Feels they don't move that much but they live there, It's not going to change much. Deer don't move as much as thought when rutting.</p> <p>Changing until after the rut will not be beneficial to any trappers.</p> <p>Trapping conditions become less productive and less safe due to winter weather.</p> <p>Clinton: on the federal side, due to bad weather, he requested an extension, received an immediate NO. They didn't even consider it.</p> <p>Mike D, mentioned all the effort to get seasons aligned and now they want to change it back. He does not support this.</p> <p>Ellen states she is impressed there has not been more conflict amongst user groups.</p> <p>Mike D. thought the tagging of traps system was good. With Signs as well.</p> <p>Elija, Concerns for theft if signs are up.</p> <p>Mike Sheets, brings up the amount of people out in November. Opens up more opportunity just because of traffic numbers. Greater opportunity later. As hunting traffic diminishes.</p> <p>Mike Sheets support All other Oppose. Motion Fails</p>
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15		
Opposed	1	14	<p>Joel moved to adopt, Sandra Marker 2nd</p> <p>Mike D. states discussion in 49 applies</p> <p>Mike Sheets supports</p> <p>All other oppose</p> <p>Motion fail</p>
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		



Amended	15	0	<p>Joel Moved to Adopt, Sandra 2nd RossD. Points out the season length is 137 days in regulation. Typically closed by EO to use season length to control harvest. Ross states the Commissioner is the only one with the authority. This method has been successful at managing harvest.</p> <p>Ellen reiterates that the way this proposal is written, we would be limiting trappers to only 45 days.</p> <p>Joel, if our objective range is 150-200, Why not increase if season length if we have not reached objective.</p> <p>Ross, the answer is related to the earlier proposal 38 with the increase of population objective to 200-300 due to genetic diversity. A study showed the wolves were highly inbred. This is new information that was then used to submit an ESA listing. So now we want the population estimate to be high to increase potential of genetic diversity to address concerns of proposed ESA listing. Been managing for population goal of 200-300. Not an increase, just a status quo. Genetic Status is a concern. Once more is learned, the department will more than likely come back to the board.</p> <p>Clinton, asks why have harvest goal of 150-200 if you won't allow that take. The department has skirted their own stated rules.</p> <p>Ross, states this is back to the precautionary approach due to the Genetic diversity issue and time required to get more information.</p> <p>Ellen: adds it has been a while since ESA has loomed over us. Better to be cautious. If the ESA listing occurs, all control by the state is lost.</p> <p>Mike D. Why is there no Genetic diversity concern on other smaller islands. Why is there no concern of deer populations.</p> <p>Dave C asked why there isn't much concern for the Genetic diversity on the smaller islands?</p> <p>Mike D states he has never heard mention of it ever.</p> <p>Mike K. States there is more Genetic flow on smaller islands.</p> <p>Aaron B would suggest changing the wording to incorporate the amount necessary for subsistence. At least for Craig.</p> <p>Chuck, asked if the hunting was incorporated in the 137 days,</p> <p>Answer is NO.</p> <p>Ellen states less than a handful, Ross, Typically single digit numbers.</p> <p>Ellen, opens earlier and closes later than trapping season.</p>
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			<p>Joel withdrew his motion Sandra 2nd</p> <p>Mike D. Moved to Withdraw Proposal 51 Motion not seconded. Aaron bean mentioned we table this for a rewrite?</p> <p>Rewrite to + Extend the wolf trapping opportunity to Not less than 45 days of the 137 in unit 2</p> <p>Ross, uses fall pre harvest estimates.</p> <p>Aaron Bean moved to adopt 51, Second by Joel S. Mike D. The department was agreeable to 150-200 wolves. They are not holding up to that agreement We feel we need a longer season to manage these populations. Aaron Move to amend the motion, to state as Ellen Written above. 2nd by</p> <p>Mike D. Pointed out that it will not have any affect because the department doesn't have EO management authority . 2nd s the motion to amend by aaron.</p> <p>Vote on the motion: Unanimous support Vote on amendment: Unanimous support</p>
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		
Opposed	0	15	Moved by Joel, 2nd by Clinton Unanimous opposed
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
Support	13	2	Moved by Clinton 2nd by Joel A phone call was received and Alaska Trappers organization stated they do these and would be happy to help.



			Idea is to bring people together and create Support by all , Opposed by Joel and Mike D.
54	Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .		
Support	14	1	Joel Move to adopt, 2nd by Cook Ellen saw a trap set all winter All in favor except Joel S opposed.
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		
Support	9	5	Joel Moved to adopt 55 and 56, Cook 2nd Ellen would prefer no infrared or artificial vision at all. Examples: wolves on the beach, Mink, Support: 9 Oppose: 5 Undecided :1 Motion Passed
56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
Support	9	5	Above

Proposal 66

Support 15-0

Moved to adopt 66, Mike D 2nd.

Take a bear of Keupronof. And etolin.

Primarily to take a bear if it is charging so to not have to
Deal with a life protection case.

Brownbear populations on Etolin have grown significantly.

And Keupronof. Removes disqualification for a hunt in other areas.

Unanimous support. Motion Passed.

If time allows, Board of Fisheries Proposal



If not, this will continue Dec 10th at 6pm

Craig Advisory Committee Page 5/8

Statewide Finfish and Supplement Issues March 17-20, 2026, Anchorage, AK Deadline for comment March 2nd			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
162	Methods, means, and general provisions. Prohibit commercial transport services in subsistence fisheries...		
11	Closed waters in Bering Sea Aleutian Island Area. Closed state waters to commercial groundfish fishing with trawl gear west of 170W longitude...		
163	Types of legal gear. Define all trawl operate inside state waters as non-pelagic and develop new performance and monitoring standards to allow state water pelagic trawling to occur on a case by case basis...		
164	Types of legal gear. Establish bottom contact monitoring requirements for pelagic trawl gear operates inside state waters...		



165	Types of legal gear. Establish salmon excluder requirements for all pelagic trawl gear operated inside state waters...		
166	Types of legal gear. Amend statewide definition of a mechanical jigging machine...		
167	Lawful gear for groundfish. Prohibit vessels from having other groundfish gear or equipment onboard while participating in a groundfish fishery using mechanical jigging machines or hand troll gear....		
168	Lawful gear for groundfish. Prohibit vessels from having more than one groundfish gear type onboard when participating in a state-managed groundfish fishery		
169	Type of legal gear. Create a definition of groundfish coil spring or 'slinky pot'...		
170	New regulations. Refuse the permitted egg take level of each hatchery permit containing pink and chum salmon by 25% of the current permitted capacity for those species...		

Craig Advisory Committee Page 6/8

Statewide Finfish and Supplement Issues March 17-20, 2026, Anchorage, AK Deadline for comment March 2nd			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose,	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes



No Action			
171	New regulations. Amend Prince William Sound hatchery permit to reduce pink salmon egg tale capacity...		
172	New regulation. Board generated regulation that places a moratorium on pink and chum hatchery production		
173	Boundary markers. Provide emergency order authority to define fishing boundaries when regulatory markers are lost, destroyed, or otherwise absent....		
174	Seine specifications and operations. Allow the engine of a purse seine vessel or skiff to be shut off when the purse seine is deployed....		
175	Types of gear. Modify dipnet mesh-size and confirmation....		
176	New section Regulatory Language here. Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits...		
177	New Section. Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits...		
178	Definition. Modify the definition of bag limits...		
179	New Section. Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of 10 fish...		
180	New Section. Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of 5 fish...		
181	Sport fishing gear. Align regulatory and statutory language for sport fishing gear...		



182	New Section. Establish bow fishing as lawful sport fishing gear for species without a bag or possession limit...		
183	New Section. Amend regulations requiring conditions of fish available to inspection while in possession...		

Craig Advisory Committee Page 7/8

Statewide Finfish and Supplement Issues March 17-20, 2026, Anchorage, AK Deadline for comment March 2nd			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
184	Definitions. Align sport fish definition of rockfish with the statewide definition...		

Ellen: anyone want to go to BOG. Ellen would go.

Adjournment: 8:37pm

Minutes Recorded By: David Creighton

Minutes Approved By: Ellen Hannan via Email

Date: 12.23.2025

Craig Advisory Committee Page 8/8

**East POW AC Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting October 25, 2025 in Thorne Bay @ City Hall****Call to Order: 10:41 am****Roll Call:****Members present: 8****13 Members total****Number needed for quorum: 7**

East POW AC Members	Officer	Designation	Present	Absent	Expiration
Dave Egelston			x		June 2028
Amy Jennings		Thorne Bay	x (online)		June 2028
Kim Redmond		Thorne Bay	x		June 2026
William Pattison	Vice Chair	Whale Pass		x (excused)	June 2027
Matt Beck		Whale Pass		x (excused)	June 2026
John Ryan		Hollis		x (excused)	June 2027
Lew Hiatt		Hollis	x		June 2026
George Nix		Kasaan	x		June 2028
Eric Hamar		Kasaan		x (excused)	June 2028
Doug Rhodes		Coffman Cove		x (excused)	June 2027
		Coffman Cove			
Kurt Whitehead	Secretary		x (online)		June 2028
Glen Holt			x		June 2026
Auggie Dunne			x (online)		June 2026

ADFG Staff Present: Kristy Tibbles (ADFG board support-online), Ross Dorendorf & Mark Williamson (ADFG Unit 2 biologists)

Guests present: Jim McFarland, Cindy Egelston, Jeff & Keri Bergman

Elections: George Nix (Kasaan), Amy Jennings (Thorne Bay), Dave Egelston & Kurt Whitehead (undesignated) were all elected and we are also holding elections again at the next meeting. Amy Jennings was reelected as a Thorne Bay rep and resigned as the chair. We will hold elections for officers at the next meeting.

Reports:

Kurt & Dave: Both gave update on HB93; seasonal resident bill.

ADFG: Gave feedback on several of the props but haven't officially released their recommendations but did share all of data regarding some of the props.

Public: none



Old Business: Sara Yockey resigned, Mark Roberts & Della Colburn's terms expired and they haven't responded

New Business: Held elections & had general discussion on BOG Props. We did not deliberate on any props due to the many absences.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:51am

Next meeting: Dec. 6, 2025

Minutes recorded by: Kurt Whitehead

Minutes approved by: Dave Egelston

Date: Jan. 8, 2026

**East POW AC Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting December 13, 2025 in Thorne Bay @ City Hall****Call to Order: 10:05am****Roll Call:****Members present: 8****13 Members total****Number needed for quorum: 7**

East POW AC Members	Officer	Designation	Present	Absent	Expiration
Dave Egelston	Chair		x		June 2028
William Pattison	Vice Chair	Whale Pass	x		June 2027
Matt Beck		Whale Pass	x (online)		June 2026
Amy Jennings		Thorne Bay	x (online)		June 2028
Kim Redmond		Thorne Bay	x		June 2026
John Ryan		Hollis	x (online)	x (excused)	June 2027
Lew Hiatt		Hollis	x (online)		June 2026
George Nix		Kasaan		x (excused)	June 2028
Eric Hamar		Kasaan	x (online)		June 2028
Doug Rhodes		Coffman Cove	x (online)		June 2027
		Coffman Cove			
Kurt Whitehead	Secretary			x (excused)	June 2028
Glen Holt				x (excused)	June 2026
Augie Dunne			x (online)		June 2026
Luther Jenson			x		June 2027
Keri Bergman		Alternate	x		June 2027

ADFG Staff Present: Sam Kirby (ADFG board support-online), Ross Dorendorf (online) & Mark Williamson (ADFG Unit 2 biologists)**Guests present:** Keri Bergman, Luther Jenson**Elections: Dave Egelston-Chair, Will Pattison-Vice Chair, Kurt Whitehead-Secretary****Reports: None****ADFG: None****Public: Lee Burger, Christian ?****Old Business: ADFG Props**

Prop 1: Prohibit the take of big game animals b/n civil twilight sunset until civil twilight sunrise the following day in units 1-5

Discussion: At an earlier meeting, AST gave us a report on how a civil twilight regulation for deer/big game in SE AK would improve enforcement and curb illegal/unethical hunting. Many cases have been lost b/c the “hunters” shut off their headlights prior to firing a shot and the jury found them innocent b/c they shot without using a spotlight. Civil twilight gives the hunter more hunting opportunity than the standard 30min before/after sunrise/sunset that the lower 48 uses. There is lots of info online about it and this prop will certainly curb illegal activity. We are strongly supportive of enforcement and creating regs that will allow them to prosecute poachers. If passed, this will be a very positively impactful reg for all of SE AK. It is nearly impossible for enforcement to patrol the myriad hunting areas and roads in SE AK and when they finally catch poachers, for them to get off on a technicality is crazy. Every hunter conservationist should endeavour to make better regs, mentor others and be better sportsmen/women. *This is a transformative reg that will create a level playing field, draw a definite line in the sand, improve enforcement and has very little if any downside. We encourage all of you to research civil twilight with an open mind and think about the positive benefits to this regulation. We strongly support this prop!*

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 2: Prohibit the take of deer b/n civil twilight sunset until civil twilight sunrise the following day in units 1-5

Discussion: Same as above.

Vote: Support: unanimous

Prop 3: Allow same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5

Discussion: ADFG is neutral and could still manage by reducing season length. *Many members are strongly opposed to same day airborne*, especially for mtn. goats that are generally easy to hunt other than navigating the terrain. Goats don't move much other than during the rut and their defense mechanism is living near escape terrain making them easy targets to hunt the same day. If allowed, the season would be significantly shortened and limiting opportunity.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 4: Amend the definition of a “taken” mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a “taken” brown bear in Units 1-5.

Discussion: This is a matter of hunting ethics and every hunter conservationist should consider a wounded animal a tagged animal.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 5: Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years.

Discussion: The majority felt the current bag limit is good and/or could be open to a bear every 2 or 3 years but did not like the 1 bear/year b/c that would increase the take significantly. The minority felt there are plenty of bears and wanted to increase the take.

Vote: Opposed: split: 8-No/4-Yes

Prop 6/7: Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Unit 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31.

Discussion: This is a good proposal that will consolidate seasons.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 8/9: Establish a season for mountain lions in SE AK from Aug.1-June 15.

Discussion: 5 confirmed mtn. lions in SE AK all in unit 3, all males that likely migrated from the mainland. One member stated he would rather have trappers be able to keep them if incidentally taken.

Vote: Support: split: 10-Yes/2-No



Prop 10: Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5.

Discussion: ADFG would lose data and sealers would lose income if requirement is removed.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 11: Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send wireless messages for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5.

Discussion: ADFG is neutral but this could increase safety as well as efficiency. This will allow trappers to dispatch their catch faster and prevent theft of trap and/or animals and increase ethics.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 12/13: Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5.

Discussion: Night vision is incredible technology and makes it way too easy to kill anything and makes illegal activity a very real threat. Enforcement already have their hands full with spotlighting in SE AK and allowing night vision as well is just nuts. Regulation complexity isn't much of an opposing argument; our reg book is already thick. Hunter conservationists should do whatever we can to limit illegal activity. Many members are strongly opposed.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 14/15: Increase the bag limit of fisher from 1 to 3 per season & Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in units 1-5

Discussion: Currently, there is no citation by enforcement if trappers exceed their 1/year bag limit.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 16: Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22.

Motion to amend prop 16 as follows: Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to Sept. 15-Dec. 31; eliminating the split season.

Discussion: One member is opposed b/c we lose ability to shoot pintails, teal and other early season birds. Many are opposed to the current split season. Several members want an October 1 start date with no split season. The split season mainly benefits the northern SE AK hunters. The duck season has gone back and forth every cycle trying to accommodate the duck hunters in northern SE AK that want an earlier season start date and the southern SE AK hunters that want a later start date. Maybe a better option would be dividing SE AK with a northern season vs a southern season.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 17: Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region

Discussion: This prop is confusing b/c it doesn't clarify which grouse species.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 18: Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to Aug. 10-May 31

Discussion: Two members spoke about how they've never seen female hooters and would like to see the season extended to allow additional opportunity.

Vote: Split: Opposed: 7-No/5-Yes



Prop 37/39: Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from 4 to 3 bucks.

Discussion: Inaccurate reporting is an issue as well as illegal/unethical reporting. We want a more conservative harvest and support both of these props and defer to the Boards decision.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 38: Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from 4 bucks to three.

Discussion: We agree with the departments comments.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 39/40/41: Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from 4 bucks to 2 bucks and/or 1 buck.

Motion to amend Prop 40 & 41 as follows: Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from 4 bucks to 2 bucks.

Discussion: If passed, prop 39 would solve some of the social conflicts b/n res and non-res hunters. Very few non-res are successful enough to take 2 bucks but there is a physiological benefit for them being able to harvest 2 bucks which is a real benefit to hunting SE AK. Many of us agree there isn't a biological concern although we would all like to see more deer on the landscape but the conflicts in the field, near the trailheads and along the roads is frustrating for many of us locals.

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 42: Change the non-res start date for deer hunting season in Unit 2 to Aug. 15.

Discussion: If passed this would affect state and native lands and would closely align seasons. Under federal regs, non-federally qualified users start date is Aug. 16.

Vote: Support: Split: 11-Yes/1-No

Prop 43: Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and non-res on the Cleveland Peninsula

Discussion: This would allow KTN residents additional opportunity

Vote: Support: Unanimous

Prop 44/45/46: Limit the non-res permits for Unit 1A goat drawing DG005/DG006/DG008, to "up to" 20% of the available permits

Discussion: This is not the way to address the problem and if passed would have unintended consequences.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 47: Eliminate meat salvage requirement in May for black bear in Unit 2 for residents only

Discussion: If passed this would be the only unit in the state that meat salvage wouldn't be required in May for black bear. This prop is ethically wrong and most of us are strongly opposed to this prop. We live on an island where groceries are cost prohibitive and wasting quality protein is morally and ethically wrong.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 48: Increase the unit 2 wolf population objective to maintain the unit wide population within a range of 200-300 wolves.

Discussion: There are relatively few wolves that emigrate onto PoW and ADFG feels Unit 2 wolves have poor genetic diversity. The current harvest is nearly at the max allowed for sustained genetic diversity.



There was a genetic bottleneck in the 1970's and ADFG is doing everything it can to avoid potential petitions to list under the ESA.

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 49: Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to Dec. 15 or Jan. 1

Discussion: ADFG can adjust their management if the dates are changed.

Several members opposed the later dates b/c of freezing Wx. One member reported there are too many hunters and too many deer in the field in November. Several members reported they would prefer a start date of Dec. 1 to avoid the deer and deer/duck hunters.

Vote: Support: Split: 8-Yes/2-No

Prop 50: Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to Dec. 15

Discussion: The hair board survey stops around Dec. 15 as well as the deer/deer hunting traffic decreases significantly, which is why we proposed this date. One member doesn't like the freezing Wx in December

Vote: Support: Split: 9-Yes/1-No

Prop 51: Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days in Unit 2

Discussion: This won't improve wolf management

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 52: Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves

Discussion: The threat of another ESA petition to list would be very real if this is passed

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 53: Require and online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2

Discussion: This prop is largely a result b/c of the increased deer bycatch due to the Nov. 15 start

Vote: Opposed: Unanimous

Prop 54: Require ID tags to be attached to traps/snares in Unit 2

Discussion: This can be as easy as a AK DL #. Most trappers will likely be more legal & ethical if they are required. There is virtually no downside to having them required. One member stated it adds an undue burden to trappers.

Vote: Support: Split: 9-Yes/1-No

Prop 55/56: Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking forbearers in Unit 2

Discussion: All of our proposals show we are doing everything we can to rebuild our deer herd and this prop follows the same logic

Vote: Support: Unanimous

BOF Props to be continued.....

Meeting Adjourned: 4:21pm

Next meeting: TBA

Minutes recorded by: Kurt Whitehead

Minutes approved by: Dave Egelston

Date: Jan. 9, 2026



ELFIN COVE FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 18, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Zoom

CALL-IN INFORMATION:

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84564631191?pwd=twqfY355JkFJQ5xb0f6ndaLh766qWh.1>

Phone: +1 253-205-0468 or 833-548-0282 (Toll-free)

Meeting ID: 845 6463 1191

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at **6:05 PM** by Chair.

2. Roll Call & Establish Quorum

Name	Present
Zach Miller	Present
Susan Meier	Absent
Hayden Meier	Absent
Hayley Janttie	Absent
Jacques Norvell	Absent
Shirley Perkins	Present
Mary Jo Lord-Wild	Present
Holly Enderle	Present
Ryland Bell	Present
Vice Chair Eric Stromme	Present
Charles Peep	Present
Nicole Pollock	Present
Nelson Merrell	Present
Secretary Alice Smith (Johnson)	Present



Chair Patrick Baum	Present
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Quorum Met.

3. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion:** Charles Peep
- **Second:** Ryland Bell
Agenda approved.

4. AC Member Elections – 5 Seats

Seats up for election:

- Haley Janttie
- Holly Enderle
- Nicole Pollock
- Shirley Perkins
- Nelson Merrell

Nominations:

- Ryland Bell nominated **Holly Enderle**
- Mary Jo Lord-Wild nominated **Shirley Perkins**
- Charles Peep nominated **Nelson Merrell**
- Patrick Baum nominated **Kenneth Baxter**
- Shirley Perkins nominated **Nicole Pollock**

Discussion & Voting:

- Motion by Ryland to elect **Nelson Merrell**, second by Mary Jo — **Passed unanimously**
- Motion by Mary Jo for **Nicole Pollock**, seconded by Ryland — **Passed unanimously**
- Motion by Mary Jo for **Shirley Perkins**, seconded by Ryland — **Passed unanimously**

- Motion by Ryland for **Holly Enderle**, seconded by Mary Jo — **Passed unanimously**
- Motion by Ryland for **Kenneth Baxter**, second by Mary Jo — **Passed unanimously**

Elected members: **Nelson Merrell, Nicole Pollock, Shirley Perkins, Holly Enderle, and Kenneth Baxter.**

5. House Concurrent Resolution 1 (HCR 1)

Summary:

HCR 1 is a resolution in the Alaska Legislature to create a Joint Legislative Task Force on Sport Fishing Service Providers in Southeast Alaska.

This task force will examine the structure, growth, and management of the sport-fishing service provider industry and make recommendations to the Legislature.

Discussion: Zach Miller attended meeting in Sitka that discussed the task force. Alice Smith (Johnson) explained how this resolution is just to create the task force, and the advisory committee should be involved in showing support.

Motion to support unanimously: Support HCR 1 — **Ryland**

Second: Mary Jo

Passed with unanimous consent.

Action:

Patrick will draft a message of support from the Elfin Cove AC and receive email confirmation to send to Representative Rebecca Himschoot.

6. Board of Game Proposals (1, 2, 10, 16–24)

Proposal 1 – Prohibit taking big game during civil-twilight nighttime in Units 1–5.

Discussion:

- Nelson: This has been an issue with people going out and hunting with flash lights and turning the light off right before they shoot. This closes up a loophole that's been abused.

Motion to support unanimously: Charles

Second: Ryland

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 1.



Proposal 2 – Prohibit taking deer during civil-twilight nighttime in Units 1–5.

Supported with Proposal 1 (same motion & vote).

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 2.

Proposal 10 – Remove beaver sealing requirement in Units 1–5.

Discussion:

- Shirley: Sealing is not a hardship.
- Holly: Beaver create crucial habitat.
- Zach: His wife (a beaver sealer) supports keeping sealing.
- Ryland: You don't get to avoid doing something because of it is an inconvenience

Motion to Oppose: Holly

Second: Mary Jo

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 10.

Proposal 16 – Change migratory bird/waterfowl season to Oct 8–Jan 22.

Discussion:

- Alice: I think this is a great idea as the migration is getting later due to climate change. This allows birds to move in and continue the hunting activity into January. Kodiak and other places in Alaska already do this.

Motion to support unanimously: Mary Jo

Second: Ryland

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 16.

Proposal 17 – Modify grouse bag limit.

Discussion:

- Shirley: Supports, likes male-only harvest.



- Ryland: Asked how easy it is to identify. Shirley said you can tell by the hooting of the males and the females are typically on the ground.

Motion to support unanimously: Charles

Second: Ryland

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 17.

Proposal 18 – Extend grouse season Aug 10–May 31.

- Charles: Seems to be a good idea with well-founded data behind it.

Motion to support unanimously: Charles

Second: Shirley

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 18.

Proposal 19 – Extend resident brown bear season to May 31.

Motion to proceed to next item of business: Charles

Second: Eric

(No action taken.)

Proposal 20 – Extend RB088 season to May 31 for Lisianski Inlet.

Motion to proceed to next item of business: Charles

Second: Eric

(No action taken.)

Proposal 21 – Extend RB088 brown bear season for all Northeast Chichagof.

Motion to proceed to next item of business: Charles

Second: Eric

(No action taken.)

Proposal 22 – Lengthen brown bear season in Unit 4.

Discussion:

- Shirley: This seems to be unnecessary. The justification isn't based on issues with the population of bears but rather the weather.
- Alice: Extending it could mean impacts with bear viewers.

Motion to Oppose: Shirley

Second: Alice

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 22.

Proposal 23 – Increase nonresident deer bag limit in Unit 4.

Discussion:

- Ryland: I am strongly against this.

Motion to Oppose: Ryland

Second: Shirley

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 23.

Proposal 24 – Modify Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area boundaries.

Discussion:

- Patrick: Helps older hunters access drainages without needing to cross the inlet.
- Nelson: Doesn't quite understand this. Charles agreed.
- Ryland: This doesn't seem to be something we have an opinion about.
- No action taken.

8. Board of Fisheries Proposals (170, 172, 176–184)

Proposal 170 – Reduce pink/chum hatchery egg-take by 25%.

Discussion:

- Ryland: Not good for gillnetters.

- Nelson: Supports no changes until more info.
- Charles: Prefers capping.
Motion to Oppose: Charles
Second: Ryland
Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 170.

Proposal 172 – Moratorium on increasing pink/chum hatchery egg-take statewide.

Discussion:

- Charles moved to support, then withdrew after disagreement.
- Patrick: Opposes due to the author's potential impacts.
- Nelson: Concern about regulatory “slippery slope.”
- Ryland: Hatchery results unclear, harvest still stable.
- Mary Jo: Wants more studies first.

Motion to Oppose: Ryland

Second: Mary Jo

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 172.

Proposal 176 – Allow vessel-based pooling of bag/possession limits for saltwater finfish.

Discussion:

- Mary Jo: “Party boat fishing—same guy keeps catching. But they won’t be throwing back fish the guys that keep fishing catch, this will avoid unnecessary death from incorrect use of deep water release.”
- Zach: “People treat it as a boat catch anyway. It happens all the time.”
- Mary Jo: “Is this abuse?” Nelson: “Yes! People should be catching their own fish.”
- Nelson: Concern over non-participating anglers “getting” fish.
- Shirley: Mentioned halibut tagging concerns.



- Alice: There could be enforcement issues.

Motion made by Mary Jo to request ADF&G self-guided/unguided data, Shirley Seconds.

Action: Patrick to request data.

Roll Call Vote:

Oppose: Zach, Eric, Ryland, Holly, Shirley, Nelson, Patrick, Charles, Alice

Support: Mary Jo

Proposal 176 Opposed (8–1).

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee Opposes Proposal 176.

Proposal 177 – Pool daily bag/possession limits in marine waters.

Discussion:

- Zach: Saves time waiting on a slower angler.
- Ryland: “Sport Fishing isn’t meant for food, it’s meant for entertainment. Filling boxes should not be the goal; that is commercial fishing.”
- Alice: Agrees with Ryland, quotes the proposal “Where sportfishing in Alaska serves both as a *food source* and recreation”. Sport fishing should not be a food source, as it is a resource of Alaska that charter fishing could abuse.

Motion to Oppose: Charles

Second: Holly

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 177.

Proposal 178 – Change bag limit definition so landed fish count for any participant.

Discussion:

- Nelson: Opposes — “You should have to hook your own fish.”
- Shirley: Seen people use their kids/babies as an extra person on boat to get more fish.
- Zach: Had this in Florida. People should be hooking their own fish.

Motion to Oppose: Ryland

Second: Holly

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 178.

Proposal 179 – Statewide annual limit of 10 Chinook.

Discussion:

- Ryland: “10 kings is a lot of food. Ends up being over 50lbs of king salmon.”
- Patrick: I help feed my community with this.
- Discussion continued on Proposal 180 due to similarities.

Proposal 180 – Statewide annual limit of 5 Chinook + reporting.

Discussion:

- Patrick: Applies statewide.
- Nelson & Alice: No distinction between resident/nonresident.

Motion to Oppose 179 & 180: Ryland

Second: Nelson

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee opposes Proposal 179 & 180.

Proposal 181 – Align sport gear rules with statutory definitions.

Discussion:

- Shirley: “Are downriggers still allowed?”
- Patrick: Unsure.
- Everyone confused if downriggers are still allowed.
Motion: Table to next meeting & invite ADF&G.
Motion: Mary Jo
Second: Nicole
Passed with unanimous consent.

Action: Added to agenda of next meeting, invitation to ADF&G request.

Proposal 182 – Allow bowfishing for freshwater species without limits.

Discussion:

- Zach asked what species have no bag limits.
Motion to proceed to next item of business: Charles
Second: Eric
(No action taken.)

Proposal 183 – Require fish to remain identifiable until processed.**Discussion:**

- Nelson: Seems like a legitimate idea to help with enforcement.

Motion to Support: Nelson

Second: Ryland

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 183.

Proposal 184 – Align rockfish definitions with statewide definitions.**Discussion:**

- Mary Jo: Would be nice to have better definitions for regulations for resource management.
- Shirley: Agrees.

Motion to Support: Mary Jo

Second: Eric

Passed with unanimous consent.

Elfin Cove Advisory Committee unanimously supports Proposal 184.

9. Other Business

- Discussed the attendance of Patrick and Ken Baxter for the Board of Game meeting in Wrangell.
- Proposal 181 tabled for ADF&G attendance.
- Alice proposed that SEAGO/Representative attend next meeting to discuss HCR 1 and what we can do to support.



- Next meeting planned for **January**.

10. Public Comment

Gale Vick (Fairbanks AC):

- Expressed concern about statewide Chinook declines.
- Noted the importance of commenting on statewide fish issues.
- We can reach out to her if there are any questions.

Allen from Board of Game:

- Board of Game wants feedback on social issues.
- Alice raised concerns about small cruise ships doing bear-viewing immediately after hunting season and potential user conflicts.

11. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Nelson

Second: Ryland

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Minutes Recorded by: Alice Johnson

Minutes Submitted by: Patrick Baum, Chair

Date: November 18th, 2025



**Juneau Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee
December 4, 2025 – 6 pm
UAS Egan 221 / Virtual**

I. Call to Order: 6:10 by Kevin Maier, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Kevin Maier, Richard Yamada, Atlin Daughtery, Peter Robertson, Nick Orr, Jesse Walker, Ed Buyarski, Chris Miller, Jason Kohlhase, Jesse Ross, Forest Wagner, Terry White, Mike Cole, Thatcher Brouwer, Kristine Trott

Members Absent (Excused): N/A

Members Absent (Unexcused): N/A

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: Non-consumptive, personal use, freshwater and saltwater charter, commercial fishing, trapping, processor, hunting guide, hunting and sport fishing.

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Carl Koch

IV. Guests Present: Zach Decker, Todd Bailey, Jamalea Martelle, Alice Smith, Jamie Backtel (sp?), Eric Daugherty, Kyle and Mathew M (?), Lee Kadinger.

V. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved by unanimous consent.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: N/A

VII. Reports

a. Chair's report: N/A

b. ADF&G: N/A

c. Others N/A

VIII. Public Comment: N/A

IX. Old Business: N/A

X. New Business:

Elections:

Mike Bethers is moving on. Kevin M. thanked him for his service.

Eric Daugherty is interested in an alternate seat. He is a commercial fisherman. Gillnetter and crabber.

Mike Cole (current alternate) is interested in filling Mike Bethers sport fishing / personal use seat.

Todd Bailey is interested in filling an alternate seat. Commercial fisherman. Crabber and gillnetter.

Jamalea Martelle is interested in filling the alternate seat. She has lived in Juneau for 13 years. Learned to hunt and fish here. Experience hunting moose, bear, deer and waterfowl as well as sportfishing in both saltwater and freshwater.

Discussion of having Thatcher not seek reelection so that we could seat all the members of the public who are interested in being on the AC.

At ease at 7:25 to discuss elections and public participation in elections.

Meeting was called back to order at 7:26. After consulting with ADFG staff about elections chair Maier announced that the meeting was not noticed far enough in advance to hold elections tonight. Chair Maier apologized to those who attended the meeting for the election and stated that elections will be held at the December 9th, 2025 meeting.

At the end of the meeting Kevin M. reviewed the plans for elections at the next meeting.

Southeast Board of Game proposals were discussed as new business. See below.

- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting. N/A
- XII. Set next meeting date: 12.9.25
- XIII. Other

Kevin M. and Nick O. asked AC members to review the sea otter resolution the department has drafted so that we can vote to support it at the next meeting.

- XIV. Board of Game Proposals



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Oppose	4	10	<p>Discussion on proposals 1 and 2. Discussed together and voted on separately:</p> <p>Nick O: Regional issue and this should not be on the table.</p> <p>Ed B: Support in concept.</p> <p>Peter R: Duplicative regulation in concept.</p> <p>Mike C: Wrong to do this (hunt at night).</p> <p>Kristine T: To hunt like this (at night) is wrong.</p> <p>Jesse W: Will this regulation solve the problem? Do we need another regulation?</p> <p>Zach Decker: Daylight changes quickly. Changes hours for hunting activities. All of southeast impacted.</p> <p>Jesse R and Atlin D: Confusing.</p> <p>Chris M: Is this a problem?</p> <p>Karl: ADFG is Neutral. Somewhat prevalent in POW. Civil twilight is different in different places.</p> <p>Jesse W: I can't find when civil twilight is?</p> <p>Zach D: Other tools in the tool box we can use.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Mike C: Motion to separate vote on Proposal 1 and 2. Motion to separate question passed by unanimous consent.</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Ed B: Called the question on proposal one and Kristine T seconded motion.</p> <p>4 support, 10 oppose and 2 abstentions (unclear how it will impact Southeast).</p>
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Support	9	4	<p>See discussion on proposal 1</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>9 support, 4 oppose, 1 abstention (unclear how this will impact southeast AK)</p>
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	14	<p>Peter Robertson: I do not think this is appropriate.</p> <p>Karl: Might increase female harvest if there is limited time to harvest goats. Department is neutral. Lots of emergency closures already.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>14 opposed – unanimous</p>
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
Support	14	0	<p>Ed B: I agree. If you shoot it, you should not be able to shoot another.</p> <p>Peter R: Bear Hunters?</p> <p>Atlin D: Not a problem. Blood is drawn and you need to pursue the animal.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Zach D: This has really helped change the bear management. You shoot goat. The goat should be yours.</p> <p>Vote: Support by unanimous consent.</p>
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
Oppose	0	13	<p>Karl K: All of unit 1 (department interpretation). Already concerns in unit 1d. We try to manage to harvest 4% of the population. Do not always have population estimates. Likely exceed 4% in some areas.</p> <p>Nick O: Not clearly written.</p> <p>Jesse W: Not clearly written and concern for overharvest.</p> <p>Peter R: Same logic as Jesse.</p> <p>Karl K: There is not a definition of unit 1 remainder in regulation.</p> <p>Vote: 13 opposed and 1 abstention (Do not know what we are talking about. Not clearly written)</p>
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
Support	11	2	<p>Considered proposal 6 and 7 together and took one vote for both proposals.</p> <p>Jesse R: Align seasons.</p> <p>Nick O: I am okay with this. Align seasons.</p> <p>Zach D: Makes sense.</p> <p>Vote:</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			11 support. 2 oppose. 1 abstention (need a little more clarity).
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
Support	12	2	<p>Considered proposal 6 and 7 together and took one vote on both proposals.</p> <p>Jesse R: Align seasons.</p> <p>Nick O: I am okay with this. Align seasons.</p> <p>Zach D: Makes sense.</p> <p>Vote: 11 support. 2 oppose. 1 abstention (need a little more clarity).</p>
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
			Did not consider
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
			Did not consider
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
Support	10	2	<p>Nick O: This would remove the sealing requirement for beaver. Sealing requirement is typically for species where there is a population concern. This not the case with beaver and the tags can damage the hides.</p> <p>Karl K: The department is neutral on this proposal. The sealing requirement is our only source of data, but there have not been concerns with the beaver population. Could be a concern in the future.</p> <p>Vote: Ed called the question and Jesse W seconded the call.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			10 support, 2 oppose, 3 abstentions (The department will lose the data and there is not a reporting requirement to supplement the data loss).
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	13	1	<p>Nick O: This would allow someone to use a cellular device like a game camera to monitor a trap. Would allow trappers to monitor traps and make sure they are not disabled (and see if there is game in them). Could mean that trappers would be less likely to check traps, but Nick does not believe this will happen. You will still need to service traps. It could also be used to track other wildlife, but Nick also believes this is unlikely based on the timing of the trapping season.</p> <p>Karl K: The Department is neutral on this proposal. Does not think it will give trappers a big advantage.</p> <p>Kristine T: How much tampering is there?</p> <p>Nick O: Some. In other places it happens more often.</p> <p>Is it allowed anywhere else in Alaska or the US?</p> <p>Jesse R: Idaho is having a similar discussion about this.</p> <p>Karl K: I do not know what the laws are in other states regarding game cameras.</p> <p>Vote: Jesse R called the question and Nick 2nd the call. 13 support, 1 oppose and 1 abstention (not enough information)</p>
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	11	4	<p>Discussed Proposals 12 and 13 together, but voted on them separately.</p> <p>Jesse R: Board of game just approved this for the interior. Hard fought battle. Mainly this is for predatory animals.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Jesse W: It does not apply here. Do not have the same type of predatory animals.</p> <p>Ed B: I have a night vision scope. But not in favor of this in Alaska.</p> <p>Peter R: Does fish and game allow the use these types night vision devices?</p> <p>Karl K: Proposal recently passed for other areas in Alaska and these folks want to prevent it in Southeast. It is about how do you feel about this method of take.</p> <p>Vote: Jesse W and Nick O Question and 2nd 11 support, 4 oppose</p>
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
No Action			<p>Discussed Proposals 12 and 13 together, but voted on them separately.</p> <p>Jesse R: Board of game just approved this for the interior. Hard fought battle. Mainly this is for predatory animals.</p> <p>Jesse W: It does not apply here. Do not have the same type of predatory animals.</p> <p>Ed B: I have a night vision scope. But not in favor of this in Alaska.</p> <p>Peter R: Does fish and game allow the use these types night vision devices?</p>



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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Karl K: Proposal recently passed for other areas in Alaska and these folks want to prevent it in Southeast. It is about how do you feel about this method of take.</p> <p>Vote: Motion to take no action. Passed by unanimous consent.</p>
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
Support	14	0	<p>Discussed proposals 14 and 15 together, but voted on them separately.</p> <p>Jesse R: I have only caught one, but they are moving into this area. Proposer did a decent amount of research. I support these proposals.</p> <p>Peter R: What happens if you trap more than the bag limit?</p> <p>You must forfeit the animal.</p> <p>Nick O: I believe that the chances of catching a bunch are limited. Fisher are caught incidentally to Marten. Not any limits with most trapping.</p> <p>Jesse W: I did catch a fisher in 2004....We need to get more information from the department.</p> <p>Karl K: Seen down by the Taku. The numbers are very low. Could be some local population depletions if it was unlimited. More comfortable with proposal 14, but department is neutral. Department have not had many turned in recently.</p> <p>Vote: 14 support</p>
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	10	2	<p>Discussed proposals 14 and 15 together, but voted on them separately.</p> <p>Jesse R: I have only caught one, but they are moving into this area. Proposer did a decent amount of research. I support these proposals.</p> <p>Peter R: What happens if you trap more than the bag limit?</p> <p>You must forfeit the animal.</p> <p>Nick O: I believe that the chances of catching a bunch are limited. Fisher are caught incidentally to Marten. Not any limits with most trapping.</p> <p>Jesse W: I did catch a fisher in 2004....We need to get more information for the department.</p> <p>Karl K: Seen down by the Taku. The numbers are very low. Could be some local population depletions if it was unlimited. More comfortable with proposal 14, but department is neutral. Department have not had many turned in recently.</p> <p>Vote: 10 support, 2 oppose, 2 abstain (not enough information)</p>
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
Oppose	3	10	<p>Jesse W: Removes the opportunity for teal hunting since they show up earlier.</p> <p>Atlin D: Ducks showing up later and later.</p> <p>Peter R: Support this. September light is too early. Funny split. Give us some opportunity in January.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Mike C: I oppose. A lot of young people hunt in early September.</p> <p>Jesse R: We are getting holidays as extra time to hunt for youth. I like this proposal. This would give us better quality sea ducks. I do not think this is out of line compared to other states.</p> <p>Jamalea M: I do see the draw, but I oppose this. I think early season offers more opportunity. This would limit opportunity for hunters. All for getting youth and beginners out there. Early season.</p> <p>Peter R: January Hunt would eliminate competition with other hunts.</p> <p>Ed B: Still allowed to hunt (deer) in most places even in January.</p> <p>John: Does this match season in other parts of the state?</p> <p>Peter R: Same season as Kodiak and Aleutians.</p> <p>Kevin M: Lose time with daylight hours and would impact some peoples ability to harvest waterfowl in Southeast. The weather is more inhospitable in January. Also less daylight.</p> <p>Karl K: If you want to make changes, you can only change units 1 – 4. Can't include 5 because of federal laws. Only one place in state have split season. Total days limited.</p> <p>Atlin D: Elfin Cove AC supported this.</p> <p>Vote: 3 support, 10 oppose, 1 abstention (not enough info)</p>
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		



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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	13	0	<p>Peter R: This is for male only season between March 15th and May 15th. A lot of people are out shooting hens. Maybe the solution is just to limit it to males. Would not impact dog hunters. Protect local populations. Keep it healthy.</p> <p>Nick O: I support this proposal. You can tell the difference.</p> <p>Jesse W: Can you flesh out grouse?</p> <p>Peter R: Yes. Sometimes.</p> <p>Vote: Jesse W and Ed B Question and second. 13 support.</p>
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
Oppose	0	13	<p>Nick O: I would like to hear from the department</p> <p>Karl K: It would extend season into the nesting season.</p> <p>Jesse W: The snow is your friend. Nothing easy about grouse hunting. Nervous about nesting.</p> <p>Peter R: Support moving back the start date.</p> <p>Nick O: I do not want to amend it. The 1st matches the deer season. Voting on as is. I am going to oppose.</p> <p>Ed B and Jesse W question and second. 13 oppose – unanimous consent.</p>
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
Oppose	3	10	<p>Karl K: Department put this proposal in. Feel like population is doing very well. Biologist support it.</p> <p>Nick O: Unit 4 does not have the trophy value that other areas. Restore the status quo. I do not see it as moving the needle.</p> <p>Zach: Often we as guides limit ourselves to two deer. Not a good look to take more. We do not want an impact. Guide industry was supportive of the 2 deer cap.</p> <p>Atlin D: Holding it at 2 is a good compromise.</p> <p>Nick O: Comparing us to Kodiak is like apples and oranges. Transporters are increasing in numbers.</p> <p>Mike C: We are seeing a problem with this in the fishing industry.</p> <p>Atlin D: We need to get ahead of it.</p> <p>Peter R: Do we have transporters out of Juneau?</p> <p>Nick O: Guides versus transporter issue.</p> <p>Atlin D: I have seen it. Stay ahead of the curve.</p> <p>Zach: It is going to impact the hunters in Juneau.</p> <p>Kristine T: Deer population is increasing.</p>



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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Karl K: 2013 – 2022 – Nonresidents were 6% of the hunters and 2.7 % of the annual harvest in unit 4.</p> <p>Jesse R: This is an allocation issue. I cannot support this. Alaskans should have priority to harvest these deer. There is more and more competition for a limited resource.</p> <p>Vote: Ed B called question and Nick O seconded the call 3 support and 10 oppose</p>
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		
29	Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side		
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
31	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year		
32	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
33			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years
34			Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C
35			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
36			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
37			Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks
38			Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three
39			Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two
40			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one
41			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one
42			Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15
43			Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula
44			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to "up to" 20% of the available permits
45			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to "up to" 20% of the available permits



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
46			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits
47			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
48			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
49			Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1
50			Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15
51			Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2
52			Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves
53			Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2
54			Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .
55			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2
56			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons
57			Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3
58			Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3
59			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
60			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
61			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
62			Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
63			Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September
64			Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3
65			Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October
66			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year
67			Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only
68			Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only
69			Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end

Adjournment: About 8:30 pm. Approved by unanimous consent.

Minutes Recorded By: Thatcher Brouwer
Minutes Approved By: Kevin Maier by email
Date: 1/9/2025



**Juneau Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee
December 9, 2025 – 6 pm
UAS Egan 221 / Virtual**

I. Call to Order: 6:13 by Kevin Maier, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Kevin Maier, Atlin Daugherty, Peter Robertson, Nick Orr, Jesse Ross, Mike Cole, Ed Buyarski, Chris Miller, Jesse Ross, Forest Wagner, Thatcher Brouwer, Kristine Trott

New Members seated (after elections): Todd Bailey (commercial fishing), Eric Daugherty (commercial fishing), Jamalea Martelle (personal use hunting and fishing), Mike Cole (Personal use hunting and fishing), Lee Kadinger (alternate), Matthew Berry (alternate)

No longer on the AC following elections: Thatcher Brouwer, Forest Wagner, Nick Orr

Members Absent (Excused): N/A

Members Absent (Unexcused): N/A

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: Non-consumptive, personal use, freshwater and saltwater charter, commercial fishing, trapping, processor, hunting guide, hunting and sport fishing.

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Annie Bartholomew and Carl Koch

IV. Guests Present: Conner Jones, Alex Bottle (sp), Jamalea Martelle, Matt Katterson, Todd Bailey, Eric Daugherty, Matthew Barry, Brooks Horan, Lee Kadinger, Brandon Gomez

V. Approval of Agenda: Start with proposal 24 not 23. Ed B: Move to approve. Friendly amendment to add of 20, 21, and 22 to the agenda. As well as 8 and 9 if time allows. These proposals will be considered last.

Forest Wagner: Announced that he would like to resign from his commercial fishing seat on the board. “ I have served many terms and I would like to step down and be considered for an alternate seat given that there are commercial fishermen from the region interested in serving”

Amended agenda is approved by unanimous consent.



VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: N/A

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report: N/A
- b. ADF&G: N/A
- c. Others N/A

VIII. Public Comment: N/A

IX. Old Business: N/A

X. New Business:

Elections:

General Elections

Annie B: The best way run this elections is to fill out the ballot and write an additional commercial fishing name since there is a newly vacated seat. We need to go around the room and ask for nominations (or yourself). They do not need to be in the room. You can also run for multiple positions.

Who can vote?

Annie B: Members of the public of voting age can vote as well as those online.

Mike C: Do I need to resign to run for an alternate seat?

Annie B: No, you do not need to resign.

Annie B: Votes will be tallied in real time after the nominations. It will be secret ballot.

Kevin M: We have designated seats to help ensure we have fair representation for the city and borough of Juneau.

Kevin M: Who is interested in the commercial fishing seats?

Todd Bailey: I have been in Juneau since 2002 and commercial fishing since 2009. Gillnetting, crabbing and lingcod. Traveled to the last two Southeast Board of Fisheries meetings. ADFG has done a great job managing resources. Believe in what I do. Rachel



Carson's sea around us. High latitude fish. Some hunting, but more on the commercial fishing side. Appreciate the board of fish process and the access that it provides.

Eric Daugherty: Born and raised in Juneau. Owned a boat since 2012 for gillnet salmon and crab. Interested in board of fish process in Southeast Alaska. Been to a few AC meetings. Board of fish often defers to ACs and would like to represent commercial fishermen from Juneau.

Thatcher B: I am not going to put my name forward for reelection. It has been a good run and it is time to step back.

Kevin M: Terry White wants to continue to serve in the saltwater charter seat. He is traveling and unable to attend. Nobody else has expressed interest.

Kevin M: Kristine are you interested in continuing to serve?

Kristine T: Yes, if no one wants to serve I will continue to serve.

Kevin M: For sport fishing, hunting and personal use we have two seats. Let's start with members of the public first.

Jamalea Martelle: Sport fishing, hunting and personal use. Place I learned to fish and hunt. Lived here 13 years. A little bit of charter fishing. Sport fishing and hunting. Ambassador for women in the field. Conservation mind. Passionate about waterfowl. The wetlands. Personal growth opportunity. Learn and engage and educate people.

Kevin M: We will hold alternate elections after general elections.

Matthew Berry, I want to get on for sportfishing, hunting and personal use. I hunt marine mammals, deer and fish for sockeye.

Michael Cole: I grew up here. I have done everything from commercial fishing to personal use. I have been in the fly fishing industry for 25 years. I want step up from being an alternate to filling a regular seat.

Nicholas Orr: I have been on the Juneau AC for a number of years and I am on the Territorial Sportsmen board. I have submitted a number of board of fisheries and board of game proposals. I have been involved in the federal subsistence process. I have been here for 20 years. I do a lot of sport fishing and deer hunting.

Kevin M: I would encourage everyone to fill out the ballots and if online email Annie B their vote. Members of the public can vote.

Kevin M: We have a new arrival.

Brandon Gomez: My uncles have been teaching me the proper way to harvest. I live in Juneau. Public member (not currently interested in serving on the AC).



Kevin M: We will hold alternate elections after general elections with a separate ballot.

Kevin M: Called meeting back to order at 7:02

General Election Results as Announced by Annie B:

Commercial Fishing: Todd Bailey and Eric Daugherty

Saltwater Charter: Terry White

Non Consumptive Personal Use: Kristine Trott

Sport Fishing, Hunting Personal Use: Jamalea Martelle and Michael Cole

Alternate Seat Elections

Kevin M: Anyone interested in the alternate seat? We have two seats to fill. Please put your name forward.

Matthew Berry: I want to get on for sportfishing, hunting and personal use. I hunt marine mammals, deer and fish for sockeye.

Lee Kadinger: I grew up in Wisconsin and moved to Alaska in 2002. I am the chief operating officer at Sealaska heritage. I have 7 children. I bring to the table an interest in hearing everyone's voices. I see youth losing their link to the natural world. It is time to bring more youth to the table. I have started a number of programs aimed at doing this.

Forest Wagner: I will put my name in for an alternate seat, but I am also happy to yield to new people who want to serve on the board.

Kevin M: Called the meeting back to order at 7:15

Election results for the alternate seats as announced by Annie B:

Matthew Berry and Lee Kadinger

Kevin M: I would like to take this opportunity to thank Nick and Forest for their service and Thatcher.

Seated members moved to the table.

Secretary

Thatcher agreed to record the minutes for the meeting.

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting. N/A

XII. Set next meeting date: N/A

XIII. Other

Discussion / Vote on Supporting the Department's position on Sea Otters

Nick O: I think the Juneau AC should support department's position on sea otters. Crab are disappearing. Sea otters were introduced for economic benefit and we need to exempt them from marine mammal protection act. Send resolution to Nick Begich.

City of Petersburg and Haines have supported the department on this. Territorial sportsmen will consider it.

Lee K: Sea otters introduced in the 60s?

Nick O: Yes. Currently established as far north as Hawk Inlet and moving around retreat. Also established from Hobart Bay south.

Lee K: Extirpated from southeast Alaska in 1920s. Reintroduced in 1960s. Should not be viewed as a pest in Southeast Alaska.

Lee K: Does ADFG know what the carrying capacity for sea otters.

Carl K: I do not know the numbers.

Lee K: In 2024 USFWS determined sea otters are abundant, but not near carrying capacity.

Nick O: It is clear they are not carrying capacity since they are not here (Juneau). However exceeding capacity in some areas.

Jesse R: Impacting crabbers.

Todd B: Since reintroduction they eaten everything. Trust ADFG to manage everything else. I would trust them to manage the sea otter population. Plenty of fishermen have been forced to consolidate where they fish because of sea otters.

Lee K: Has fish and game consulted with tribes on this? What impediments exist on the federal level. Commercial impediments to managing the population.

Carl K: I did not dig into this. I do not know who the department consulted.

Jesse R: I believe there is someone at fish and game who specializes in this. Do we want to support their position or do we not?

Lee K: I would like to have as much info as possible.

Atlin D: Economic value of fisheries is being impacted.



Lee K: The resolution talks about a lot of other things (not just sea otters)

Ed B: Impacting Southeast.

Nick O: I am just asking for support for the sea otter portion of the resolution.

Todd B: This is the top issue facing the crab fleet. Unique opportunity with what Begich is doing. If there was a change in numbers it could make huge impact economically. Beneficial to crabbers.

Nick O: Proposals to open areas to crabbers because they are getting pinched elsewhere.

Mike C: Huge rafts of sea otters. Rapidly expanding. Also a lot more competition for the crab. Areas that once were great crabbing are no longer good.

Kristine T: Sea otters help with urchins and kelp forest. Believe they are positive. I also have crabbers that fish in T harbor and then they do not collect the pots. Excessive pots show that there are more people harvesting. Sea otters are owed their share. Be easy on the sea otter population.

Lee K: I could support as long as there was consultation with tribes. This should be between tribes and feds.

Vote:

Ed B: Question and Todd B 2nd to support the department's position on sea otters.

8 support, 2 oppose, 2 abstentions (need more info).

XIV. Board of Game Proposals

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals			
January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended , Oppose, No Action	Numbe r Suppor t	Numbe r Oppos e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
Support	12	0	<p>Ed B: I support this proposal. I call the question.</p> <p>Todd B: ADFG position?</p> <p>Carl K: ADFG supports this proposal.</p> <p>Vote:</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			12 support, 0 opposed and 0 abstain
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
Oppose	0	12	<p>Atlin D: The proposer is going to pull this proposal so I recommend voting it down.</p> <p>Lee K: I support voting it down.</p> <p>Proposer (Hans?): We have had some discussions and I agreed to pull it (not audible).</p> <p>Kristine: What about amending it?</p> <p>Proposer: We decided to pull it. In an answer to a question Hans stated that nannies mostly have one kid.</p> <p>Lee K: There is a new hunting quiz that will help. Need to keep cultural perspective in context. Banning hunters could be detrimental. We should let the quiz play out and see how it works.</p> <p>Lee K: Was this year the first year that the mountain goat identification quiz was required?</p> <p>Carl K: It was also required in 2024, but we did not do a good job advertising it. It is getting crowded in the area. Compared to Haines the harvest of females is lower in this unit. Every point counts and when a female harvested it</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>shortens the season and reproductive capacity. Similar proposals have been adopted elsewhere.</p> <p>Carl K: I know it is more than harvesting and this is a cultural issue.</p> <p>Chris M and Kristine T: I move to table the motion until we have the department online.</p> <p>Chris M: What is the department's position?</p> <p>Carl K; The department is neutral.</p> <p>Kevin M: Jackie submitted testimony in opposition to this proposal and Kevin referenced it for the record.</p> <p>Brandon G: We have been in this area time immemorial, and I have forfeited a lot. I did not get to keep any of the goat I shot. All the meat went to elders and the wool went to weavers.</p> <p>Peter R: What about the author in the room who wants to withdraw proposal?</p> <p>Cark K: You can vote how you want, but if both proposers want to withdraw the proposal I will make that crystal clear.</p> <p>Hans: We had a discussion and we want to withdraw the proposal.</p> <p>Kristine T: I propose an amended to this proposal so that it is a 1 year waiting period. Ed B seconded motion to move it from 1 to 4 years.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Peter R: If this proposal is going to being to be pulled, why do we need discuss this.</p> <p>Lee K: I appreciate this discussion and think we need to be mindful of the traditional rights. I oppose the amendment.</p> <p>Vote on Amendment: 1 support, 1 abstain and 10 opposed.</p> <p>Vote on the proposal. Opposed by unanimous consent. 10, 0, 1</p>
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
Oppose	1	8	<p>Nick O: I remember when this changed. This is a biologist solution to the problem.</p> <p>Nick O: Objection is that one doe is not enforceable. No where else is there a doe harvest like Douglas.</p> <p>Ed B: Is there a proposal to change wolf quota on Douglas?</p> <p>Carl K: We no longer need to close wolf season on Douglas.</p> <p>Peter R: Department's position?</p> <p>Carl K: The Department is neutral on this one and opposed to the next two.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Carl K: Doe harvest has been 22 % to 43 % of the harvest. Have not heard of wolf harvest or seen them on our game cams recently. Vote: 1 support, 8 oppose, 3 abstentions (need more information).
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		
Oppose	1	11	Carl K: This proposal would limit harvest to 2 bucks on Douglas. Vote: Question Chris M and Ed B. 1 support and 11 oppose.
29	Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side		
Oppose	0	13	Lee K: Does having an antler restriction do anything for population. Carl K: We do not think so. Department is opposed. Vote: Jesse R and Ed B question and second.



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Unanimous in opposition
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
31	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year		
Oppose	5	2	<p>The Juneau AC considered proposals 31 and 32 together and took a single vote.</p> <p>Jesse and John's proposal.</p> <p>Jesse R: 2nd time I proposed this. Lower Chilkat peninsula. Does not include Haines and Skagway (upper Lynn canal). Does not impact guides.</p> <p>Atlin D: Only one outfitter permitted on Chilkat.</p> <p>Jesse R: Historically there has been an abundance of brown bears in this area. Give everyone an opportunity to take one every year.</p> <p>Atlin D: Department's position?</p> <p>Carl K: It has been 9 years in Berners Bay area since similar requirements were put into place. Harvest is virtually the same as before. This proposal addresses a hard area to hunt. Manage brown bears conservatively in Southeast. Work on a 4% of population harvest</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>guideline. Based on unit 4 management plan. We have been hitting the mark or sometimes exceeding it with the status quo. We like to manage conservatively for brown bear. The department is neutral on the proposal.</p> <p>Chris M: Would you be exceeding 4% harvest rate with this change?</p> <p>Carl K: Yes.</p> <p>Jesse R: The data for brown bears is 25 years old for ABC islands?</p> <p>Carl K: Yes. Most recent data we have is from unit 1d. It has been a while for Berner's Bay as well (since survey).</p> <p>Jesse R: The data from the ABC islands is old: Why is the bag limit more liberal around Delta Junction and Tok?</p> <p>Carl K: We manage bears differently and different areas. Consider populations of over species (moose in the interior). In coastal areas viewing is more important.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Ed B and Kristine Question and 2nd.</p> <p>5 support. 2 oppose. 5 abstained (Wish we had more info. Limited budgets so the department cannot do the survey work they need to do monitor the population and</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			allow for additional harvest. Value viewing. Support conservative management.)
32	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually		
Oppose (Vote to support failed)	5	2	<p>The Juneau AC considered proposals 31 and 32 together and took a single vote on both proposals.</p> <p>Jesse and John's proposal.</p> <p>Jesse R: 2nd time I proposed this. Lower Chilkat peninsula. Does not include Haines and Skagway (upper Lynn canal). Does not impact guides.</p> <p>Atlin D: Only one outfitter permitted on Chilkat.</p> <p>Jesse R: Historically there has been an abundance of brown bears in this area. Give everyone an opportunity to take one every year.</p> <p>Atlin D: Department's position?</p> <p>Carl K: It has been 9 years in Berners Bay area since similar requirements were put into place. Harvest is virtually the same as before. This proposal addresses a hard area to hunt. Manage brown bears conservatively in Southeast. Work on a 4% of population harvest guideline. Based on unit 4 management plan. We have</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>been hitting the mark or sometimes exceeding it with the status quo. We like to manage conservatively for brown bear. The department is neutral on the proposal.</p> <p>Chris M: Would you be exceeding 4% harvest rate with this change?</p> <p>Carl K: Yes.</p> <p>Jesse R: The data for brown bears is 25 years old for ABC islands?</p> <p>Carl K: Yes. Most recent data we have is from unit 1d. It has been a while for Berner's Bay as well (since survey).</p> <p>Jesse R: The data from the ABC islands is old: Why is the bag limit more liberal around Delta Junction and Tok?</p> <p>Carl K: We manage bears differently and different areas. Consider populations of over species (moose in the interior). In coastal areas viewing is more important.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Ed B and Kristine Question and 2nd.</p> <p>5 support. 2 oppose. 5 abstained (Wish we had more info. Limited budgets so the department cannot do the survey work they need to do monitor the population and allow for additional harvest. Value viewing. Support conservative management.)</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
33	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
34	Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C		
Oppose	2	8	<p>Nick O: The problem is that the proposal includes all of the valley and downtown. Not a good idea. You could potentially injure a bear and it could rampage around town? The proposal needs to be reworded.</p> <p>Ed B: A little more limitation on areas would be good. I would like to include cross bows, but I will support it. Cannot harvest bears in the spring because of the regulation against it. I am 100% in support of this. It would put Juneau in the same classification as Soldotna.</p> <p>Kristine T: I do not want an injured bear wondering around. It is going to be dangerous. There are a lot of houses now. And they have kids. Now the bears get into garbage. I do not want to meet a grumpy bear.</p> <p>Ed B: Alternative is to open northern part of Juneau. The proposal is the entire road system.</p> <p>Jesse R: We should allow more hunting if there are more people. A way to solve the problem. Why cannot we</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>hunt like it is allowed on the Kenai. Take care of nuisance bears. There is a risk of injury for sure, but overall good.</p> <p>Kristine T: Can you hunt in this area?</p> <p>Ed B: Currently closed. This would open this space (1/4 mile from the role).</p> <p>Kevin M: Department?</p> <p>Carl K: Opposed. Trespassing concerns. Do not have data on bear population. Regs have been on the books for years and population is increasing. People like to live around bears and do not want it reduced by hunting. Not in favor of proposal 34 and 35</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Ed B and Chris M Question and 2nd.</p> <p>8 oppose, 2 support, 2 abstentions (if this proposal was clarified it could allow more opportunity. I am on the fence).</p>
35	Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	5	6	<p>Nick O: Same issue, but just for Thane. I know the author. He sees in bear in backyard. He would like to hunt them. More like the Soldotna and Kenai area. Territorial Sportsmen will support.</p> <p>Atlin D: There is opportunity. Decent amount of road that is huntable.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Ed B and Atlin D Question and 2nd.</p> <p>5 support, 6 oppose, 1 abstention (need more info)</p>
36	<p>Kevin M: Shifts ptarmigan season. Moves it back two weeks. End date stays the same.</p> <p>Nick O: Birds are not any bigger. Allows people to make a decision. Casual hunters do not benefit. More regulatory complicated.</p> <p>Carl K: We are neutral. Most other places have a late start, but 14 day delay will not change too much.</p> <p>Atlin D: I have seen some young birds in early August.</p> <p>Peter R: We have very liberal bag limit.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Ed B and Chris M Question and 2nd.</p>		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	5 support, 5 oppose, 1 abstention (need more info)		
Oppose (proposal 36)	5	5	
37	Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks		
38	Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three		
39	Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two		
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
47	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15		
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
54	Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		
56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
59	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
60	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
61	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
62	Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
63	Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September		
64	Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3		
65	Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October		
66	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year		
67	Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
68	Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
266			
Support	11	0	Jesse R: Allow for the use of plastic tags. Will not be taken up by board of game. Only the department can do this. Steel locking tags are not hide friendly. They stain the hide during the tanning process. This would help for folks using fur. On some species you can use plastic



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>tags. Board of game is not taking action. It is in the hands of the department.</p> <p>Ed B: This is past overdue. If we support this we will be telling fish and game that we would like to see this happen.</p> <p>Lee K: Department?</p> <p>Carl K: No position since it is not in the board's purview.</p> <p>Jesse W: Not only fur bearers.</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Chris M Question.</p> <p>Support by unanimous consent.</p>

Adjournment: By unanimous consent at about 9:15

Minutes Recorded By: Thatcher Brouwer
Minutes Approved By: Kevin Maier by email
Date: 1/9/2025



Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 10/23/2025

Location: ADFG Conference

Room

Call to Order: 5:15pm

Roll Call:

Name	Seat	Check if present	Interests/Representation
Clay Bezenek		Present	Commercial/Sport Fishing, Hunting, Processing, Personal Use, Outdoorsperson, Photography
Rudy Franulovich	Vice Chair	Present	Commercial Fishing
Matt Allen	Secretary	Present	Salmon Enhancement, hunting, sport fishing, trapping, Outdoorsperson, Photography
Keenan Sanderson			Subsistence, Comm/Sport Fish, Tlinquit, Haida
Beau Dale	Chair	Present	4 th generation Alaskan, hunter, fisherman, local locksmith
John Scoblic		Absent	Commercial fish processing
Robert Jahnke		Present	Trapping, Sport Fishing, Hunting, Commercial Fishing, Personal Use, Outdoorsperson, Conservationist
Ben Atwood		Present	Hunting, Sport Fishing, Trapping, Charter fishing, Troller, Salmon Enhancement, Pot Shrimp, Seining, Longlining, Tanner crabbing
Marvin McCloud		Present	Trapping, Sport Fishing, Hunting, Photography, Guiding, Processing, Personal Use, Outdoorsperson
Jeremiah Sullivan		Absent	Trapping, Sport Fishing, Subsistence, Hunting, Guiding, Processing, Personal Use, Outdoorsperson
Sean Roberts		Present	Hunt, Trap, Sport Fish, Power Troll, Commercial Pot Shrimp
Brian Ringeisen		Absent	Trapping, Sport Fishing, Hunting, Photography, Guiding, Processing, Personal Use, Outdoorsperson, Conservationist
Devin Dalin		Present	Hunting, Sport Fish
Annie Pung	Alternate	Present	Trapping, Hunting, Sport Fishing
Andrew Pung		Present	Salmon Enhancement, Commercial/Sportfishing, Personal-Use, Outdoorsperson, Conservationist
Soren Heinecke	Alternate	Present	Sport and commercial fishing, Fishing lodge, hunting
	Saxman	Open	
	Saxman	Open	

Beau Dale
Matt W. Allen

Introductions:

Ketchikan AC members, ADFG Department Staff, Public in attendance

Public Present:

James Miller, Matt Kloxin, Emily Halsell, Jeff Graham

Department Present:

Ross Dorendorf (Wildlife, ADFG), Tessa Hasbrouck (Wildlife, ADFG),
Kristy Tibbles (Executive Director, BoG)

Meeting Agenda:

Move to adopt meeting agenda, Bezenek

2nd - Sanderson

Unanimous to accept meeting agenda

Old business items:

- 1.) ADFG Board of Game Proposals

New business:

- 1.) Elections
- 2.) ADFG Board of Game Proposals

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Move to approve 10/2 meeting minutes - Sanderson

2nd - Scoblic

Unanimous to accept meeting minutes

Chairman's Report:

None

Committee/Member Reports/Comments:

None

Public Comment:

Jeff Graham - Proposal 1,2,12 - We have laws in place to cover this. There are some exceptions for furbear's. I've shot deer at night in moonlit snow way past twilight. These proposals are going to stop people from shooting deer at night. The issues are with limited law enforcement and bad actors. I'm a lifelong resident of Alaska, this is my state. I want to go out and have fun, I don't break the law.

If someone gets caught they need to take their truck, take their gun and don't allow them to hunt for five years.

Proposal 8 - yes, to establish a cougar season.

Department Report/Comment:

Ross Dorendorf: SE RAC postponed due to Government shutdown. Comments for BOG due January 9th. ADFG hopes to have BOG proposal comments out around Nov. 24th.

Old Business:

1.)BOG Proposals

New Business:

1.)Elections

4 seats open due to expired terms. 2 undesignated seats and 2 alternate seats.

Nominated individuals, vote tallies, AC designation

Annie Pung - 11 - Alternate

John Scoblic - 13 - Undesignated

Soren Heinecke - 11 - Alternate

Matt Kloxin - 9

James Miller - 7

Marvin McCloud - 16 - Undesignated

Will postpone officer elections for a later date.

2.)BOG proposals

Proposals 1 and 2

Move to adopt - Sanderson

2nd - Scoblic

Discussion:

Scoblic - we've heard from the public. This punishes good actors and doesn't do anything about bad actors.

Dale - I won't be supporting any of these proposals as it creates more regulations. Hunting at night is already illegal.

Dalin - Propose to combine proposals 1, 2 and vote on them together as they are so similar.

Sanderson, Scoblic accept amendment to vote on proposals 1, 2 together.

Question - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Unanimously opposed 14-0

Proposal 3

Move to adopt - Scoblic

2nd - Annie Pung

Discussion:

SEAK is different country than the interior. Small hunt zones with small quotas could be impacted. No biological concern and no concerns with the ability to communicate with hunters in the field.

Hunters can take advantage of limited weather windows and time.

Call the question - Franulovich

2nd - Dalin

Support 13 to 1 Opposed

Proposal 4

Move to adopt - Scoblic

2nd - Annie Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - most areas would assume a nannie when hunters self report a lost goat. A lot of people accurately self report. Goats are managed at a 7% harvest rate on Revilla (introduced population) vs. 4% on the mainland (native).

This would bring into alignment all guided species in SEAK. Guide ethics requires reporting of lost goats.

Atwood - I would be concerned with reporting. Are people going to be honest?

Dale - Under current regulations a person could shoot a goat not be able to recover it and shoot another goat. Assuming a nannies that could be 4 pts.

McCloud - If a regulation isn't enforceable should you have it?

Graham - This would mostly apply to guides. Guides have professional responsibility to report. A few bonehead resident hunters might not have the morals to report.

Allen - I would tend to support as it provides guidance for ethical hunters.

Dale - It's currently in the regs for black and brown bears.

Graham - If this was supported it would cover all the three species that require a guide in SEAK.

McCloud - I agree with Matt, it would tend to support good ethics.

Call the question - Allen

2nd - McCloud

Supported 10 to 3 Opposed to 1 abstention (not a hunter, doesn't know much about goat hunting)

Proposal 5

Move to adopt - Scoblic

2nd - Annie Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Brown bears have a low reproduction rate. Sexually mature at 5yrs. Aim for a harvest rate of 4% throughout the region. About 42 bears per year. Hard to say how this will shake out. The Department has been managing them conservatively due to low

reproductive rate. Only one year have we jumped above that 42, this was driven by one specific area.

There are other proposals that are area specific. Some interest in supporting it if it excluded non-resident hunters. Some believe there are more bears now than in the 90's.

Roberts - There are more brown bears out there now than in the 90's. I don't like using data from the 90's.

Dale - Not everyone is a brown bear hunter. I understand that to some people it's their thing. I'm likened to be the guy that I'm good with one.

McCloud - Can the Department close specific areas down if they see or are concerned with over harvest.

Dorendorf - Yes, we can do that.

Call the question - Roberts

2nd - Allen

Support 13 to 1 Opposed

Proposal 6 and 7

Move to adopt - Bezenek

2nd - Sanderson

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Proposal is trying to align regulations. Very little harvest through hunting. Guides have expressed interest during spring bear hunts. Annual hunting harvest is 11 wolves from 2015-2024. If this proposal was adopted it might add a couple of wolf harvest a year.

Jahnke - I'd recommend combining our vote on proposals 6 and 7.

Scoblic - If we take them both up together it brings all of Unit 1 into alignment

Sanderson - friendly amendment to combine proposals 6 and 7.

2nd - Bezenek

Call the question - Roberts

2nd - Bezenek

Unanimously supported 14 to 0

Proposal 8 and 9

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Annie Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - 2 harvests last year. 3 of the recorded harvests since 1989 have been young males, this is expected. The Board would have to look at what the harvestable surplus would be. The Department is not looking to establish a population.

McCloud - Would they be labeled an invasive species?

Dorendorf - There are two definitions to consider. Nuisance vs. Invasive. Invasive has more of a negative impact.

Jahnke - Mountain Lion/Cougar are apex predators. I We should be allowed 1 cougar a year. Probably not going to see many harvested.

Dale - If a season was established more people would bring animals forward without fear of confiscation.

Dalin - move to combine proposals 8 and 9

2nd - Annie Pung

Call the question - Roberts

2nd - Annie Pung

Supported 12 to 2

Proposal 10

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Jahnke

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Currently not required in large portions of the state. From 2015-2024 sealing ranged from 100-325, average is 225. Conversations held during sealing provide valuable information to the Department as we don't gather much information outside of those interactions. Those that respond in the trappers survey are low and might not be representative. Seeing a continued downward trend in trapping. If taken off the books we could still have a sustainable harvest. Not going to save money by taking sealing off the books.

Jahnke - Populations of beaver can change with those of wolves. There is an increase in trappers belonging to the ATA in Unit 1A.

Graham - Just because it's an inconvenience doesn't mean it's a good reason.

Allen - Beaver season overlaps with other seasons. Some other species need to be sealed. I'm with Jeff, sealing isn't a big deal.

McCloud - When do they have to seal.

Dorendorf - 30 days from the end of the season. They can be sealed by the Department or private sealers. It can be difficult in some instances.

Atwood - I'd support this proposal as it would allow you to give the beaver to a trapper that wants to use it as bait without having to seal it.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Allen

Opposed 12 to 2

Roberts departs the meeting temporarily.

Proposal 11

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Scoblic

Discussion:

Dorendorf - This is more of an ethical debate.

McCloud - We voted against this in the past. Enforcement indicates there are enforcement issues.

Dalin - I remember enforcement mentioning you could have a camera on a marten set on a game trail to monitor for game.

Dale - I would think this would allow a trapper to recover an animal more quickly.

Allen - How much area would this actually cover? This might be a benefit if used around population areas. Especially if you catch someone's pet.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Dale

Supported 10 to 2 Opposed to 1 Abstention (I'm not a trapper)



Proposal 12 and 13

Move to adopt - Dale

2nd - Bezenek

Discussion:

Dorendorf - This is an ethical question and wouldn't anticipate this leading to a biological concern.

Graham - Night vision is expensive. Guys spend lots of money on equipment and probably not the ones going to do this.

Dale - To my knowledge there haven't been infractions using night vision. It's more the million candle power version.

McCloud - It's an opportunity to do stuff when the lights go out.

Scoblic - This just went into regulation and should see how things develop.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Scoblic

Opposed 12 to 1

Annie Pung departs from the meeting

Proposal 16

Roberts returns to meeting

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Allen

Discussion:

Dorendorf - There has been lots of back and forth. Each region has different wants. Puddle ducks up north, Sea ducks in SEAK.

Dale - Isn't there some contention with Sandhill Cranes?

Dalin - Yes, Juneau residents want access to Sandhill Crane.

Dale - Why is this the best season?

Dalin - Most people I've recently talked about wanting a later season and they don't like the split. This would allow more youth opportunity as it coincides with school breaks. Ducks later in the season don't have a fishy taste because the salmon spawn is past. All our desirable ducks show up late.

Jahnke - I'm totally against this proposal. Concerned about conflicts with trappers who utilize beach sets and how the additional activity and smell from humans and dogs could impact trapping success. I won't trap during the deer season because of conflicts.

Allen - Concerned about prioritizing one group over another if preference was given to trappers over duck hunters or deer hunters and vice versa.

Dalin - The duck carcasses after salvage of edible meat could be used as trapping bait.

Call the question - Atwood

2nd - McCloud

Supported 10 to 3

Proposal 17

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Wings are submitted and analyzed for age and sex. Wings are donated. April and May are the primary harvest months. There is no conservation concern and the harvest already leans heavily on males. Harvests are both opportunistic and targeted.

Dalin - Don't want to make it harder for youth to participate.

Atwood - No conservation concern, high male harvest, for me its an easy no.

Call the question - Allen

2nd - Dalin

Unanimously Support 13 to 0

Proposal 18

Move to adopt - Scoblic

2nd - Dalin

Discussion:

Dale - Dorendorf seemed to indicate there isn't a conservation concern and most harvest occurs in the spring.

Dorendorf - Submittals are voluntary so it's difficult to know the amount of harvest in August. If shifted earlier it runs into nesting season, we try to avoid that.



Roberts - I don't think there would be much harvest of females early. I could see an issue in August.

McCloud - When do they fledge/fly? I would think survival might go up if they can fly and a hen is harvested.

Dale - I'm interested in an amendment to keep the season August 1st.

Dalin - Is there a maximum season length for grouse.

Ross - No.

Scobic - This is one of the things I have hunted for and would vote for the proposal as written.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - McCloud

Unanimously Supported 13 to 0

Proposal 37

Move to adopt - Scobic

2nd - Allen

Dorendorf - The Department has increased efforts to get harvest reports, up to 65% on response rate. From 2005-2015 3-4 days to harvest a deer. 2016-Present, less harvest, less hunters, has increased to 4-5 days. POW residents require 3-4 days per deer. The amount necessary for state subsistence is 1,500-1,600. Have been at or close to that amount with the exception of 2023.

Sanderson - I have family in Unit 2 that have significant concerns on the impact Ketchikan hunters may have on the deer population in Unit 2(POW)

Amount that harvest

0 Deer - 32%

1 Deer - 30%

2 Deer - 18%

3 Deer - 10%

4 Deer 7%

5 Deer 1%

Scoblic - No conservation concern, would complicate regulation, isn't going to have the intended impact. I'm opposed to this.

Dorendorf - This would affect non-residents, non-federally qualified and not a resident of the region but are federally qualified. Only a handful of bucks would be saved a year if this proposal were enacted.

Dale - This proposal would not result in the impact they want. Amend (I appreciate what the Subsistence Board did when reviewing and approving rural status.) To say (Appreciation that the Subsistence Board didn't take up the emergency proposals submitted due to a lack of data. They will re-evaluate after data/information is provided.)

McCloud - Ketchikan hunters are having success and the hunting is better in the Ketchikan area currently. Days to harvest a deer are lower than on POW.

Sanderson - If I had to vote this second I would want to be cautious. I would be in favor of proposals 37, 38 but not 39.

Scoblic - I'd like to lump 37,38 together

2nd - Allen

Opposed 12 to 1



Scoblic - Let's not take up proposal 39.

AC - Agreed.

Next Meeting

BOF Proposals 40 and up

10/30/2025 @ 5:15pm ADFG Conference

Move to Adjourn: Franulovich

Second: Jahnke

Adjourn: 8:00pm



Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 10/30/2025

Location: ADFG Conference

Room

Call to Order: 5:15pm

Roll Call: 16 members, 9 present, 7 absent

Beau Dale (Chair) (2027) - Present

Rudy Franulovich (Vice Chair) (2027) - Present

Matt Allen (Secretary) (2027) - Present

Sean Roberts (2026) - Present

Clay Bezenek (2027) - Present

Ben Atwood (2026) - Present

Marvin McCloud (2028) - Absent

Devin Dalin (2026) - Absent

John Scoblic (2028) - Absent

Andrew Pung (2027) - Present

Robert Jahnke (2027) - Present

Jeremiah Sullivan (2026) - Absent

Brian Ringeisen (2027) - Absent

Keenan Sanderson (2027) - Absent

Annie Pung (Alternate) (2026) - Absent

Soren Heinecke (Alternate) (2026) - Present

Introductions:

Ketchikan AC members, ADFG Department Staff, Public in attendance

Public Present:

Carrie Ann Mueller(BOG Board Member), James Miller,
Madison Lewis (high school), Jonas Simpson (high school), Jim
Baichtal (POW)

Department Present:

Ross Dorendorf (Wildlife, ADFG), Tessa Hasbrouck (Wildlife, ADFG),
Kristy Tibbles (Executive Director, BoG)

Meeting Agenda:

Move to adopt meeting agenda, Bezenek

2nd - Franulovich

Unanimous to accept meeting agenda

Old business items:

1.)ADFG Board of Game Proposals

2.) Elections

New business:

1.)ADFG Board of Game Proposals

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Move to Amend 10/23 meeting minutes, Dale

2nd - Allen



Dale - Modify to reflect appreciation that the Subsistence Board didn't take up the emergency proposals submitted due to a lack of data. They will re-evaluate after data/information is provided.

Motion to approve amended meeting minutes - Pung

2nd - Franulovich

Unanimous to accept amended meeting minutes

Chairman's Report:

None

Committee/Member Reports/Comments:

None

Public Comment:

Carrie-Anne - newly appointed BOG member (3yr term). I want to learn more about the KTN AC. Lifelong Alaskan, lives in Palmer, AK. Hunting, fishing, trapping interests, is a pilot. Has travelled several times to SEAK for play, hunting, and fishing. Does internal marketing for grocery chains in AK to include Three Bears, Carrs Safeway, and A&P.

1.)BOG proposals 40 and up

Proposal 40, 41

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Pung

Discussion:

Dale - I know where these guys are coming from. However, what's the impact this proposal will have if approved?

Dorendorf - From 1997-2024, non-resident hunters in GMU2 averaged 10% of all hunters. Of that, non-resident hunters accounted for 4.3%.

The number of deer they harvest on average and if this proposal is approved it would save 18 bucks on average. Most non-residents take 1-2 deer.

Atwood - I oppose this. There would be economic impacts. The deer population is rebuilding and 18 deer is a very minimal amount.

Heinecke - I agree

Roberts - I agree, where does this end?

Bezenek - I mirror everyone else's comments.

Call the question - Bezenek

2nd - Franulovich

Proposals 40 and 41 Opposed, 8 opposed, 0 support, 1 abstention

Jahnke - These numbers go back too far. I'd like to see the number of non-residents from 2020-2025.

Proposal 42

Move to Adopt - Atwood

2nd - Dale

Discussion:

Dale - I'm sorta torn on this proposal. I'd like to see this proposal succeed. The alpine is near and dear to me. I like to have it to myself. By pushing the start date back it helps to preserve the experience.

Roberts - I'm against this proposal.

Heinecke - How many people are you seeing?



Atwood - I oppose this for the same reasons as proposals 40, 41.

Allen - I would hope that those that support this proposal would make it clear we are doing it to save or maintain the aesthetics of the hunt and not for the reasons the proposers have outlined that this proposal is necessary to save the deer.

Atwood - I don't like any proposal that is going to put more pressure on my home unit. If people are going to come to Unit 1 because of changes in Unit 2, I'm not in support.

Heinecke - A lot of what I'm reading is that non-residents are being painted as the boogie man and the issues they believe they have and are trying to address won't be significantly impacted by the approval of these proposals or ones like it.

Dale - It gets confusing when you have different bag limit regulations for State and Federal land. It's not as confusing if dates are changed.

Jahnke - We should see what the residents of Craig and Klawock believe. I feed my family by harvesting deer. I don't like people from out of state having the same bag limit, it's just a trophy for them.

Atwood - The area won't have much impact on Unit 2 residents and their ability to feed their family.

Heinecke - We have to be careful about interpreting what the economic impact will be.

Allen - I agree with Soren. We don't know the economic impact. It might be that it would have a greater impact on smaller operators with one plane who don't have the opportunities/fleet that other larger carriers have.

Dale - It's important to carve out opportunities for residents.

Call the question - Bezenek



2nd - Allen

Proposal 42 Opposed, opposed 6, 3 support.

Proposal 43

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Jahnke

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Population and effort has increased over this time period. The number of days hunted to harvest has decreased. There is opportunity to align season and bag limit with the remainder of Unit 1a. The number of hunters in these areas is comparatively low.

Jahnke - I can support the 4 buck limit but not the season extending into December. The bucks are rundown at that time. If you can't get your deer in four months there's something wrong with you.

Bezenek - I tend to support Bob's idea. I'll never agree with the December season. I'd like to make an amendment to end the season on November 30th.

Jahnke - 2nd.

Dale - The amendment to the proposal would read, season date of August 1st to November 30th, 4 bucks.

Discussion on Proposal 43 amendment:

Bezenek - I'd like to see how this amended proposal would prove out.

Dale - The reason I tend to support this proposal as written is because it would align the remainder of Unit 1a with Federal regulations. I feel like darn near anybody that is going to hunt the Cleveland Peninsula is going to be Federally qualified. Currently I can go over there and



hunt/harvest a buck(s) as a Federally qualified user not based on being a State resident. I don't see much impact changing the proposal to a season ending on November 30th.

Heinecke - I can support the increase in bag limit but can't support the season end date of November 30th. There are times when the only opportunity I have is in December and I too feed my family. It's not all trophy hunters in December, I appreciate having that time.

Allen - What is the Department currently doing to monitor populations on Cleveland and Unit 1a.

Dorendorf - We used to utilize pellet counts. We stopped that in 2020 and have tried new methods utilized in the lower 48 and in other questions. Cameras capture images based on animals passing by and at specific time intervals. There are currently cameras being utilized on Gravina and other areas in SEAK. We have 4yrs of data and currently evaluating 3yrs of data. We don't have any cameras on the Cleveland.

Allen - I'd like us to consider that we are not immune to the impacts of logging. Many of these proposals are now recognizing the impacts of legacy logging on POW. Logging is still active on Gravina, Shelter Cove road system and there are new timber harvest opportunities up for public comments. We enjoy access and a robust population currently but this will not always be the case. I would hope we will be nimble when the time comes to make new regulations in the future.

Atwood - I think this proposal is possibly one board cycle too early.

Dale - I've hunted the same place early season for the past 17yrs. I usually harvest 2 bucks and because of that I am tagged out on the Cleveland, Etolin, most of POW. For me, I would never have poked around Cleveland if I wasn't Federally qualified. I'm not going



anywhere and harvesting four deer. I like the opportunity to hunt and explore different areas and I can do that now being Federally qualified.

Franulovich - how much of Cleveland is Federal vs. State land?

Dorendorf - most of Cleveland is Federal land.

Franulovich - this proposal would have little impact on resident/federally qualified hunters.

Dorendorf - it would have more impact on non-residents.

Franulovich - are deer emaciated in December?

Dorendorf - I hear of more reports in the late winter/spring prior to the first green flush.

Allen - Ross can you speak to the December harvest in Unit 1a?

Dorendorf - it was around 20 bucks.

Allen - I don't see how this amendment would have much impact. I think a December season provides opportunities for those that don't have time prior or for those who come back home for the holidays.

Call the question on Amendment to Proposal 43- Allen

2nd - Roberts

Amendment to Proposal 43 Opposed - 8 opposed, 0 support

Call the Question on Proposal 43 - Allen

2nd - Atwood

Proposal 43 Supported as written - 7 support, 1 opposed



Proposal 44, 45, 46

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Pung

Discussion:

Dale - how many non-residents are getting this tag?

Dorendorf - DG005 <1/yr,

Roberts - I'd like to amend these proposals to limit non-resident draw to 10%. That is how many states in the lower 48 manage.

Dale - so this would essentially prevent non-residents from drawing DG005 and DG008 and provide 2 opportunities for non-residents to draw in DG006.

Roberts - How many non-residents drew this year?

Dorendorf - it's relatively low, 3.

Atwood - I would like to amend the three proposals to read up to 10%. Some local guides have a significant number of non-residents putting in. I'd like my son to be able to pull this tag one day.

2nd - Roberts

Call the question on the Amendment to Proposals 44, 45, 46 -
Franulovich

2nd - Roberts

Proposals 44, 45, 46 Supported as Amended - 8 support, 0 oppose

Discussion on Amended Proposals 44, 45, 46:

Dale - My sister and I hunted one of these tags this year and it's going to be one of the highlights of our relationship. These tags are very



special to locals. DG008 is the premier goat hunt in the state. I wish we had Devin and Marvin here. My question to them would be how many clients don't draw and go over the counter vs. don't hunt at all.

Call the question Amended Proposals 44, 45, 46 - Allen

2nd - Atwood

Amended Proposals 44, 45, 46 Supported - 8 support, 0 oppose

Proposal 47

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Is typically a debate about whether you like bear meat or not. Current regs were adopted in 1996. Similar proposals in the past have failed. Most harvest in Unit 1a occurs in the spring, peaking in May. Concerns with flavor associated with feeding on fish. We have reached out to hunters randomly and some would increase efforts others wouldn't. The proposers are looking to increase harvest to curb fawn predation.

Atwood - Personal observation is that when non-resident went to draw, harvest went down. I'd like to see this go for residents and non-residents even though it's not on the table at this time. I'd like to see bears knocked down a bit.

I would like to amend to include non-residents

Eliminate the meat salvage requirement in May for black bear in Unit 2 for residents and non-residents.

2nd - Roberts



Discussion:

Roberts - if they want to harvest more bears let the non-residents help them

Call the question on Amendment to Proposal 47 - Roberts

2nd - Atwood

Amendment to Proposal 47 Supported - 7 support, 1 opposed

Discussion:

Roberts - is the current population booming?

Dorendorf - we are currently meeting the two management objectives which would indicate the population is doing well.

Baichtal - I'm really impressed with what ADFG has done. I believe the current management strategy is working. I have been seeing an age class of bear that had been missing from the landscape.

I have a personal philosophy about salvaging the meat of the animals I harvest. I can see where the proposers are coming from and what they are hoping to accomplish. I would still salvage the meat but that is me.

Dale - Understood. This wouldn't prevent people from salvaging the meat and we already don't require salvage in the fall.

Call the question on Amended Proposal 47 - Atwood

2nd - Heinecke

Amended Proposal 47 Supported, 7 support, 1 opposed



Proposal 48

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Majority of the historic management strategy has been based on a quota system. More recently it has been based on a season length with a population objective. ESA petitions in 1993, 2011 and 2020. The Department has been able to address conservation concerns through research. The Department is looking to preserve future management options through increasing the population objective to 200-300 wolves. This population has similar inbreeding to the Island Royal population that went functionally extinct due to inbreeding depression. However, we have yet to see inbreeding depression in the POW population. Immigration into Unit 2 is limited. Not only does an animal need to immigrate, it has to become part of the breeding population to contribute to the population's genetic diversity.

We are proceeding with another 31 day season. We base the season length based on population estimates from the previous year. Instances where population estimates are later adjusted is possibly due to bias in the model. We are looking into improving our methodology through additional research.

Franulovich - These wolves have been on POW for thousands of years. How is it that they have yet to go extinct or suffered inbreeding depression?

Dorendorf - We have detected two genetic bottle neck events, one in 1790's and a second in the 1970's. These events contributed to the inbreeding we are seeing today.

Atwood - I don't envy Ross, we know this is contentious. I don't have confidence in the methodology or population estimates. How do you extrapolate to come up with the population? What are your estimates of this population in the 90's-20's.

Dorendorf - We have hair boards over a significant portion of Unit 2. We are able to detect the movement of individual wolves for those that roll/rub on the hair boards and that allows us to determine the range they have. When we extrapolate that out we are covering 60%-80% or more of Unit 2. The areas in Unit 2 that aren't covered by hair boards could have different populations, that's why we are supporting a grad student to help address this by looking at the outer islands. Right now we are utilizing the density of wolves in our study area and extrapolating that out to the other areas. Our hair board study areas are supplemented by trapper harvest in other areas.

We have two population estimates, one based on radio collaring (350 with large confidence intervals). The current population estimates have smaller confidence intervals.

Miller - I'm from Idaho. One thing that is missing from this conversation is the average litter size for this area and wolf populations can rebound quickly. What are we seeing here? I support anything that will prevent wolves from being listed because once they are, it's difficult to get them delisted.

Dorendorf - The average litter is 4 pups. This can be impacted by food availability and other factors.



The Department believes we have good data and that we are managing sustainably.

Dale - I remember attending a meeting at the White Cliff building about ten years ago where the Department was presenting information and saying we don't have a wolf population problem, we have an ESA listing problem. They had to talk people down and try to convince them they were making management decisions so as not to have the wolves listed. That's the gist I took away from the meeting.

Dorendorf - this all comes back to deer. It is an incredibly important subsistence resource. We are coming off years of reduced harvest. This has changed recently through communications with Unit 2 residents and a decrease in the number of days to harvest a deer. This is not a trend but it is encouraging.

Call the question - Franulovich

2nd - Atwood

Proposal 48 Opposed, 1 support, 7 oppose

Franulovich - why did Matt vote yes?

Allen - This is a Department generated proposal. I tend to support Department proposals. They have already been managing this way. I want them to have the tools they need to manage successfully and I don't want to see them receive an ESA listing.

Next Meeting

12/04/2025 @ 5:15pm ADFG Conference

Move to Adjourn: Franulovich

Second: Pung



Adjourn: 7:30pm



Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 12/4/2025

Location: ADFG Conference Room

Call to Order: 5:15pm

Roll Call: 16 members, 8 present, 8 absent

Beau Dale (Chair) (2027) - Present

Rudy Franulovich (Vice Chair) (2027) - Absent

Matt Allen (Secretary) (2027) - Absent

Sean Roberts (2026) - Present

Clay Bezenek (2027) - Present

Ben Atwood (2026) - Present

Marvin McCloud (2028) - Absent

Devin Dalin (2026) - Present

John Scoblic (2028) - Absent

Andrew Pung (2027) - Present

Robert Jahnke (2027) - Present

Jeremiah Sullivan (2026) - Absent

Brian Ringeisen (2027) - Present

Keenan Sanderson (2027) - Absent

Annie Pung (Alternate) (2026) - Absent

Soren Heinecke (Alternate) (2026) - Absent

Introductions:

Ketchikan AC members, ADFG Department Staff, Public in attendance

Public Present:

Zachary Simmons and Jack Styles (Ketchikan High School),
Michael Vaughn (Zoom, Sitka)

Department Present:

Ross Dorendorf (Wildlife, ADFG), Tessa Hasbrouck (Wildlife, ADFG), Sam Kirby (Board Support, ADFG)

Meeting Agenda:

Move to adopt meeting agenda, Roberts

2nd - Atwood

Unanimous to accept meeting agenda

Old business items:

- 1.) ADFG Board of Game Proposals
- 2.) Elections

New business:

- 1.) ADFG Board of Game Proposals

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion to Approve meeting minutes for 10/23 - Roberts

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dale/Dalin - Discrepancy in the minutes on Proposal 17. Minutes indicated that the AC voted 13 in support, 0 opposed. In actuality the AC voted 0 in support, 13 opposed. This will be corrected in the voting record and the minutes will be updated and approved by the Chair and Secretary.

Motion to Approve meeting minutes from 10/30 - Roberts

2nd - Atwood

Meeting minutes from 10/30 approved unanimously

Chairman's Report:

None

Committee/Member Reports/Comments:

None

Public Comment:

None

New Business:**Proposal 49**

Move to Adopt - Atwood

2nd - Roberts

Discussion:

Dorendorf - The Department doesn't have a biological concern with this proposal. The proposal tries to address concerns with deer rutting, deer hunters potentially disrupting trapping, hairboard work is occurring, conflicts with waterfowlers, conflicts with bears.



Jahnke - Has the Department considered extending the season? A one month season isn't long enough for predator control

Dorendorf - If the population and management would allow it, we would like to provide additional opportunities.

Atwood - Icing is a concern with a later start date. I would like to hear from Dalin and Ringeisen.

Dalin - I would rather the season start November 1st. I'm already battling ice. Instead of a one month season, I get two weeks.

Dale- Should we take up 49 and 50 together,

Atwood - I think we can take no action on 50 based on our vote on 49.

Dalin - I've had many seasons where by December 1st I can't get to my sets due to ice. Sometimes I can't get back to them until well after the season.

Dale - Does anyone know any of these trappers? How many are using the roads vs. boats.

Roberts - It's probably a mix, a good number utilizing roads.

Dale - More people around here are probably utilizing boats.

Call the Question - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Proposal 49 Opposed, 2 in support, 6 opposed

Proposal 50

Dalin - Move to take no action based on vote on Proposal 45

Atwood - 2nd

Unanimous to take no action



Proposal 51

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dorendorf - the way this proposal is written it would shorten the season. In regulation the season is 137 days. This proposal would shorten it to 45 days. The season is currently being closed/managed by Emergency Order and this authority rests with the Commissioner.

Dalin/Dale - we would like the meeting minutes to reflect the impacts this proposal would have.

Dale - I think everyone would like to see a longer season. This proposal isn't going to get us there.

Call the Question - Roberts

2nd - Dalin

Proposal 51 is Opposed, 1 in support, 7 opposed

Proposal 52

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Jahnke

Discussion:

Dorendorf - When a proposal is brought forth to designate an area for intensive management the BoG has a process it goes through. 1st it will go through the Department of Intensive Management Law. There are a bunch of pieces for consideration. It isn't always about management of a species, it can also be habitat management. They will look at prey species, land ownership patterns, subsistence priority, etc. The

Department has to work up a feasibility assessment and an operational plan. The only examples in SEAK for consideration in the past were Gravina and an area in Unit 3.

Jahnke - I just don't want to see anything change in Unit 1a

Call the question - Ringeisen

2nd - Roberts

Proposal 52 Supported, 4 in support, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions due to the absence of additional information and ADFG staff comments.

Proposal 53

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Somewhat similar to some aspects of Proposals 49, 50. Concerns with the trapping of non-target species.

Dalin - I will be a no. Are you gonna tell a kid who catches a wolf in an otter set they can't keep it?

Atwood - I want to encourage more wolf trapping, not less. I think a lot of wolf trappers have been doing this a long time and they know what they're doing.

Dale - I would like to see more educational material but not necessarily mandatory.

Dalin - seems like a burden on the Department.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Ringeisen

Proposal 53 Unanimously Opposed, 0 support, 8 opposed

Proposal 54

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dalin - Easy no for me. I set on a road, if someone sees my traps and doesn't like me there goes my traps.

Jahnke - People can also move your traps and place them in an illegal manner.

Dale - It seems to me that whenever these proposals come up we are always against them.

Call the question - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Proposal 54 Unanimously Opposed, 0 support, 8 opposed

Proposal 56

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Jahnke - Is this going to make checking traps at night illegal.

Dorendorf - That would be a question for enforcement.

Dale - we've talked about proposals like this proposal. These aren't going to stop bad actors. Does infrared work during the day?

Dorendorf - They can work during the day. They might not work as well during midday when temps warm up.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Proposal 56 Unanimously Opposed, 0 support, 8 opposed

Proposal 55

No Action on 55 based on vote on Proposal 56

Proposal 57

Move to adopt - Roberts

2nd - Atwood

Discussion:

Dorendorf - We don't have a population estimate for Zarembo elk. There are cameras on Zarembo but they don't indicate a large population. Based on Etolin, 3 points on one side are typically 2 year olds. This would allow the harvest of younger animals on a small population.

Atwood - I would love to see more opportunities on Zarembo. However, this proposal seems a little rash.

Dalin - I would like to see more tags before we change harvest requirements.

Call the question - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Proposal 57 Unanimously Opposed, 0 Support, 8 Opposed

Proposal 58

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Discussion:

Atwood - this proposal is just too radical.

Proposal 58, Opposed Unanimously, 0 Support, 8 Opposed

Proposals 59-62

Move to adopt - Atwood

2nd - Dalin

Discussion:

Dale - we discussed our local proposals similar to this last meeting and we were generally in support of proposals like this.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Proposals 59-62, Unanimously Supported, 8 support, 0 opposed

Proposal 63

Move to adopt - Dalin

2nd - Pung

Discussion:

Dorendorf - Adding a rifle season during the elk rut can definitely increase harvest. There are already 125 permits given out every year, not every one hunts, about half hunt. Annual harvest averages 3 bulls.



This tells us that the population isn't high and thus not available for harvest.

Dale - My argument is that the current season dates don't provide for quality hunt opportunities.

Atwood - I agree with Beau. By October 1st a lot of these animals are in the trees. You might not even see an elk. I think there are more animals on the island, however, they are inaccessible.

Dale - The rendition of this proposal was a lot more indepth. I tried to come up with something that was a little less complicated and that didn't take away from the archery opportunity. I have a little concern, I know some of the people who get after deer in that area and I am concerned with hunter conflicts.

Call the question - Dalin

2nd - Atwood

Proposal 63, Unanimously Supported, 8 support, 0 opposed

Next Meeting

1/15/2026 @ 5:15pm ADFG Conference

Move to Adjourn: Roberts

Second: Atwood

Adjourn: 7:00pm

Matthew Allen
Bec Del



Name of Advisory Committee
Date
Location of Meeting

- I. Call to Order: [Time] by [name of chair/acting chair]
- II. Roll Call
Members Present:

Members Absent (Excused):
Members Absent (Unexcused):
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present:
- IV. Guests Present:
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting
- XII. Set next meeting date
- XIII. Other

Adjourn



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	14	
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	14	
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
Support	13	1	
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
Support	10	3	1 abstained due to lack of knowledge on the subject
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
Support	13	1	
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
Support	14	0	
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
Support	14	0	
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
Support	12	2	
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
Support	12	2	
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
Oppose	2	12	
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
Support	10	2	1 abstention, not a trapper
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals
January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	1	12	
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
Oppose	1	12	
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
No Action			
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
No Action			
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
Support	10	3	
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
Oppose	0	13	
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
Support	13	0	
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
No Action			
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
No Action			
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
No Action			
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
No Action			
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
No Action			
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
No Action			
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals
January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
No Action			
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
No Action			
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		
No Action			
29	Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side		
No Action			
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
No Action			
31	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year		
No Action			
32	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually		
No Action			
33	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
No Action			
34	Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C		
No Action			
35	Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		
No Action			
36	Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		
No Action			
37	Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks		
Oppose	1	12	
38	Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three		
No Action			Based on action taken on 37



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
39	Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two		
No Action			Based on action taken on 37
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
Oppose	0	8	1 abstention, would like to see the number of non-residents from 2020-25.
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
Oppose	0	8	1 abstention, would like to see the number of non-residents from 2020-25
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
Oppose	3	6	
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
Support	7	1	
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Amended	8	0	44,45,46 taken up together, lower limit to 10%
45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Amended	8	0	
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Amended	8	0	
47	Eliminate the meat salvage requirements in May for Black Bear in Unit 2 for Residents and non-Residents.		
Amended	7	1	Amended to include non-residents
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
Oppose	1	7	
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
Oppose	2	6	
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15		
No Action			Based on Vote on Proposal 49
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		
Oppose	1	7	
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	4	2	2 abstentions due to lack of Department comments and information
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
Oppose	0	8	
54	Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .		
Oppose	0	8	
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		
No Action			Based on Vote on Proposal 56
56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
Oppose	0	8	
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
Oppose	0	8	
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
Oppose	0	8	
59	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Support	8	0	
60	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Support	8	0	
61	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Support	8	0	
62	Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to "up to" 10% of the available permits		
Support	8	0	
63	Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September		
Support	8	0	
64	Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals
January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
65	Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October		
No Action			
66	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year		
No Action			
67	Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
No Action			
68	Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
No Action			
69	Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end		
No Action			

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Matt Allen
Minutes Approved By: Beau Dale/Matt Allen
Date: 1/6/2025





**Pelican AC Meeting
1/7/2026, 5pm
Pelican Library**

- I. Call to Order: [5:05PM] by [Patricia Phillips]
- II. Roll Call
Members Present:
Patricia Phillips
William Combs
James/Jim Phillips
Jamison Mork
Norm Carson (teleconference)
Celeste Weller

Members Absent (Excused): Jim Slater (moved out of area)
Members Absent (Unexcused):
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 7
List of User Groups Present: N/A
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Annie Bartholomew
- IV. Guests Present: none
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X.
- XI. New Business
 - a. Elections and new terms;



- i. Patricia Phillips - chair - 2 year term (nominated by Celeste no objections)
- ii. Mike Allard - vice chair - 3 year term (nominated by Celeste Weller no objections)
- iii. Celeste Weller - secretary - 3 year term (nominated by Patricia no objections)
- iv. William Combs - 1 year term
- v. James Phillips - 2 year term
- vi. Jamison Mork - 2 year term
- vii. Norm Carson - 1 year term

B. Review AK Board of Game Proposals;

XII. Select representative(s) for board meeting

XIII. Set next meeting date: tentative late February

XIV. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
	7	0	Ethical hunting
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
	7	0	Ethical hunting
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
	7	0	No additional gear needed during deer season
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
	7	0	Gives broods time to mature before hunting season
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
21			Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island
22			Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4
23			Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4
	0	7	2 deer is more than enough when other areas are short
24			Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet
25			Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4
26			Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken
27			Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks
28			Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks
29			Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side
30			Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region
31			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year
32			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually
33			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years
34			Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
35			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
36			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
37			Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks
38			Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three
39			Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two
40			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one
41			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one
42			Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15
43			Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula
44			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits
45			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits
46			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits
47			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
48			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
49			Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
50			Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15
51			Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2
52			Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves
	7	0	Wolf population needs more indepth study
53			Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2
	7	0	More education for all - it helps with management also
54			Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .
	7	0	Why isn't this already in law?
55			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2
56			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons
57			Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3
58			Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3
59			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to "up to" 10% of the available permits
60			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to "up to" 10% of the available permits
61			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to "up to" 10% of the available permits
62			Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to "up to" 10% of the available permits
63			Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September
64			Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
65			Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October
66			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year
	0	7	One bear every year is simply ridiculous - who needs a bear every year. Alaska is already over exploited for its hunting and fishing, this unnecessarily opens the door for more tourism.
67			Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only
68			Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only
69			Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end

Adjournment: 6:07PM

Minutes Recorded By: Celeste Weller
Minutes Approved By: Patricia Phillips



Board of Game Southeast cycle 2026- Petersburg Advisory Committee to ADF&G
Meeting minutes from 3 community meetings and one additional letter attached:

Petersburg Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday November 25, 2025 at 6pm

Location: Petersburg Borough Assembly Chambers and Zoom

I. Call to Order: **have someone be chair to call order and roll call**

II. Roll Call: **Megan at 6:04pm**

Name	Seat	Present	Excused or Unexcused
Max Worhatch	Chair		unexcused
Meagn oneil		x	
Don Spigelmyre		x	
Joel Randrup		x	
Bob Martin		x	
Nyle Thomas		x	
Jacob Rasmussen		x	
Ted Sandhofer	Archery	x	
Paul Menish	Crab/Conservation	x	
Anthony Taiber	Gillnet	x	
David Benitz	Hunting/Trapping	x	
Jerry Dahl	Seine	x	
Brandon Ware	Sport/Charter	x	
Ben Case	Sport/Personal Use	x	
Kaleb Baird	Alternate	x	
Heather Bauscher	Alternate	x	
Vacant	Troll		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: **7**

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: **frank robbins, Jason Larson,**

IV. Guests Present: **there's 3 people from the public**

V. Approval of Agenda:

VI. Elections:



- a. 4 Seats expired as of 6/2025: Max Worhatch, Don Spigelmyre, Joel Randrup, and Brandon Ware (Sport/Charter Seat)
- b. 1 vacant seat: Troll seat
 - i. Elections – nominates
 - 1. Sport charter- brandon
 - 2. Troll - kaleb
 - 3. Don, joel, heather
 - ii. Alternates
 - 1. Eric castro
- c. 2 alternate seats: Kaleb Baird and Heather Bauscher
- d. Elections for officers:
 - i. Chair, vice chair, and secretary
 - ii. Officer
 - 1. Chair – heather
 - 2. Vice chair – don
 - 3. Secretary – no, eric will write the meeting minutes for tonight
 - iii.

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report
- b. ADF&G
- c. Others 171, 172, 173 statewide fisheries proposal, hatcheries
 - i. 176 sea water bag limit
 - ii. 177, 178, 179, 180, 182, 169, 174

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
		15	Move to adopt – see no issue to adopt this law, not relative, oppose this proposal, more of an issue for EPOW
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
		15	Unnecessary to have
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
		15	This goes against the full chase, this would have an impact on the population
4	Amend the definition of a “taken” mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a “taken” brown bear in Units 1-5		
	15		This should be taken up like down bears, this will help with the population for goat, you should punch your tag even if you are unable to get the goat
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
1 absented		14	Changing the waiting period from one unit to another, is there a difference for resident and nonresident? Unsure if nonresidents should be able to do that, slows the take down
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
	15		Taking 6 and 7 as the same proposal In the spring is hunting for bear but the wolf season is different, we would like the bear and wolf hunt at the same time so theres more options to hunts Keep the seasons the same on the main land Unsure on why there is a difference for the seasons, it would open up more opportunities The main land is not part of the predator control area, the other areas are on the predator control Home keeping?
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
	15		Look above for discussion
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
1 absent	11	3	Frank talked about cougars in the region, there's no trail camera of the cougars No allowed to shot cougars here, the range is expanding but you cannot hunt them Is there a harvestable surplus of this species....? Unsure about disease will be impacted for Alaska wildlife, invasive species.....? may not qualify Record deer harvest is occurring, there might not be enough cougars to make an impact on our ecosystem, This could be a head of the time, similar to brown bears and moose, similar to the past Don't want to get in trouble about harvesting mountain loins and would like to be able to keep the kill, shouldn't get introuble to shooting a nonnative species
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
Anthony left, now only 14 people	11	3	Look above for discussion
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
	14	0	Theres few people that trap beaver, Unsure if the information is used for the department, theres extra steps for no reasion
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
	14		You cant used trail camera with livestream from home and look around to see whats area, this will not help with trapping but it would like with knowing when theres something in the trap not a good idea for hunting but good for trapping could hep with preventing unwanted animals before they pass
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
	1	13	Taking 12 and 13 together This is a new regulation; this hasn't occurred yet over the season



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Concern of unknowing what you will harvest This was premature, it hasn't been one season yet Concerns is poaching...maybe Give it time
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
1 absent	2	11	Look above for discussions
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
	0	14	Wont benefit the region, bird will be gone before the season start Written more for the guides? Unsure why it occurring again
69	Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end		
3 absent	2	10	Could have a conflict with nesting season and baby bird season Some concern about this from small game bio This is different from the other proposals due to the units specific, nesting is the only concern,
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
	0	15	Kid hunter should have fun hunting but it can be hard for them to tell the difference so fast Big kid hunt
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
1 absent	3	11	The middle ground...what is now and what is kalebs proposal The start is better, and it ends near the end of dear season Thinking about all the grouse and not just unit 3 Unsure id there is concern for all the grouse...? Exention would impact nesting
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	15	0	Proposal written by kaleb. Resident season, have one extra week from nonresident hunters Better for the regulations and hunters It can be EO'd but it will allow the residents to stay hunting for longer
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
		15	This could increase the transition guide business for hunters that don't take the meat home, this should be enough We would like to feed our locals first Department wrote it, department would think the residents won't take more deer so increasing the bag limit for nonresident would be best Could this be an answer for the Kodiak deer bag decrease...?
24	Modify the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
29			Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side
30			Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region
31			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year
32			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually
33			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years
34			Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C
35			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
36			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
37			Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks
38			Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three
39			Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two
40			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one
41			Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
42			Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15
43			Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula
44			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to "up to" 20% of the available permits
			44, 45, 46 will be taken up together
45			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to "up to" 20% of the available permits
46			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to "up to" 20% of the available permits
47			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
			47 and 48 taken up together
48			Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective
49			Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1
50			Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15
51			Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2
52			Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves
53			Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2
54			Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2.
55			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2
			55 and 56 will be don together



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
56			Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons
57			Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3
58			Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3
59			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
60			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
61			Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
62			Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits
63			Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September
64			Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3
65			Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October
66			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year
67			Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
68			Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only
69			Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end
			Moved to talk about with the other grouse proposals Look above for discussion

Statewide Board of Fisheries Proposal – proposals they would like to talk about

171	New regulations. Amend Prince William Sound hatchery permit to reduce pink salmon egg tale capacity...		
172	New regulation. Board generated regulation that places a moratorium on pink and chum hatchery production		
173	Boundary markers. Provide emergency order authority to define fishing boundaries when regulatory markers are lost, destroyed, or otherwise absent....		
175	Types of gear. Modify dipnet mesh-size and confirmation....		
176	New section Regulatory Language here. Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits...		
177	New Section. Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits...		
178	Definition. Modify the definition of bag limits...		
179	New Section. Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of 10 fish...		
180	New Section. Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of 5 fish...		



181	Sport fishing gear. Align regulatory and statutory language for sport fishing gear...		
182	New Section. Establish bow fishing as lawful sport fishing gear for species without a bag or possession limit...		
183	New Section. Amend regulations requiring conditions of fish available to inspection while in possession...		
184	Definitions. Align sport fish definition of rockfish with the statewide definition...		

Theres some interest in the Bristol Bay proposal – will be for a future meeting

Looking at the proposal for the 32 foot long vessel, need to look at the book to see

VIII.

IX. Public Comment:

X. Old Business:

XI. New Business:

XII. Set next meeting date: next meeting will be the 10th, contact the trooper for information about future proposals

XIII. Other:

Adjourn

Adjournment: meeting ends at 8:10pm

Minutes Recorded By: _____

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____



Petersburg Advisory Committee

12/10/25 5:00-7:00pm

Meetings Minutes

Future business

- Tried to vote for a secretary for the committee but public notice is required
- Planned vote for next meeting

Potential new members

- Caleb Latumpski showed interest in becoming an alternate
- Seth McCallum showed interest in becoming an alternate
- Public notice is required to vote them in, vote scheduled for next meeting

General public comments

Steve Burell (Petersburg resident) Moose proposals

- Changing this hunt makes no sense with how harvest success has been over the last 20 years. A record number of moose were taken last year showing the current management plan is a huge success.

Lad Norhiem (Petersburg resident) Moose and grouse proposals

- Fantastic harvest opportunities with current management plan. Current plan allows incredible opportunities for the greatest number of hunters. Don't change a good thing.
- Grouse proposals: Concerned about hens being overharvested by road hunters in the fall. Does not want the season extended.

Proposal 61 (Fisheries, Bristol Bay) Opposed Unanimously

- Public comments Casey Knight, Nels Evens, Ross Hofacre, Venessa Bartman (opposed)
- Pointed out, the proposal was poorly thought out and written with typos and no backing from other stakeholders
- Concerned there will be unnecessary impacts to the economics of the fishery
- Believe the current management is working and that this plan is ill conceived
- Would restrict other fisheries, e.g. sockeye fisheries would be closed
- Let the current plan play out
- Support vote:0
- Oppose Vote:12



Board of Game Proposals

Proposal 26 Opposed Unanimously

- Kaleb Baird (AC): four years is too long of a punishment, needs to make it billy only restriction. Residents are impacted more by this proposal than nonresidents.
- Poorly written
- ADF&G believes anecdotally that negative sentiment towards nannies' harvested is reducing the harvesting of nannies
- Unreasonable punishment
- Support vote:0
- Opposed vote:12

Proposal 40 Supported

- Don Spigelmyre (AC): One deer is plenty for nonresidents
- Keep more opportunities for residents
- Residents harvest deer to feed themselves nonresidents hunt to cover their walls
- Opposed Vote: 1
- Support Vote: 11

Proposal 41 Supported

- Same comments
- Opposed vote:1
- Support Vote:11

Proposal 43 Opposed

- Clean up the boundary lines, continuity of current season dates
- Poor winter could have impacts if this proposal is adopted
- Opposed vote: 12
- Support vote: 0
- Abstention: 1

Proposal 44 Opposed unanimously

- Difficult to make a determination without understanding the process
- What are the draw success rates of resident vs nonresidents
- Against if it makes process similar to up north draw hunts
- Opposed: 12
- Support: 0

Proposals 45 & 46 Opposed



- Kaleb Baird (AC): opposed but, would support 46 if amended to a resident only tag
- Opposed vote: 10
- Support vote: 0
- Abstention: 2

Proposal 57 Opposed unanimously

- ADF&G voiced concern of low population numbers to support this hunt
- Kaleb Baird (AC): wants to see how the recently adopted draw hunt proposal plays out. Over pressure would wipe out the population. Not a sustainable hunt.
- Steve Burell (member of the public): feels residents should have more opportunity to hunt elk on the island.
- Cody Lister (State Trooper) Believes there is significant poaching of elk on that island
- Petersburg AC would like to see more tags issued for this hunt
- Opposed vote: 12
- Support vote: 0

Proposal 64 Opposed unanimously

- ADF&G and state troopers are against this for determining legality
- The committee shares the same concerns as the state
- Opposed vote: 12
- Support vote: 0

Proposal 65 Opposed unanimously

- Same comments as proposal 64
- Record moose harvest over the past years
- Committee feels the current management plan is working well and should not be changed.
- Robin Leatherman (member of public) opposed, believes it would hurt the population
- Steve Berell (member of public) This hunt is the best way to sustainably harvest moose in the region
- Opposed vote: 12
- Support vote: 0



Petersburg Advisory Committee

1/7/26 5:00-8:15pm

Meetings Minutes

Elections:

- Vote for Secretary, Jacob Rasmussen voted in unanimously
- Alternate position, Caleb Lutomski 3 votes, **Seth McCallum 8 votes**

Board of Game Proposals

Proposal 58 Opposed unanimously

- Not a sustainable management plan

Proposal 59-62 Opposed

- David Benitz (AC): Proposals as written may allow for more non-resident opportunities, which is not what the committee desires.
- Jacob Rasmussen (AC): Opposed because the proposal needs to be rewritten to address the issue that these hunts will be listed separately between residents and nonresidents, potentially giving more tags to nonresidents.
- Caleb Baird (AC): The state manages these hunts as two different hunts between residents and nonresidents. This proposal may allot more tags to nonresidents than exist now.
- Opposed: 10
- Abstention: 2

Proposal 63 Opposed unanimously

- State is concerned about over harvest

Proposal 66 Supported unanimously

- State is opposed because of low population numbers
- Caleb Baird (Proposer): Vast majority of brown bear hunters will use this tag as tool for protection and this tag will allow the hunter to control the situation if there is a chance of threat to life.
- Nyle Thomas (AC): Populations seem to be expanding; the tag gives hunters peace of mind while hunting deer and moose in the fall.



- Megan O'Neil (AC): Supports proposal, increased harvest number shows increased population. The State has authority to adjust the number of tags if needed to manage the population sustainably.

Proposal 67 Split Decision

- David Beebe (Public): Concerned that deer populations are not high enough to support more hunting opportunities.
- Becky Knight (Public): The current regulations are properly managing the deer populations. This closed area prevents conflicts between hunters and other recreation users in the area.
- Eric Lee (Public): Severe winters have devastating impacts on deer populations. These closed areas offer refuge and protection for deer in high stress times. Hunter and recreational users will have increased conflicts. Wounded animals could cause a problem for public safety.
- Kaleb Baird (Proposer): Wolf hunting with a rifle is allowed in the closed area. The PMA has given 19 years of evidence that bow hunting near residential and recreational areas with no conflict. This proposal creates an opportunity to hunt brown bears that is not currently allowed with rifle.
- Ben Case (AC): Concerned about user conflict.
- Opposed: 4
- Support: 4
- Abstained 4

Proposal 68 Opposed

- Nyle Thomas (AC): Doesn't see a conflict with hunters and recreational users in this area.
- Jacob Rasmussen (AC): Opposed there should be a closed area to all hunting that creates a refuge for all wildlife that this current area offers. This is a relatively small area that supports a waterfowl refuge and is a popular bird viewing area.
- Eric Castro (AC): This is a Wild and scenic river that deserves a small area of protection from hunting pressure, believes there should be a sanctuary for wildlife.
- Trooper Lister: Has concerns about enforcing the area if proposal is adopted.
- Opposed: 6
- Supported: 5
- Abstained: 1



Additional Attachment: Zarembo Island illegal Harvest Concern Letter

January 7th, 2026

Dear Chairman Fletcher and members of the Board of Game,

With respect and on behalf of the Petersburg community, the Petersburg Advisory Committee feels it necessary to address more thoroughly the circumstances surrounding the Zarembo Island elk herd in lieu of discussions surrounding two proposals this BOG cycle. The management and harvesting opportunities regarding the Zarembo elk herd have long been a contentious matter in central Southeast Alaska. It is our understanding that hunters in neighboring communities throughout this part of the region are frustrated with the availability of tags and/or opportunity regarding local access to this herd, which is certainly a shared sentiment from many Petersburg residents.

However there is a significant concern that the Petersburg AC feels must be at the forefront of this discussion. Illegal Harvest and therefore the undermining of management objectives, and limited access.

After years of hunt closure, in part due to suspicions of foul play, department staff has made it very clear that a "certain element of unreported harvest" is continuing to hinder the ability to manage this hunt to its full potential, therefore limiting opportunity. To put it plainly, unfortunately there are bad actors directly taking opportunities from those who follow the rules, apply for, and dream of taking part in this hunt legally. Illegal harvest occurrences regarding this herd are mentioned as far back as the 1994 elk management report. The department did raise the permit quota from one to two draw tags for the 2026 DE324 hunt, however, it's been expressed by department staff that the number for 2026 could have been greater if there was not such a long continued history of unreported harvest on this herd. More specifically, a recent conviction regarding just that which occurred around the time of our committee meeting and came up in committee discussion. We have also included a timeline on the next page of a brief history of instances of illegal harvest from Zarembo island at the bottom of this letter as compiled by committee member Kaleb Baird.

The renewed hunt structure for this herd following the 2023 BOG cycle, which reopened harvesting opportunity and provided the department with the incentive to more closely monitor the Zarembo elk herd, may provide for the best chance to dissuade previously mentioned bad actors from continuing to step outside current regulations going forward. It is believed that DE324 is the single most popular hunt code applied for, including all species, by Petersburg residents. Because of this interest the AC feels it necessary to strongly oppose both proposals 57 & 58 AND strongly condemn the recurrent detrimental behavior of illegal harvest. These practices and impacts to the herd outside of the prescribed ADF&G management objectives hinder law-abiding residents from having access to this hunt and limit the ability of local people to benefit from the potential of a greater allocation and legally harvestable surplus. The AC strongly encourages the board and department to ensure that this still very new hunt is given a fair chance to succeed. Continued monitoring and reduced illegal harvest would most certainly result in more



opportunity for residents of nearby communities, along with many other applicants. Before making any rash decisions that may potentially lead to this herd's decline, which we believe would be the effect of both proposals, we ask that all constituents encourage fair play going forward and let the department do as they've been tasked, manage a sustainable opportunity to the maximum benefit of all Alaskans

Thank you for your service on the board and for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Petersburg Advisory Committee to Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Heather Bauscher, Chair

Timeline and history of instances compiled by Petersburg AC member Kaleb Baird:

Notes:

Some context on the 2004-2011 instances highlighted in this letter. These instances occurred during a time in which there was a hunt that allowed for the take of any elk that was not on Etolin or Zarembo Islands. The management reports state that suspicion began to grow that those specific cow harvests were coming from Zarembo Island and the reported kill sites were never able to be verified to prove otherwise.

- 1994 - Illegal harvest mentioned back as far as the 1994 elk management report. One cow on Zarembo Island and two bulls (unspecified locations) from the initial 50 transplanted animals.

- 2004 - Cow checked in citing Shrubby Island harvest location. (Kill site never verified).

- 2005 - Four more cows checked in citing Shrubby Island. (Kill sites never verified).

- 2011 - Cow harvest citing Bushy Island. Kill site never verified.

***Prompted Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevarof Islands to be officially closed altogether during 2013 BOG cycle by department proposal.

- 2013 - BOG member quoted in KFSK article citing potential poaching as a reason hunt was officially closed.

- 2025 - Three hunters convicted of using an Etolin Governors Tag on a Zarembo bull.



Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee
October 29, 2025
NSRAA & Zoom

I. Call to Order: 6pm by Chair Wayne

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

Stacey Wayne	Shellfish (Chair)
Schulyer Mace	Hand Troll
Moe Johnson	Seine
Steve Ramp	Resident Sportfish
Devon Calvin	Subsistence
Joel Martin	Alternate
Luke Bastian	Guide
Karen Johnson	At Large
John Murray	Power Troll (Vice Chair)
Aaron Prussian	Conservation
Greg Kain	Charter
Lance McCutcheon	At Large
Kent Barkhau	Hunting
Dick Curran	Longline

Members Absent (Excused):

Scott Wagner	Alternate
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Members Absent (Unexcused):

Woody Cyr	Trapping
Norm Pillan	Processor

III. Fish and Game Staff Present:

Steve Bethune (ADF&G Area Wildlife Biologist)

IV. Guests Present:

Anna Laffrey (Sitka Sentinel), Emily Scott (non-voting secretary), Mike Vaughn

V. Approval of Agenda

- Election
- Election of Officers
- Update on Statewide Sitka AC Proposal
- Board of Game Proposals
- BOF Statewide - set a meeting date, designate people to attend

M/S to approve agenda

John: Everyone here is a member but Steve, I wonder if we should have advertised the election. It should be in the paper everyday the week before the meeting.

Steve: It's been in the paper for at least 2 weeks and usually, the last couple years, I'd get on problem corner but didn't get to it this year.

Stacey: We usually have more turnout for BOF than BOG proposals

Luke: I would like to add Proposal 66 to the agenda.

ApprovedVI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes **N/A**

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report
- b. ADF&G
- c. Others

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business

Election:

- Shellfish:
 - Stacey is willing to serve again, no one else volunteers. Unanimous consent.
- Hand Troll:
 - Schuyler is willing to serve again, no one else is interested. Unanimous consent.
- Subsistence:
 - Devon is willing to serve again, no one else is interested. Unanimous consent.
- Hunting:
 - Kent is willing to serve again, no one else is interested. Unanimous consent.
- Seine:
 - Moe is willing to serve again, no one else is interested. Unanimous consent.
- At-Large:
 - Karen is willing to serve again, no one else is interested. Unanimous consent.
- Alternate:
 - Joel is willing to serve again, Emily Scott nominates herself.
 - Karen clarifies that only AC members vote on the Alternate seat.
 - Emily Scott: I have been serving in a non-voting role as secretary for about a year. I work at Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association as a program and

outreach coordinator. I started attending Sitka AC meetings last year once we started talking about king salmon allocation, because I was just personally interested and got kind of sucked in. I've learned a lot, have been super-involved, and would like to officially be a voting member.

- Joel: I'd like to continue my term from last year and have a voice for this other piece of industry (self guided tour business) that I'm in and would like to see this community continue to thrive and not be overharvested and everything else. I'd just like to stay on.
- **Emily Scott wins the election for Alternate seat**

Election of Officers - tabled

Unguided Rental Boats Proposal Update:

Steve: A little over a year and a half ago we submitted a proposal for the Southeast BOF cycle asking the BOF to take action on unguided rental boats but it was deemed a nonresponsive proposal. We wrote a letter to the BOF work session and they didn't bring it up. Per the Commissioners request, we resubmitted the proposal for the Statewide meeting however, it is not in the proposal book again. The legislative aid responded via email why it wasn't accepted. While the commissioner voted to include the proposal, the others did not, including the chair of the board. Once again we faced submitting a letter to the work session but only had 2 days to get a meeting together so I wrote it as myself and Linda Behnken and Himshoot wrote a letter of support. Kim from SEAGO was not ready to write a letter but contacted board members individually. They did not take it up this morning at the work session. They mentioned 2 non responsive proposals by name, but not ours. Any of the board members could have brought it up but they did not. The only thing to do now is work with Brian on NPFMC to prepare something for the December Council meeting.

Kent: Did you talk to Himshoot about it? Anything additional she can do?

Steve: She's traveling now and is focused on the task force.

Stacey: We could talk about this at the next meeting, maybe put together a committee. Steve is saying we've hit a wall.

Steve: It's been 3 different years, federal management council, charter halibut committee. In case we don't have a plan for the December NPFMC meeting, I'd like your approval to be the representative for the December meeting.



M/S to have Steve represent the Sitka AC at the NPFMC December meeting

Approved Unanimously

X. New Business

M/S to take up Proposal 1: Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5

Steve B: This proposal comes from East POW AC. Their rationale is that they are having issues with enforcement of using a light in terms of seeing a deer in headlights, turning the lights off and then shooting the deer. Does that count as illegal or not? It is but there have been cases where they are not getting reprimanded. The department is neutral. Already have restrictions on using artificial light to hunt game.

AC Comment:

John (to Steve B): In other parts of Alaska you can shoot at night with night vision forward looking infrared devices?

Steve B: It's a new decision from the BOG statewide meeting when they passed a proposal allowing forward looking infrared and nightvision for furbearers. Lots of testimony from SE people that this potentially opens a loophole to use it for big game.

John: (to Steve B) Any thoughts on the other loophole you mentioned?

Steve B: When things go to a jury, you'd have to be able to convince the jury and sometimes wildlife restrictions can be onerous to the general public.

Steve R (to Steve B): So currently, you can shoot a deer 24 hours - this would prohibit you from hunting at night?

Steve B: Correct

Stacey: Civil twilight is the most liberal definition of length of day.

Luke: August season opens on the 1st, plenty of time you can see even outside of civil twilight. It can be a pain checking the time - by the time you're close enough to shoot the bear it's marginal lighting and that would be a problem for us. I think using a spotlight turning it off and using the trigger is a bad idea, it seems like a legal loophole. It's also illegal to use an electronic device to aid in a hunt. You could add spotlights, headlights into that category. I'm against this as written and I also think there's another proposal that talks about only allowing forward looking infrared after season and I think that would take care of that concern.

Steve R: What does the book say about using lights? I don't see why they are having trouble making cases in court with how explicit it is in the book.

Stacey: I think the purpose for this is you can use it if you're hunting wolves, since it's a furbearer. They're saying people are doing that, targeting deer but saying they were targeting wolves if they get caught.

Moe: I'm in favor of this, it's common sense. You should be able to get your hunting done in daylight hours. No matter how remote you are, it only takes one screw up and someone will get hurt. Any hunter with any decent amount of skill can get their deer or bear in daylight hours. I'm in favor of it. Looks like they talked with the wildlife troopers about it.

Steve R: Proposal 2 is identical but specific to deer, we could take up both 1 & 2



Luke: Book says “except if using while tracking wounded game”. To me that’s pretty plain, I don’t see what the problem is in court.

Kent: What they are stating here is that people should be getting convicted but they are not.

Stacey: The example of the light on, light off is a separate issue but this is not what this proposal is addressing.

Greg: They use the same example in proposal 2, it may be effective for POW but not for us in Sitka. I don’t think the one rule fits all here.

Stacey: I have been out hunting before, stayed in one of the shelters and have had a boat come by, spotlighting the beach. I’ve seen this happen here - people run the shore with lights on when the deer are out on the beach.

Luke: I’ve seen that as well but I think anybody doing it knows it’s illegal as well. I don’t think it’s a regulation issue.

Steve R: Motion to amend this proposal to only include Unit 2. (No second).

Stacey: Wondering from the point of view of enforcement and ADF&G if you can have a regulation targeted.

Schuyler: Even with the furbearer one, it gives people the out.

John: To me, this reminds me of something that would get amended at BOF. It’s a basic proposal, gets some interest at BOG and they tweak it to tighten it up so you can’t do this. I like the intent of what they’re doing but things get massaged all the time at BOG. I’m in support of it as a vehicle to get something done.

Kent calls to question Proposal 1:

Passes 10-4

On Proposal 2: Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5

Steve B: We don’t need to take 2 up.

Stacey: Any opposition to saying “see discussion on proposal 1” for proposal two?

No opposition

M/S to take up Proposal 3: Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5

Steve B: SDA restrictions based on principles of Fair Chase - some exceptions for subsistence and intensive management. Recent SDA proposals for bear have failed. Region 1 Goat Harvest - Unit 4 18% of the harvest with NR 35% about 25 goats/year are taken by airplane. Boat hunting in SE is the most popular. Weather is a significant factor in success, few land and shoot possibilities, targeting specific animals (ie sheep, moose) unlikely. F&G don’t make recommendations on methods, means or ethics. Some potential for increased interest in aircraft. No conservation concerns, we could still close seasons by EO. It could bring up the potential that some of these areas would close quicker which brings up reasonable opportunity questions. ADF&G is opposed based on the potential for loss of reasonable opportunity for people.

AC Comment:

Steve R: Is the potential for opportunity for people shooting the same day they flew, potential closure.

Steve B: For people without access to airplanes would potentially require more effort to get to the hunting area before closure.

John: You said region 1 (assuming Ketchikan) 18% are fly-ins - do you have any estimates for unit 4?

Steve B: Region 1 is all of SE. We have a few plane hunts here.

Luke: I think this is written for people who own an airplane. I do think that this is not allowed for trophy animals in the state anywhere and for good reason and I don't think it's any different here. The safety factor they point out doesn't ring true to me.

Kent calls to question Proposal 3:

Fails 0-15

M/S to support Proposal 4: Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5

Steve B: Proposal 4 would make goats one of the animals where if you lost an animal it would contribute to your bag limit. There's similar regulations for black and brown bears in region 1 and elk in unit 8. Attempts at other species failed due to food security issues - BOG is very resistant to these proposals. Goats are susceptible to wounding loss, just part of the nature of goat hunting and almost all of those goats get reported to me and count towards quotas. I personally interview the hunter and can tell whether they are savvy enough to know what they shot. ADFG is neutral.

Kent: What gives you assurance about self reporting?

Steve B: My gut after being here for a decade and getting to know the goat hunting community - they talk to one another, talk to me, I stay in the loop. It's really hard for people to take a goat off a cliff and not mention it to a buddy and it ends up getting back to me.

Kent: Do you follow up with those tips?

Steve B: Yes, as much as I can.

Luke: Is there a spot on record where you recovered any goats? I know there is for bears.

Steve B: I don't believe so, we have to make a note when recording.

Kent: Would that be something easy to add?

Steve B: There's a lot of internal politics about how our record is programmed so, no.

Stacey: I remember talking to Phil Mooney about this when he held your job and his rationale was if you did this, people would want to continue hunting and less likely to report a lost/wounded animal.

Luke: When I guided goat hunts, that was my role and it made people take much more ethical shots. That is the rule for black and brown bears in SE and trying to make a regulation because someone might not report something gets you lost in the weeds.

John: If you have new language you underline or bracket, in that final paragraph there's just asterisks around

Steve B: Just a symptom of it being written by a member of the public. The Ketchikan AC is the only one that voted on these proposals and they did support it.

Kent calls to question Proposal 4

Passes 14-0

M (Steve)/S (Luke) to take up proposal 8: Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region

Steve B: This comes from the Wrangell AC who would like there to be a cougar season in SE. There have been 5 mountain lion incidents in the last 35 years. There was an instance in the last year or two where folks in Wrangell shot a mountain lion and got in trouble and I'm assuming this stems from those circumstances. We don't have a breeding population of mountain lions but one does wander in, mostly in unit 3, coming out of Canada. ADFG is neutral on it, there's really no cougars to hunt.

AC Comment:

Luke: I know there was the one killed in Wrangell and heard one caught in a trap but I don't have a strong feeling on whether there should be a season or not. Do you manage it?

Steve B: On these kinds of things it does end up being the Board's prerogative.

Steve R: I think this would be better handled on their list of invasive species with no closed seasons or bag limits. If you have a sport hunting season, it should be on a sustainable population.

Luke: An invasive species is typically introduced, is it still an invasive species if they wander in?

Steve R: Yes.

Kent: They're coming in through unit 3 in Canada?

Steve B: Yes, through the Stikine area.

Kent: With changing climate, they could start migrating due to changing environmental conditions.

Steve R: 5 mountain lions in 35 years is not a reason to open a season in my book

**Kent calls to question Proposal 8:
Fails 0-14****M(Luke)/S(Kent) to take up proposal 9: Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region**

Steve B: This is basically the same proposal as 8 but different proposers.

AC Comment:

Luke: Proposal 8 was hunting and 9 was trapping. The guys who got one in April, did they release it alive or keep it?

Steve B: I don't know but they wouldn't have been able to keep it.

Luke: If one happens to catch it in a wolf trap, I'm assuming you could keep it. I think it's more likely to get reported if they're allowed to harvest it.

Schuyler: It says hunting and trapping. So we'd be contradicting.

Luke: Move to amend to only trapping

Steve seconds

Luke: It has no close season so you'd think you'd want that to align with regular trapping seasons.



Steve Proposes a friendly amendment: *delete hunting; add “within wolf trapping season” instead of no close season.*

Kent: Establish hunting and trapping - strike hunting.

Moe: Feels like we’re wasting time here. This is fine for mainland ACs but someone trapping in the Sitka area, I don’t see it happening. We’re spinning our wheels here.

**Moe: I move to table discussion on Proposal 9 - Steve seconds
Passes 13-1**

M(Steve)/S(Luke) to take up Proposal 10: Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5.

Luke: Should we table until Woody is present?

Stacey: We might not meet again before comments are done.

Steve R: How many beavers get trapped on Baranof?

Steve B: 0-25 ish

Steve B: Lots of game management units have no sealing (metal locking tag, take samples, etc at ADFG office) requirements for beaver in Interior and Arctic/Western AK. 10 year avg is 225/year. Variable not based on beaver population but by prices and interest in beavers by trappers. Just 1-2 interested trappers can cause the rate to fluctuate wildly. Sometimes 50% comes from unit 2 because of clear cut logging - good beaver habitat. Sitka is not even in 3rd place on this list. No conservation concerns for beaver in SE, BOG has been liberalizing regulations in the last 10 years.

AC Comment:

Stacey: In places like Kake without an ADFG office, how do they do sealing?

Steve B: There’s appointed officers and troopers who can seal for ADFG.

Luke: What portion of trappers do the voluntary survey?

Steve B: I don’t think it’s very many.

Luke: What other info is in the survey?

Steve B: They do a nice overview of fur prices over the years which helps me a lot. The trappers themselves will rate the abundance of the species (very coarse) which gives us something to go by.

Kent: There are other species under this code - are those all sealed?

Stacey: I’m inclined to oppose it because I think having data on the beaver is a good idea. It doesn’t seem that onerous and you’re doing it for your other animals anyway.

Luke: What’s the reporting deadline?

Steve B: 15-30 days after the season

**Kent calls to question Proposal 10:
Fails 0-14**

M(Luke)/S(Steve) to take up Proposal 11 : Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5 .

Steve B: This proposal came from the general public. It would allow the use of trail cams wirelessly to take furbearers in units 1-5. The reg dates back to 2017. When the board passed the regulation, the discussion around hunting/trapping didn't come up so the board prohibited use of cell cameras for big game. Trapping regs incorporated the hunting regs by reference. It's almost a housekeeping thing - do we want this for trapping as well as hunting? Pros: enhance safety/efficiency, possible increase to catch rates. Cons: potential for abuse. ADFG is neutral.

AC Comment:

Steve Ramp: If they allow these cameras do you anticipate conservation concerns?

Steve B: No, we do not.

Luke: I'm generally in favor of this.

Moe: This ties into the first proposal we voted for. If that was in effect, we wouldn't have to worry about abuse with cameras in traps.

Luke: *Motion to amend to "after the end of sport deer season"*

Steve R: I won't second it because the effort that goes into trapping, I can't see somebody monitoring cameras on their traps and see a buck in the middle of the day to go get the buck. I don't see the harm in it not being amended.

Luke withdraws motion

Kent calls to question Proposal 11:**Motion fails 4-10****M(Steve)/S(Luke) to take up Proposal 12 : Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5.**

Steve B: This and the next prop stem from the March statewide BOG decision to allow use of night vision and forward-looking infrared for trapping. It got passed to allow the use statewide and now folks from POW put in proposals to rescind that for SE region. Main issues are potential for abuse - deer hunting specifically. ADFG is neutral. Concerns about deer poaching and potential abuse of night vision and forward-looking infrared.

Luke: I prefer Proposal 13 - it's the same thing except closing unit 1-5 for federal and state deer seasons. That's the only problem I see.

Luke motions to table Proposal 12 (Schuyler seconds)**Passes 14-0****M(Steve)/S(Luke) to take up Proposal 13: Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons**

Steve B: ADFG is neutral on this.

Steve R: I don't see any harm with it. It's doing bookkeeping for a BOG decision on big game that filtered over to this without being discussed.

Luke: We talked about this a lot last year and my recollection was that the only problem with it was it should exempt 1-5 during deer season.

Kent calls to question Proposal 13:**Passes 14-0**



M(Luke)/S(Schuyler) to table Proposals 14-15
Motion passes 14-0

M(Schuyler)/S(Steve) to take up Proposal 16: Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22

Steve B: You've seen many waterfowl proposals. There would be a consecutive season from October 8th to January 2nd. We have a split season now which is a pretty good balance of widely diverging opinions on when waterfowl season should be. We had an alternating season before that and the split season was a good compromise. ADFG is neutral but if this were to pass, it opens back up the can of words for back and forth in season dates and we'll likely see another BOG proposal to change it back earlier again.

Public Comment:

Mike Vaughn I was a longtime ADFG employee, I retired and when I come to speak on these proposals I'm speaking as a member of the public. Like Steve mentioned, we've had a lot of work for board meetings to deal with this. The traditional season started Sep 1 and ended Dec 16. It was maybe 4 cycles ago that the season got changed to Sep 16 start date which pushed the end of the season. A lot of people hunt in September - weather is better, days are longer than December, I run on specific tides and when I want to hunt it happens and I don't have time to get back in the daylight. Having the longer daylight increases the number of days I can hunt. After the season change, we made an attempt to get it back to 9/1 and ADFG went through the process to get a split season in AK to accommodate early and late season hunters. This proposal talks about giving guides and outfitters an opportunity for a new source of income (sea ducks in January) and improve the chance at trophy quality. This proposal would delay the season by 37 days which means a loss of access to migratory birds coming down the coast in late August-mid September so this basically allows those birds to pass through SE. Sitka AC has been supporting the efforts to get the 9/1 start date back, I'd like to see you oppose this. It's taking away from traditional hunters for non resident hunters/guides.

AC Comment:

Devon (to Mike): Do people eat seaduck?

Mike: I assume they do and hope they do -I've never hunted them but eat the other birds I hunt. The draw for the guiding business is people coming up and collecting species they can't get in their own states.

Schuyler: I'm opposed to this - it came up 3 years ago.

Luke: I prefer late season to early but I think where we're at now is a good compromise and I don't see a need to.

Kent calls to question Proposal 16
Fails 0-14

M(Steve)/S(Kent) to take up Proposal 17: Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region



Steve B: This proposal is basically just a person looking for not being able to take female grouse. ADFG neutral, no conservation concern but some people, for personal ethics reasons, don't want to shoot females.

**Kent calls to question Proposal 17:
Fails 0-14**

M(Luke)/S(Kent) to take up Proposal 18: Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31

Steve B: Wrangell AC would like to change the season start date from 8/1 to 8/10 and close from 5/15 to 5/31. ADFG has a split recommendation on this: we think we're neutral on the august portion; it would allow some of that year's chicks to mature and get bigger but definitely opposed on the end date because you're getting into nesting season for those birds. ADFG chose to address different beginning and ending dates but you're welcome to do that however you want.

AC Comment:

Luke: Do you think this would increase harvest for hooters?

Steve B: Yes.

**Kent calls to question Proposal 18:
Fails 0-14**

M(Steve)/S(Kent) to take up Proposal 19: Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31 RB089 (inside drainages)

Steve B: Currently 80% of harvest comes from inside drainages and 50% occurs 5/11-20. The season would be extended by 11 days. 75/25 split between nonresident and resident for the inside drainage.. Due to Covid, we had a closure in 2020 for nonresident and saw a 55% increase in resident harvest. Gives you the idea of the extra interest for resident hunters if they had this opportunity. We manage to 4% GHL for population estimates and based on 4 major islands in Unit 4. If we maxed it out, we could take up to 172 bears. Our 10 yr average is 130. We're at 131 right now and our percentage of females is excellent, we're well below GHL and number of females. This is not just hunting, it's all bears taken by humans. Current dates have been in place for 45 years and are currently being managed successfully for both hunting and non-consumptive uses under current regs. We're neutral, no conservation issue and can manage either way.

AC Comment:

Steve R: If they extended residents until the end of May - would there be additional conflict between bear hunters and tourist bear viewers?

Luke: There is conflict already and I think it would get worse. Most of the conflict I'm aware of is small cruise boats disturbing bear hunting and not wanting to see bear hunters either. USFS doesn't have a way to regulate but facilitate meetings to avoid each other but it's problematic.



Luke: Every hunting guide I know went hunting themselves (in reference to 2020). The reason this came about was to spread the use out since access is better. If it's left open, more pressure on inside vs outside. ADFG manages to target in a given area and this is meant to spread those out to other areas that don't get much pressure. Overall, in the last 10 years on average we're 40 below GHL. Can you say whether any of those inside drainages are close to target?

Steve B: Only Northeast Chichagof gets close but hasn't for a few years. Baranof can, especially when we had high ELP years.

Luke: My concern is that harvest in inside drainages would go up substantially so I think you'll see a large increase in harvest. It took a great effort to come up with the Brown Bear Management Strategy and anything that threatens that I don't want any part of.

Kent calls to question Proposal 19:

Fails 1-13

M(Luke)/S(Steve) to support Proposal 20: Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4

Steve B: This proposal is seeking to include Lisianski inlet to make it go into RB088. 11 more days of hunting. There is a potential for conflict with toursits.

AC Comment:

Stacey: This could impact the Pelican area since they'd have guided hunters stay an additional 11 days.

Luke: Proposals 20-21 come from the same organization. They've bought so many guide businesses that they are trying to expand their season. I'm against it.

Kent calls to question Proposal 20:

Fails 0-14

M(Luke)/S(Steve) to support Proposal 21: Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island

Steve B: This is similar to Proposal 20 - it would change boundaries of outside hunt to include all of NE Chichagof. ADFG is neutral. Current boundaries have been in place for 45 years.

AC Comment:

Devon: Is there a biological reason why seasons are different inside vs outside?

Steve B: There would be significantly more harvest in inside drainage if there was a longer season.

Steve R: Especially for nonresidents.

Steve B: You'd see guides switch from end of April hunts to late May.

Luke: I feel it's important to vote on all of these to know where we stand on them.

Kent: It's a bigger grab than the last one and NE Chichigof is already closest to its GHL than anywhere else.

Kent calls to question proposal 21:



Fails 0-14

M(Luke)/S(Steve) to take up Proposal 22: Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4

Steve B: This proposal would change the brown bear hunt start date from 9/15 to 9/1. In spring, unit 4 is divided into inside and outside but in Fall, it's all of unit 4. Fall is about 30% of annual harvest (tied to salmon runs) so, earlier in the season there's more fish and more bears. ASFG is neutral.

AC Comment:

Luke: I feel the same as the other proposals. The current season opens on the 15th but some guys do 2 hunts in the fall and the 2nd is half as successful as the first so, with a 9/1 opening, the harvest rate would go up a lot.

Stacey: I sat down with the woman doing the study of bears on Baranof and the reason she's doing the study is because we asked for it. The year that 16 bears were killed in town there was concern about the population so we asked for funding to look at the population. Current study is from a mining corporation in order to do mining on the island and they extrapolated the population for what they saw in Admiralty. The 5 year study in Haines said the estimate was much higher than it actually is. She said our GHL could go down based on this study. I'm not in favor of this.

Steve R: Historically, we're averaging 40 bears under GHL - what's a method to get to that number that doesn't create problems for guides, unguided, and tourism?

Steve B: I don't agree with being comfortable - if we increased our harvest by 40 bears in one year, I'd be uncomfortable. Even though we're allowed to, whether we should is another question. We don't need to be maxing out hunt numbers. It's more a social carrying capacity than a brown bear harvest. There's only so many places to anchor a 60 ft boat and there's only a certain number of hunts. The only way to get that number up would be adding more permits for guides. We recently tried doing that and got a lot of feedback from guides that they're comfortable with the amount of pressure happening now which led to the decision not to add brown bear hunts. Residents just aren't interested - how many bear rugs do you need?

Everyone in Sitka buys a tag just in case, you'll get a steady influx of coasties taking one bear to have a once in a lifetime brown bear we're really pretty close to where we're gonna be.

Luke: Important to note that there's a reg season and a bear hunt season which I talked about. It's not productive until May. However many hunts go in, has to be in that time. BBMS put together all interest groups and some areas are currently overutilized while others are underutilized. There's an issue of crowding and by adding more hunts, the whole experience would suffer.

Kent: Our confidence in GHL is not high, hence the study, so pushing the limit doesn't seem like a good idea.

Kent calls to question proposal 22:

Fails 0-14

M(Luke)/S(Kent) to take up Proposal 23: Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4

Steve B: This proposal would not address the NE Chichigof area. Bag limit raised from 4 to 6 deer at 2019 BOG meeting - prior to that it was 4 deer since before statehood. In 2023, BOF reduced the nonresident bag limit from 6 to 2 bucks. This was a compromise to stave off the Federal Subsistence Board proposals which didn't work so now we're coming back asking for the nonresident bag limit to be increased. Data shows how well unit 4 does based on pellet counts. We transitioned to game cameras and the results for the first winter (2023-2024) and in winter habitat, the estimate is 25 deer/sq mile. I do arial surveys. Anything above 100 deer/hour is really good. In 2025, I flew South Admiralty for the first time and set an all time record counting 337 deer/hour. Significant mortality in 2006/2007 (3.8 deer/sq mile). There was a big effort in 2022 and still only came up with .75/sq mile. Our deer are overwintering very well. From 2013-2022 nonresident harvest averaged 150 deer per year. They generally get 2 tags - they shoot the first buck they find then they look for a second one. Very few nonresidents take more than 2 deer. The average is 3 nonresidents take 3 deer and 1 nonresident takes 4 deer. Populations are high and stable; reduction is not based on biological or conservation concerns; few nonresident hunters take over 2 deer; ADFG supports sustainable opportunity when available; and you can't stockpile deer.

AC Comment:

Kent: What was the pressure from the Federal Subsistence Board that resulted in reducing?

Steve B: Pelican, Angoon and Hoonah had proposals to reduce hunting opportunity to non federally qualified hunters. We fought those proposals - videos, testimony, letters of support - there was no biological reason to do that. They limited AK residents, not targeted at out-of-state residents but Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan (non-rural residents). So the change from 4 deer to 2 bucks was an attempt from BOG to show good faith intent to stave off the federal proposals.

Stacey: I think the feeling was concerns about carrying capacity of hunters rather than biological concern. They didn't want the influx of outsiders in their hunting place.

Luke: The stated concern was that they weren't getting the deer they needed but data showed effort went down.

Steve B: Currently, those areas are closed to non federally qualified hunters 11/1-11/10.

Stacey: Those are areas around Angoon, Hoonah, and Pelican.

Luke: The whole reason for reduction to 2 has gone away anyway. For nonresidents, a deer tag is \$300/deer so not a lot of people shooting a bunch of does for \$300/each.

Kent calls to question Proposal 23**Passes 11-3****M/S to take up Proposal 24: Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet**

Steve B: This proposal would change the boundary so that basically, the bag limit would be 6 on either side of Tenakee Inlet. It makes some sense because initially, the area was changed to 3 due to logging and the road system but the area they are proposing isn't connected to the road system so concerns don't apply. Juneau residents are most likely to benefit, federally qualified



hunters already have 6 deer. Approx 32 NFQ harvest 34 deer annually in the proposed area, nearly all from Juneau. ADFG supports this proposal. The area has only been logged a little bit, a lot more native corp land on the northern side is logged. It's older logging.

AC Comment:

Moe: I'd say in the outer third there's a breeding stretch - I've mountain biked from the beach all the way to the peak and the whole section is major logged on both sides of the valley.

John: Unit 4 is our area but how many people from Sitka go to Tenakee for hunting? **Motion to table Proposal 24 - Moe seconds.**

Passes 14-0

M(Luke)/S(Steve) to take up Proposal 25: Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4.

Steve B: I wrote the proposal on behalf of ADFG. It's a housekeeping proposal to change the definition to be more specific and actually name the east side of the Sawmill Creek bridge and the gate at the beginning of Katlian Bay road: pavement to pavement. No actual change to closed areas, it just clarifies the northern and southern end. Spurred from new road with questions about inclusion in closed area. It was not our, or the troopers, intent to be part of the closed area. One stated reason for the road was to increase subsistence opportunity. Some ambiguity of the southern end, some say the bridge and some say the always-open gate at Halibut Cove Rec or some say end of Green Lake road gate. SMC bridge incorporates GPIIP.

Steve R: I thought that AK, like other states, has the same 440 yard buffer zone for any occupied dwelling but it doesn't.

Kent calls to question:

Passes 14-0

M/S to take up Proposal 66: Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year

Steve B: This would remove the 4 year waiting period. ADFG is opposed to this proposal, not a lot of brown bears in that area. We are opposed due to potential negative impacts on unit 3 brown bears. The current harvest rate is sustaining. As an aside, we and the Board have wrestled with unit 3 brown bear regulations for several cycles and it depends on what side of the fence do you want to be. Healthy brown bear population or remove brown bears for public safety perceptions. 7 bears in the last 10 years have been taken. In 2022 there were 4 and that was the high year.

AC Comment:

Luke: Has there been any increase in harvest? The only reason is I work over there, guide and hunt for myself and, talking to locals in Kake, there is concern that the brown bear population is increasing.

Kent: Does ADFG have any indicators that the population is rising?

Steve: Looking at harvest statistics there's no indication it's increasing.

Steve R: Nonresidents don't take there



Luke: I think it's an incidental take.

Stacey: Increasing to one/year wouldn't change that.

Luke: I think it's a lot of the same people out there that could shoot more bears. **Motion to table Proposal 66 - Kent seconds**

Passes 14-0

M/S to take up Proposal 57: Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3 .

Stacey: The statistics are that 35 Sitkans/year are hunting over there for moose and I do. If you're a big game hunter and you could hunt elk, that would be a big deal. Trying to be representative of Sitkans who hunt over there.

M/S to table Proposal 57

Passes 14-0

On Proposal 64: Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3

Stacey: In the Wrangell/Petersburg/Kake areas you can't turn in moose with damaged antlers. Wrangell AC is asking to take language out. It's already illegal to alter horns so putting this in there is insulting. Do we want to take this up?

Steve B: When we present these to the board and they read the AC's decisions, it holds weight.

M(Luke)/S(Stacey) to take up Proposal 64: Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3

Steve B: There's a high number of altered antlers and rumors that there was some real artistry going on to make them legal. Even maturables would have entire palms broken off and just base coming off so they were technically legal under spike so this regulation was created to cut down on tomfoolery going on.

AC Comment:

Luke: Nothing has changed in 10 years so I'm opposed.

M/S to support proposal 64:

Fails 0-14

M(Steve)/S(Stacey) to take up Proposal 65: Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October

Steve B: Shorter unrestricted antler hunt (any bull hunt). Month long season in the heart of the rut. We'd end up with a derby style hunt. With the antler restrictions, we are automatically saving a portion of the bull population. We would have to close with executive order to limit harvest. Illegal harvest is really low - set a new record this year, 145 bulls, and only 7 were sublegal - less than 5%. Comparable and better than many moose hunts across the state. This is addressing a problem that doesn't exist and creating a much lower quality product than what we have right now.

Kent calls to question Proposal 65::

Fails 0-14



XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting

- a. Stacey is willing to go to Wrangell for BOG meeting

XII. Set next meeting date

- a. Meet in February regarding BOF statewide proposals
- b. Emily wants to go; Scott will be there

XIII. Other

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
Support	10	4	
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
			*see comments on Proposal 1
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	14	
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		



Support	14	0	
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
Oppose	0	14	
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
Tabled			
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
Oppose	0	14	
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
Oppose	4	10	
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
Tabled			
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
Support	14	0	
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		



Tabled			
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
Tabled			
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
Oppose	0	14	
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
Oppose	0	14	
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
Oppose	0	14	
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
Oppose	1	13	
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
Oppose	0	14	
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
Oppose	0	14	
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
Oppose	0	14	
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
Support	11	3	
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
Tabled	14	0	



25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
Support	14	0	
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		
27	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks		
28	Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks		
29	Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side		
30	Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region		
31	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year		
32	Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually		
33	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years		
34	Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C		



35	Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		
36	Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only		
37	Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks		
38	Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three		
39	Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two		
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		



45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
47	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15		
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
54	Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .		
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		



56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
Tabled			
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
59	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
60	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
61	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
62	Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
63	Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September		
64	Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3		
Oppose	0	14	



65	Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October		
Oppose	0	14	
66	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year		
Tabled			
67	Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
68	Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
69	Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end		

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Emily Scott
Minutes Approved By: Stacey Wayne
Date: 1/9/26 Email

UPPER LYNN CANAL Advisory Committee
December 8, 2025
On ZOOM

I. Call to Order at 17:30 by Adam Smith, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 13

Adam Smith (Chair)

Mark Sogge (Vice Chair)

Derek Poinsette (Secretary)

Tim McDonough

Kathleen Menke

Lee Nash

Marvin Willard, Jr.

Craig Loomis

Nicholas Szatkowski

Darren Belisle

Alaina Birkel

Kip Kermoian

Rafe McGuire

Members Absent (Excused): 2

Teresa Katzeek

Ryan Cook

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Hannah Manninen (ADFG Wildlife Conservation)

IV. Guests Present:

V. Approval of Agenda - unanimous

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - unanimous

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report
- b. ADF&G - none
- c. Others - none

VIII. Public Comment - none

IX. Old Business – Letter RE 24-Mile boat launch from November 5 meeting

At the Nov 5, 2025 meeting a motion passed unanimously to submit the following correspondence via email (sent on Dec 16 from Poinsette's address):

TO: Kate Kanouse, ADFG Habitat

*CC: Brian Willard, Chilkat Indian Village Tribal Administrator
Kimberley Strong, Chilkat Indian Village Council President
Tom Morphet, Haines Borough Mayor
Alekkha Fullerton, Haines Borough Manager
Dylan Krull, ADFG Habitat
Greg Albrecht, ADFG Habitat
Nicole Zeiser, ADFG Commercial Fisheries
Andy Steven, USFWS
Brad Garasky, Alaska State Parks*

The Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee (ULCAC), at its November 5 2025 meeting, voted unanimously in support of closing the existing river boat launch that is approximately 1/4 mile downstream of the Wells Bridge on river right. Vehicles driving on the road leading to the boat launch area, and on the boat launch beach itself, are doing harm to productive salmon spawning habitat.

The ULCAC, also by unanimous vote, would like to see a new boat launch constructed at the Wells Bridge to replace the one that is being closed down.

Thank you,



*Derek Poinsette
Secretary, ULCAC*

Attached: ADFG Trip Report dated 9-30-2025 RE: 24-Mile Boat Launch

Motion by McDonough/Loomis 2nd: Have Sogge draft and send a letter opposing a Haines Borough proposal to build a cruise ship dock in Letnikof Cove. Passed unanimously.

The letter below was sent via email from Poinsette's address on Dec 12:

DATE: December 8, 2025

FROM: Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee

TO: Haines Borough Planning Commission

*CC: Haines Borough Assembly and Mayor
Manager Alekka Fullerton
Planner Chen Wu
Clerk Michael Denker
Harbormaster Henry Pollan
Ports and Harbors Advisory Committee
Tourism Director Rebecca Hylton*

In the communities of Haines and Skagway, the Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee (ULCAC) is, in part, tasked with addressing fish and wildlife issues, and providing a local forum for discussion of those issues. Currently, the Haines Borough is considering entering into a partnership with American Cruise Lines to construct a cruise ship dock in Letnikof Cove, providing the cruise ship company with guaranteed docking rights.

By unanimous vote at its December 8 meeting (13 of 15 members present), the ULCAC is opposed to the construction of a cruise ship dock in Letnikof Cove.

The proposed development would fundamentally change the historical uses of Letnikof Cove and the entire Chilkat Inlet. Cruise ship activity would negatively impact the ecological productivity of the Inlet, and it would harm the vitality of the commercial, subsistence, and sport fishing activities that form the cultural and economic foundation of Haines.

Chilkat Inlet is an extraordinarily productive body of water. All five species of salmon pass through the Inlet on their way to spawn, and they rear in its waters as juveniles. The adult sockeye run to Chilkat Lake is among the largest in Southeast Alaska, and the Chilkat River mainstem sockeye, also a large run, are some of the earliest sockeye returning to Lynn Canal. Historically, the Chilkat/Klehini River chum salmon return has been the largest chum return in Southeast Alaska. The Chilkat River coho run is the second largest in Southeast Alaska, and pink salmon returns can also be quite robust.

Juvenile salmon use the Inlet's nearshore waters for essential early development. If juvenile salmon are able to leave the Chilkat estuary with substantial growth and large body size, their chances of marine survival are greatly increased. The 1981-1983 Haines Area Estuary Study (D. Karns, 1983) looked at the duration of juvenile chum salmon residence in the Inlet, their growth, and also their distribution. The chum were found to move into Letnikof Cove soon after leaving the river. Any increase in large-vessel traffic in this narrow, sensitive area would disrupt this vulnerable life stage.

Cruise ship activity may also alter the behavior of eulachon, which are known to be highly sensitive to noise and disturbance. Increased ship traffic or changes to the shoreline habitat could cause eulachon to abandon the Chilkat River entirely. Such a loss would have far-reaching ecological and cultural consequences—affecting people, terrestrial and marine mammals, bird populations, and the broader marine ecosystem of which they are an essential component.

Chilkat Inlet is an important area for the production of shrimp, crab, halibut and many other fish. In recent years herring have been returning to the Inlet, spawning between Ayiklutu and Twin Coves. Large schools of juvenile herring have been residing in Paradise and Letnikof Coves. Marine mammals are common throughout Chilkat Inlet, including humpback whales, orcas, Dall and harbor porpoise, harbor seals, and sea lions.

Bringing cruise ships into Chilkat Inlet would also directly impact the commercial fishing fleet that is the backbone for the economy of Haines. Commercial salmon fishing occurs throughout the summer and fall in Chilkat Inlet. The Inlet is narrow, and it is not uncommon for gillnets to stretch continuously from the east shore to the west shore. The nets are moved often. There is no open corridor that a cruise ship could move through. It would be a gross disservice to the commercial fleet for the Borough to establish a cruise ship route through one of the most important fishing areas in Lynn Canal.

Subsistence gillnetters rely on the same waters—often fishing directly off Letnikof Point, in Letnikof Cove, and between Twin Coves and Glacier Point. Cruise ship traffic would compromise their access to traditional food and undermine the cultural continuity tied to these practices.

Additionally, Chilkat Inlet is heavily used for shrimp, crab, and longline gear. Letnikof Cove and the area around Letnikof Point are often crowded with buoys. Even smaller

cruise ships require wide maneuvering space, especially in the Inlet's frequently windy conditions. Stationary buoys and the gear attached would inevitably be at risk.

Bringing cruise ships into Chilkat Inlet would degrade the estuarine environment that supports local subsistence and commercial harvests. This threatens food security, cultural practices, and traditional livelihoods that have sustained Haines for generations.

Cruise ships would also add another layer of risk to already-stressed salmon runs and increase the likelihood of a catastrophic pollution event in one of the most important estuaries in Southeast Alaska.

For decades, the Borough-owned dock in Letnikof Cove has served Haines residents and visitors by providing moorage for small vessels participating in commercial, subsistence, sport, and personal-use fisheries. It is an important access point for marine recreation and a welcome harbor for small boats traveling throughout Southeast Alaska. It has also traditionally been the home port of sport fishing on the Chilkat Inlet side.

These longstanding community uses are sustainable, appropriately scaled, and compatible with the ecological needs of Chilkat Inlet. Converting this facility into a cruise ship dock would displace these traditional uses.

Given the Inlet's ecological sensitivity, its central role in sustaining the commercial, subsistence, and sport fisheries, and its importance to the cultural and economic life in Haines, constructing a cruise ship dock in Letnikof Cove is an unacceptable risk.

The Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee therefore stands unanimously opposed to the construction of a cruise ship dock in Letnikof Cove.

Sincerely,

Adam Smith

Chair, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee

X. New Business – BOG Proposals

Proposals 1 & 2 – NO ACTION

Motion Menke/Nash 2nd to support

YES: 2 / NO: 11 -- motion fails – no action

Proposal 3 – OPPOSED

Motion McDonough/Poinsette 2nd to oppose

YES: 13 / NO: 0 -- motion passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: This would discourage hunters from spending time carefully identifying billies. Hunter convenience is not a good enough reason to allow same day airborne hunting.

Proposal 4 – SUPPORT

Motion McDonough/Smith 2nd to support

YES: 13 / NO: 0 -- motion passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: This makes sense for more effective conservation of a sensitive and highly regulated species.

(Kip Kermoian had to leave the meeting at this point.)

Proposal 5 – OPPOSED

Motion Loomis/Belisle 2nd to support

YES: 4 / NO: 8 -- motion FAILS

Motion Menke/Nash 2nd to oppose

YES: 8 / NO: 4 – motion PASSES

REASON TO OPPOSE: Proposals to liberalize hunting regulations should go through the AC process and ADFG staff. This one did not.

REASON TO SUPPORT (4 vote minority): This would increase hunter opportunity.

Proposal 6 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/Poinsette 2nd to oppose

YES: 12 / NO: 0 – motion passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: Proposals to liberalize hunting regulations should go through the AC process and ADFG staff. This one did not.

Proposal 7 – OPPOSED

Motion Poinsette/Smith 2nd to oppose

YES: 12 / NO: 0 -- passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: Proposals to liberalize hunting regulations should go through the AC process and ADFG staff. This one did not.

Proposals 8 & 9 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/Szatkowski 2nd to oppose

YES: 8 / NO: 4 -- passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: There is not yet enough information on cougars to start a hunting season. Need to allow the species to establish itself here first, if there is an ecological space for it, and then there can be a managed hunt.

REASON TO SUPPORT (4 vote minority): Proposal came from an AC. You should be able to shoot a cougar if you see one.

Proposal 10 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/Willard 2nd to oppose

YES: 8 / NO: 3 / ABSTAIN: 1 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: This is one of the only ways that ADFG can track beaver populations and harvest levels, and collect data.

REASON TO SUPPORT (3 vote minority): It seems unnecessary to seal beavers. There are lots of beavers out there. It is inconvenient for trappers.

Proposal 11 – NO ACTION

Motion Birkel/Belisle 2nd to support

YES: 5 / NO: 6 / ABSTAIN: 1 – motion fails – no action

Proposals 12 & 13 – SUPPORT

Motion Poinsette/McGuire 2nd to support

YES: 9 / NO: 3 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: Using night vision technology is not fair chase. Allowing use of advanced tech for hunting is a slippery slope toward mismanagement. Hunting with night vision tech could also be dangerous.

REASON TO OPPOSE (3 vote minority): Should be able to shoot wolves and coyotes with night vision tech.

Proposals 14 & 15 – OPPOSED

Motion Szatkowski/Menke 2nd to oppose

YES: 7 / NO: 5 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: Proposals didn't go through AC and ADFG staff. Fishers are still a rare and uncommon species. Liberalizing harvest should only be done with good data to support. There is very little data on fisher populations and habits in Southeast.

REASON TO OPPOSE (5 vote minority): Fisher take is incidental. It is inconvenient for trappers to have to avoid catching more than one fisher.

Proposal 16 – OPPOSED

Motion Poinsette/Smith 2nd to oppose

YES: 12 / NO: 0 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: We already fixed the late vs early waterfowl hunting season problem in Southeast just a few years ago. These proposed dates are WAY too late for northern Southeast hunters.

Proposal 17 – SUPPORT

Motion Poinsette/Loomis 2nd to support

YES: 11 / NO: 0 / ABSTAIN: 1 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: This would be a really good way to conserve grouse in the spring when hens are nesting. It is easy to ID male grouse at this time of year. The final regulation should distinguish between sooty and spruce grouse and have different bag limits for each.

Proposal 18 – OPPOSED

Motion Loomis/Poinsette 2nd to oppose

YES: 12 / NO: 0 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: We would only support this proposal if it was passed along with a restriction on harvesting spring hens, as in proposal #17.

Proposal 26 – SUPPORT

Motion Smith/Loomis 2nd to support

YES: 11 / NO: 0 / ABSTAIN: 1 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: This will specifically target and reduce the unsustainable harvest of nannies.

Proposal 28 – NO ACTION

Motion Menke/Loomis 2nd to support

YES: 3 / NO: 7 / ABSTAIN: 2 – fails – no action

(Rafe McGuire had to leave the meeting at this point.)

Proposals 31, 32 & 33 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/Birkel 2nd to oppose

YES: 11 / NO: 1 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: These proposals did not go through an AC and ADFG staff. Questions of whether to liberalize hunting opportunities, open new hunting areas, and perhaps increase harvest, need to be supported by sound science.
REASON TO SUPPORT (1 vote minority): This could increase hunting opportunities.

Proposals 34 & 35 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/McDonough 2nd to oppose

YES: 11 / NO: 0 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: There could be issues with public safety and with user conflicts in these areas.

Proposal 36 – SUPPORT

Motion Menke/Smith 2nd to support

YES: 11 / NO: 0 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: Alpine birds, like ptarmigan, seem to hatch later and grow slower than grouse farther down the mountain.

Proposals 44, 45, & 46 – SUPPORT

Motion Menke/Smith 2nd to support

YES: 10 / NO: 0 / ABSTAIN: 1 – passes



REASON TO SUPPORT: Resident hunters are losing opportunities to non-residents in some drawing hunts. This will ensure that residents will always have opportunities when they are available and have preference over non-residents.

Proposal 47 – OPPOSED

Motion Menke/Loomis 2nd to oppose

YES: 11 / NO: 0 / ABSTAIN: 1 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: Black bear meat needs to be salvaged in the spring. It is wanton waste if it is not. This would not be an effective way to try and reduce the number of black bears. That kind of predator control would need to be managed by ADFG wildlife biologists using good science. There is no evidence that killing bears and wasting the meat would have any impact at all on the deer population. The problem with deer on POW is caused by widespread habitat destruction from clearcut logging. The deer need more healthy habitat for numbers to increase, not fewer black bears.

Proposal 48 – SUPPORT

Motion Menke/Smith 2nd to support

YES: 8 / NO: 0 / ABSTAIN: 3 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: This is an ADFG proposal that is supported by good science.

(Lee Nash had to leave the meeting at this point.)

Proposal 52 – OPPOSED

Motion Poinsette/Szatkowski 2nd to oppose

YES: 6 / NO: 1 / ABSTAIN: 3 – passes

REASON TO OPPOSE: There is not good scientific evidence that killing more wolves would cause the deer population to increase. The problem with deer on POW is caused by widespread habitat destruction from clearcut logging. The deer need more healthy habitat for numbers to increase, not fewer predators. If there was more and better deer habitat, then there would be more deer.

Proposal 54 – SUPPORT

Motion Menke/Poinsette 2nd to support

YES: 7 / NO: 3 – passes

REASON TO SUPPORT: This would increase safety in the field, and accountability from trappers. This works very well in other areas, like Yukon Territory, where trappers are not anonymous. This would promote harmony and understanding among different trail user groups.

REASON TO OPPOSE (3 vote minority): People will vandalize traps and harass trappers. It is inconvenient for trappers.



XI. Other

Next meeting: January 6, 2026

Adjournment: 22:00

Minutes Recorded By: D.Poinsette
Approved By: ULC AC at 1/6/2026 meeting



**Wrangell Fish and Game
Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, December 08, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Nolan Center & Via Zoom**

I. Call to Order: 6:30 PM by Chris Guggenbickler

II. Roll Call

Name	Position	Absent/Excused, Unexcused, Present
Chris Guggenbickler	Chair	Present
Tom Sims	Vice Chair	Present via Zoom
David Rak	Secretary	Present
Alan Reeves	Member	Absent/Excused
Robert Rooney	Member	Present
Marlin Benedict	Member	Absent/Excused
Jordan Bunes	Member	Present via Zoom
Jason Rooney	Member	Present
Dave Brown Sr.	Member	Present
Winston Davies	Member	Present
Brett Stillwaugh	Member	Absent/Excused
John Yeager	Member	Present
Travis Bangs	Member	Absent/Excused
Scott McAuliffe	Member	Present
Ryan Reeve	Member	Present
Chris McMurren	Alternate	Present
Davey Brown Jr.	Alternate	Absent/Excused

Members Present: 12

Members Absent (Excused): 5

Members Absent (Unexcused): 0

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: None Noted

III. Fish and Game Staff Present via zoom:

Sam Kirby, Board Support

Frank Robins, Area Biologist

Alisha Seward, AST



IV. Guests Present: Chuck Jenkins, Jim Jenkins, Dani Gross, Tim Hunt, Tim Johnson, Dawn Davis, Bruce Smith, Mike Ottesen, Curtis Kautz via Zoom, and Danika Smalley via Zoom.

V. Approval of Agenda

Elections

Board of Game Southeast Proposal

Board of Fisheries Statewide Proposals

Board of Game Southcentral Proposals

VI. Reports

a. Chair's report

In 2025 confiscated moose meat was cut up by the Wrangell High School Students and ground by the Wrangell IGA. Moose meat was distributed to Wrangell Long Term Care and the Stikine Sportsmen's Dinner.

The confiscated moose meat program has been terminated because the butcher did not get paid. Any future program for confiscated moose meat is up to the Alaska State Troopers.

The Alaska Board of Game will meet in Wrangell January 23 – 27, 2026. Members are encouraged to attend the BOG meeting and provide comments to the proposals. Comment deadline date is January 9, 2026.

There will be a Federal RAC meeting in Wrangell February 17-18, 2026. Members are encouraged to attend.

The use of local National Forest System roads and docks managed by the Forest Service are very important to the community for sport and subsistence harvest activities. Discussion of this topic will be included in the next meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2025

b. ADF&G: Included in proposal discussions.

c. Others: None

VII. Public Comment: None

VIII. Old Business: None

IX. New Business

Elections

5 expired seats

The following five persons were elected to three-year terms on the Wrangell AC:

Chris Guggenbickler

Tom Sims

Dave Brown Sr.



Jason Rooney
Jared Gross

2 alternate seats

The following two persons were appointed by the chair to one-year alternate seats on the Wrangell AC:

Jordan Bunes
Mike Ottesen

Elections for officers for 2-year terms:

Chair: Chris Guggenbickler,

Vice Chair: Tom Sims

Secretary: David Rak

X. Select representative(s) for board meeting: TBA

XI. Set next meeting date: Thursday December 11, 2025

XII. Other: None

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Prohibit the take of big game animals between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal because it would restrain legal hunting during valuable twilight hours. It should continue to be legal to hunt after civil twilight of sunset and prior to civil twilight of sunrise, provided there is enough natural day to see game and hunt. It is believed that civil twilight is not adjusted for elevation, and there would be more daylight on a mountain top/side vs at sea level, in the shadow of a



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			mountain. Spot lighting of game is illegal, and this proposal will not solve that problem. If the big problem is spot lighting deer on POW Island, State and Federal enforcement need to address the illegal activity on that Island.
2	Prohibit the take of deer between civil twilight of sunset until civil twilight of sunrise the following day in Units 1-5		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal for the same reasons that proposal was opposed. An effort is needed to close the loophole that some believe allows the artificial light to be uses to spot game but turned off just before the game is taken. A new regulation with restrictions for civil twilight is not needed.
3	Allow the same day airborne take of goats in Units 1-5		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal because allowing the same day airborne taking of mountain goats would not represent fair chase for the harvest of the goat. The AC opposes spotting a goat from an aircraft and then landing to shoot the animal in the same day.
4	Amend the definition of a "taken" mountain goat in Units 1-5 to align with the definition of a "taken" brown bear in Units 1-5		
No Action			The proposal would be difficult to enforce.
5	Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 1 Remainder, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years.		
SUPPORT	11	1*	The AC supports this proposal because it believes the brown bear population in the Wrangell area is adequate to support the increased harvest. ADF&G reports a lack of brown bear population data in the Wrangell area. The AC would like to see less brown bear predation on moose in the Wrangell area. *The minority voter feels the proposal would be an opportunity for the overharvest and unreported bear harvesting; and noted the ADF&G lack of brown bear population data.
6	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons for Units 1B, 1C and 1D to May 31		
No Action			
7	Align the wolf hunting seasons in Unit 1 by extending the seasons in Units 1A, 1B & 1C to May 31		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
8	Establish an open season for hunting cougar in the Southeast Region		
SUPPORT	12	0	The AC supports its own proposal to open a legal season for cougar harvest. Cougar are in the Wrangell area and kill deer. The cougar season end should coincide with the black bear, and open with the deer season: August 1 through June 15. No use of dogs to hunt, or open to pursuit.
9	Establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion in the Southeast Region		
No Action			The AC would support establish hunting and trapping regulations for taking mountain lion.
10	Remove the sealing requirement for beaver in Units 1-5		
No Action			The AC would support removal of the sealing requirement because it is believed that ADF&G is not currently using the data from the required sealing.
11	Allow the use of cameras or other sensory devices that can send messages through wireless communication for trapping furbearers in Units 1-5		
No Action			
12	Prohibit the use of night vision devices for taking furbearers in Units 1-5		
No Action			
13	Prohibit the use of night vision for taking furbearers in Units 1-5, during state and federal deer seasons		
SUPPORT	12	0	The AC supports this proposal because it believes that trappers with a night vision scope equipped weapon would use the weapon to hunt deer. There is a need to close that loophole.
14	Change the bag limit for taking fisher from one to three per season in Southeast Region Units		
No Action			
15	Remove the bag limit for trapping fisher in Units 1-5		
No Action			
16	Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal as it belies the boating and hunting weather in January is often severer and could be dangerous. Also, too much productive waterfowl hunting time would be lost in September if the season did not begin until October 8.



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
17	Change the bag limit for grouse in the Southeast Region		
No Action			
18	Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31		
SUPPORT	11	1*	The AC supports its own proposal to shift the hunting season for grouse to August 10 to protect broods of immature grouse in early August. Extending the harvest season to May 31 would allow for access by youth during years that snow blocks access roads during the early weeks of that month. *The minority voter feels the proposal should align with the deer hunting season beginning on August 1.
19	Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31		
No Action			
20	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4		
No Action			
21	Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear hunt in Unit 4, to align the season for all of Northeast Chichagof Island		
No Action			
22	Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4		
No Action			
23	Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 4		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal because it believes that non-residents do not need 4 deer, 2 deer would be enough. ADF&G biologist don't anticipate an increase in non-resident harvest with the proposal, but acknowledges that it would allow for a few non-resident hunters to take a few more deer. The AC believes that if the non-residents bag limit is increased, the harvest will increase, because deer hunting/harvest is very popular with non-resident hunters.
24	Modify the Northeast Chichogof Controlled Use Area in Unit 4, to exclude drainages near Tenakee Inlet		
No Action			
25	Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4		
No Action			
26	Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1C from hunting goat in Unit 1C for the following four regulatory years, and require nonresidents to forfeit nanny goats taken		



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action			
27			Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to four bucks
No Action			
28			Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to two bucks
No Action			
29			Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side
No Action			
30			Establish a moose hunt for disabled hunters on state lands in Unit 5A, the Yakutat Region
No Action			
31			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear resident hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one bear every year
No Action			
32			Expand the RB063 and RB073 brown bear hunt area in Unit 1C to include the Chilkat Range, and change the bag limit to one brown bear annually
No Action			
33			Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 5, to one bear every regulatory year instead of one bear every four regulatory years
No Action			
34			Allow archery only hunting for big game in the Juneau Road System Closed Area in Unit 1C
No Action			
35			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
No Action			
36			Open the area within 1/4 mile of Thane Road in Unit 1C, to taking big game by archery only
No Action			
37			Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks
No Action			
38			Reduce the resident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to three
No Action			
39			Reduce bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to two
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
40	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
No Action			
41	Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four bucks to one		
No Action			
42	Change the nonresident start date for the deer hunting season in Unit 2 to August 15		
No Action			
43	Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula		
No Action			
44	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG005, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
No Action			
45	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG006, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
No Action			
46	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 1A goat drawing hunt DG008, to “up to” 20% of the available permits		
No Action			
47	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
No Action			
48	Increase the Unit 2 wolf population objective		
No Action			
49	Change the season start date for wolf trapping in Unit 2 to December 15 or January 1		
No Action			
50	Move the start date of the wolf trapping season in Unit 2 to December 15		
No Action			
51	Extend the wolf trapping season to 45 days on Prince of Wales Island, Unit 2		
No Action			
52	Add Unit 2 as an area for intensive management of wolves		
No Action			
53	Require an online trapping education course for trapping wolves in Unit 2		
No Action			
54	Require identification tags be attached to traps and snares in Unit 2 .		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
55	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2		
No Action			
56	Prohibit the use of night vision and infrared devices for taking furbearers in Unit 2, during state and federal deer seasons		
No Action			
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
Tabled			<p>The Wrangell AC submitted this proposal to allow bull elk on Zarembo Island with at least 3 points on one antler to be harvested between the first Saturday in November and the third Sunday in November annually.</p> <p>Both proposals 57 & 58 are an effort to increase the harvest, and decrease the population, of elk on Zarembo Island. The elk on Zarembo compete with the deer on the island, and Wrangell hunters rely heavily on those deer to feed their families</p> <p>The level of elk harvest on Zarembo, that would be sustainable, was the subject of extensive discussion. ADF&G opposes proposal 57 because it believes the hunt would not be sustainable. Their data shows that every bull elk, greater than 1½ years old, have at least 3 points on one side. Thus, too many bull elk would be eligible to harvest each year.</p> <p>The AC believes too many bull elk would not be harvested because of the lack of easy access to much of Zarembo. And the short season is in November when boating weather limits access to the island.</p> <p>To increase the elk harvest, ADF&G proposed to increase the number of drawing permits for bull elk on Zarembo from one to two permits for 2026.</p> <p>The AC responded that the harvest of 2 bulls by drawing permit would be only 2% of the estimated population. It was estimated there are between 100 to 200 elk on Zarembo. The AC proposed target would be to harvest 10% of the bull elk on Zarembo annually.</p> <p>A suggestion to amend proposal 57 to include the harvest of all/any bull elk (no restriction on antler points) during the segment of November failed for lack of a second.</p>



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			The proposal was tabled on 12/8, with further action on 12/11
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
Tabled			<p>The proposal was submitted by a Wrangell resident to allow for the harvest of one elk on Zarembo Island by registration permit between August 1 and November 30 annually. Both proposals 57 & 58 are an effort to increase the harvest, and decrease the population, of elk on Zarembo Island. The elk on Zarembo compete with the deer on the island, and Wrangell hunters rely heavily on those deer to feed their families</p> <p>The proposal was tabled on 12/8, with further action on 12/11.</p>
END OF MEETING MINUTES FOR 12/8/2025. CONTINUE DURING MEETING MINUTES ON 12/11/2025.			

Adjournment: 9:20 PM

Minutes Recorded By: __David Rak__

Minutes Approved By: __Chris Guggenbickler__

Date: __01/07/2026__



**Wrangell Fish and Game
Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Nolan Center & Via Zoom**

I. Call to Order: Call to Order: 6:30 PM by Chris Guggenbickler

II. Roll Call

Name	Position	Absent/Excused, Unexcused, Present
Chris Guggenbickler	Chair	Present
Tom Sims	Vice Chair	Present via Zoom
David Rak	Secretary	Present
Alan Reeves	Member	Absent/Excused
Robert Rooney	Member	Present
Marlin Benedict	Member	Absent/Excused
Jared Gross	Member	Present
Jason Rooney	Member	Present
Dave Brown Sr.	Member	Present
Winston Davies	Member	Present
Brett Stillwaugh	Member	Present
John Yeager	Member	Present
Travis Bangs	Member	Present, arrived late
Scott McAuliffe	Member	Absent/Excused
Ryan Reeve	Member	Present
Mike Ottesen	Alternate	Present
Jordan Bunes	Alternate	Absent/Excused

Members Present: 13

Members Absent (Excused): 4

Members Absent (Unexcused): 0

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present via Zoom:

Sam Kirby, Board Support

Frank Robins, Area Biologist



Carri Anne Mueller, AK BOG
Alisha Seward, AST

- IV. Guests Present: Charlie Hazel, David Powell, Chuck Jenkins, Jim Jenkins, Dani Gross, Tim Hunt, Bruce Smith, Brian Rooney, and Patricia Phillips via Zoom.
- V. Approval of Agenda
 - Board of Game Southeast Proposal
 - Return to Proposals 57 and 58
 - Return to Proposals 64 - 69
 - Board of Fisheries Statewide Proposals
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report: None
 - b. ADF&G: During discussion
 - c. Others: None
- VIII. Public Comment: None
- IX. Old Business:
 - Board of Game Southeast Proposal
 - Return to Proposals 57 and 58
 - Return to Proposals 59 – 69, the Moose proposals
 - Board of Fisheries Statewide Proposals
- X. New Business per agenda:
 - Southeast Federal Advisory Committee
 - Discuss upcoming Federal Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) proposals:

A motion was made and seconded to send a letter to the RAC opposing the civil twilight regulation for harvesting big game. The AC opposes the federal proposal for the same reasons it opposes proposal #1 to the AK Southeast Regional Meeting of the BOG, January 23-27, 2026. See the minutes from the Wrangell AC Meeting on Monday, December 8, 2025.
 - Discussion of FS on logging road access for hunting, gathering, and recreation:

A motion was made and seconded to send a letter to the USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, expressing interest in maintaining dock facilities and National Forest system road access for hunting, gathering, and recreation activities. The docks at Roosevelt and St. John Harbors on Zarembo island are needed for safe access for hunting and other subsistence activities. Chris Guggenbickler will write the letter.



Board of Game Southcentral Proposals – there are some Regional/Multi Unit proposals that might be interesting to look at (Proposals 73 and 74).

Proposal 73 would define the term: Permanent Dwelling for hunting and fishing.

Proposal 74 would count a wounded bear against the hunter's bag limit, and require them to cut their harvest tag.

Other issues brought up that pertain to pertinent Fisheries and Game issues

- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting: Chris Guggenbickler will attend BOG meeting
- XII. Set next meeting date: TBA
- XIII. Other
- XIV. Adjourn

Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals January 23-27, 2026 Wrangell, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
START OF MEETING MINUTES FOR 12/11/25.			
57	Change the season, bag limit, and permit requirement for hunting elk on the Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
SUPPORT	11	1*	The Wrangell AC supports its proposal to allow bull elk on Zarembo Island with at least 3 points on one antler to be harvested between the first Saturday in November and the third Sunday in November annually. Action began and was tabled on 12/8/2025; and discussion was continued as follows: It was pointed out that the recent/current heavy snow includes the winter range on Zarembo. In winter the elk and the deer migrate to the west side of Zarembo (away from the Stikine wind), and both species compete on the same winter range.



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>The larger elk would decimate the elk, hurting the survival of the deer herd. Again, stressing the importance of the the Zarembo deer herd to feed the community of Wrangell. It was again stressed the need to harvest more elk from Zarembo Island, and that increasing the harvest from one to two drawing permits is would not be enough.</p> <p>Another explanation of the ADF&G proposal to increase the number of drawing permits from one to two for bull elk on Zarembo was provided: Two bull elk drawing permits would equate to approximately 10% of the estimated bull elk, and 1% of the estimated total elk herd. This should be sustainable. Some AC members feel the choice between proposals 57 and 58 is between 2 options: Manage for a sustainable herd, or wipe out the elk on Zarembo.</p> <p>*The minority voter feels the elk herd could be managed best using drawing permits, and ADF&G should increase the number of drawing permits to between 7 and 10 permits annually.</p>
58	Open a registration hunt for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>The AC opposes this proposal submitted by a Wrangell resident to allow for the harvest of one elk on Zarembo Island by registration permit between August 1 and November 30 annually.</p> <p>Action began and was tabled on 12/8/2025; and discussion was continued as follows:</p> <p>The AC supports its own proposal 57. Its desire is to increase the harvest of bull elk on Zarembo, but feels proposal 58, allowing the harvest of any elk, would not be sustainable. Some AC members feel the choice between proposals 57 and 58 is between 2 options: Manage for a sustainable herd, or wipe out the elk on Zarembo</p>
59	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3, elk drawing hunt DE318, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
No Action			
60	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE321, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
No Action			



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
61	Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the elk drawing hunt DE323, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
No Action			
62	Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 3 elk drawing hunt DE324, to “up to” 10% of the available permits		
No Action			
63	Adjust the season dates for the DE318 elk hunt in Unit 3, and open a new drawing hunt in September		
OPPOSE	0	12	The AC opposes this proposal because it believes it would not be sustainable to hunt elk with a rifle during the rut in September. The AC does not favor shorting the archery season and add a rifle hunt in September. The AC supports the ADF&G concern for decreasing the herd by increasing the hunt. The elk harvest on Etolin has been declining over the past 15 years, because the herd is declining. Calf production and herd recruitment is a problem.
64	Eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers for Units 1B, 1C and 3		
SUPPORT	13	0	The AC supports its proposal to eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers. In the past moose antlers were illegally altered by hunters. That problem has decreased. The AC feels that if an antler in velvet is damaged naturally while growing, it should be allowed as a broken antler. Antlers altered by a hunter should be delt with by AST. Natural breaks to antlers would be included as a legal animal. It would be up to AST to prove a broken antler was man made. ADF&G reported that the bull moose harvest on the river with the current antler restriction has been stable for several years. Bull moose harvest on Kuiu and west Kupreanof Islands has been increasing. Generally, the Stikine harvest (1B) has been younger bulls, with older bulls harvested in other areas of Unit 3. The density of hunters for the small area of the Stikine is greater, than other areas that are a larger area. Note: AC Member Travis Bangs joins the meeting increasing the voting members from 12 to 13.



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
65	Remove the antler restriction for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3 and replace with a shorter, any bull hunt in October		
OPPOSE	1*	12	<p>The AC opposes this proposal submitted by a Wrangell resident to remove the antler restriction and shorten the season to 2 weeks for the moose hunt in Units 1B and 3. The AC feels this proposal would be mute if proposal 65 was adopted by the Board.</p> <p>It is felt that the BOG would not change the regulations on a moose hunt that is doing very well. If it's working the BOG would not change the regulation. There has been record bull moose harvest in the past few years for Units 1B and 3. But some people are fearful to hunt and make a mistake in antler identification/determination. Eliminating the antler restriction would make the hunt easier and less confusing. A typical moose hunting on the Stikine river was described as a few bulls get shot during the first days of the season, followed by 10 to 15 days when very few bulls are seen and harvested. Once the rut starts the hunt become very productive for harvesting bull moose. This proposal would include the most productive days of the rut in the hunting season. With no antler restriction all bull moose would be eligible and legal to harvest. This would result in an unstainable level of harvest and a decline in the moos herd. While an open hunt, with no antler restrictions, would be the only regulations not to vilify legal hunters. A motion to table the proposal, and not vote on it, failed: 2 support and 11 oppose.</p> <p>Emphasis was made to the BOG to pass proposal 64 to eliminate the regulation that excludes broken, damaged, or altered antlers from the definition of spike-fork antlers.</p> <p>*The minority voters feel an effort is needed to alleviate the hunter vs enforcement conflict, stop moose poaching, and end illegally killed moose abandoned in the field.</p>
66	Change the bag limit for hunting brown bear in Unit 3 to one bear every regulatory year		
SUPPORT	13	0	The AC supports this proposal because they believe there is a need to increase the harvest of brown bears in Unit 3, and decrease the population of bears. With the restriction of harvesting a brown bear every 4 years, hunters pass on bears



Alaska Board of Game Southeast Region Meeting Proposals

January 23-27, 2026 | Wrangell, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			as they seek a larger bear. With the possibility of harvesting a bear every year, more bears would be harvested because hunters would not pass on a bear knowing they would have to wait 4 years to seek a larger one. It is noted that this harvest would be open to residents only as there is currently no non-resident season for brown bears in Unit 3.
67	Repeal the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
No Action			
68	Repeal the Blind Slough Closed Area in Unit 3, and add the area to the Petersburg Management Area, to allow for big game hunting by archery only		
No Action			
69	Extend the grouse hunting season in Unit 3, to close June 15 instead of May 15 end		
No Action			
262	Moose harvested under the horn restriction in 5 AAC 85.045 Units 1(B) and 3 will be Judged for legality by a committee.		
SUPPORT	13	0	The Wrangell AC supports its proposal despite the Board not having authority to determine the process.

END BOARD OF GAME SOUTHEAST PROPOSALS

BEGIN BOARD OF FISHERIES STATEWIDE FINFISH PROPOSALS



Alaska Board of Fisheries Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues Meeting Proposals

March 17 – 21, 2026 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
162	Prohibit commercial transport services in subsistence fisheries		
No Action			
11	Close state waters to commercial groundfish fishing with trawl gear west of 170° W. longitude		
No Action			
163	Define all trawl gear operated inside state waters as non-pelagic and develop new performance and monitoring standards to allow state-waters pelagic trawling to occur on a case-by-case basis		
No Action			
164	Establish bottom contact monitoring requirements for pelagic trawl gear operated inside state waters		
No Action			
165	Establish salmon excluder requirements for all pelagic trawl gear operated inside state waters		
No Action			
166	Amend statewide definition of a mechanical jigging machine		
No Action			
167	Prohibit vessels from having other groundfish gear or equipment onboard while participating in a groundfish fishery using mechanical jigging machines or hand troll gear		
No Action			
168	Prohibit vessels from having more than one groundfish gear type onboard when participating in a state-managed groundfish fishery		
No Action			
169	Create a definition of groundfish coil spring or 'slinky pot'		
No Action			
170	Reduce the permitted egg take level of each hatchery permit containing pink and chum salmon by 25% of the current permitted capacity for those species		
OPPOSE	0	13	<p>The AC opposes this proposal as it is similar to a past proposal 156 in the Alaska Board of Fisheries Southeast and Yakutat Finfish and Shellfish from January 28-February 9th, 2025.</p> <p>The AC opposed proposal 156 and feel it is simply an anti-hatchery proposal, not based on science. Hatchery programs are reviewed and approved by the Regional Planning Team (RPT) which is a public process. The reduction to the hatchery fish would harm the economics of many SE Alaska communities. The all users would be negatively impacted, and SRAA would be negatively impacted. Hatchery fish</p>



Alaska Board of Fisheries Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues Meeting Proposals

March 17 – 21, 2026 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			benefit all users. Also see following: A Resolution Of The Wrangell Fish And Game Advisory Committee Opposing Proposal 156 from 12/17/24.
171	Amend Prince William Sound hatchery permits to reduce pink salmon egg take capacity		
No Action			
172	Board generated regulation that places a moratorium on pink and chum hatchery production		
No Action			
173	Provide emergency order authority to define fishing boundaries when regulatory markers are lost, destroyed or otherwise absent		
No Action			
174	Allow the engine of a purse seine vessel or skiff to be shut off when the purse seine is deployed		
No Action			
175	Modify dipnet mesh-size and configuration		
No Action			
176	Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits		
OPPOSE	0	13	The AC opposes this proposal and proposal 177 because they would increase the opportunity to take fish on a sport charter. It believes the sport charter take of fish should not be increased. If all the members of the charter do not catch their limit, that's just the way it is; that's fishing. There is special emphasis to not increase the charter sport take of king salmon.
177	Allow anglers fishing from the same vessel to pool bag and possession limits		
OPPOSE	0	13	The AC opposes this proposal and proposal 176 because they would increase the opportunity to take fish on a sport charter. It believes the sport charter take of fish should not be increased. If all the members of the charter do not catch their limit, that's just the way it is: that's fishing. There is special emphasis to not increase the charter sport take of king salmon.
178	Modify the definition of bag limit		
OPPOSE	0	13	The AC opposes this proposal because it believes the person who sets the hook owns the fish, others cannot help catch the fish.
179	Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of 10 fish		
OPPOSE	0	13	The AC opposes this proposal because it believes that king salmon less than 28 inches are too small to keep. The current local king salmon limit is 28 inches, and that should be maintained.
180	Establish a statewide annual limit for king salmon of five fish		
OPPOSE	0	13	The AC opposes this proposal because it believes the limit should be greater than 5 fish, and there needs to be accommodation of hatchery fish vs wild stocks in determining the limit.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues Meeting Proposals
March 17 – 21, 2026 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
181	Align regulatory and statutory language for sport fishing gear		
No Action			
182	Establish bow fishing as lawful sport fishing gear for species without a bag or possession limit		
No Action			
183	Amend regulations requiring conditions of fish available to inspection while in possession		
No Action			
184	Align the sport fish definition of rockfish with the statewide definition		
No Action			
186	Reduce commercial salmon fishing opportunity with drift gillnet gear in the Central District of the Cook Inlet Area		
No Action			
187	Close the Tsiu River and all waters within one quarter mile of the Tsiu River and Kaliakh River confluence to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action			

Resolution #001 included below concerning Proposal 170(156).

The Wrangell AC SUPPORTS Resolution 001, all members are in favor.

Comments, Discussion: The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee strongly opposes past Proposal 156 and the current Proposal 170, and urges the Board to reject proposal 170 to prevent detrimental impacts on Southeast Alaska’s hatchery programs, coastal communities, and fishery-dependent livelihoods.

WRANGELL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 001

A RESOLUTION OF THE WRANGELL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OPPOSING PROPOSAL 156 TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 9, 2025, ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES MEETING

WHEREAS, The Alaska Boards of Fish and Game established regional Advisory Committees to serve as local subject matter experts for their respective regions; it is both



appropriate and essential that the Boards prioritize these committees' expertise and rely on their informed recommendations when making decisions; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska's salmon hatchery programs have successfully operated for almost 50 years, supplementing wild salmon harvests and supporting commercial, sport, subsistence, personal use, and cultural fisheries, which are vital to the economic and social fabric of local communities; and

WHEREAS, these hatchery programs, operated by the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), Douglas Island Pink and Chum, Inc. (DIPAC), and Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), play a critical role in supporting approximately 4,200 jobs, \$219 million in labor income, and \$576 million in annual economic output, benefitting over 14,000 Alaskans who depend on hatchery salmon for their livelihood; and

WHEREAS, Proposal 156 seeks to reduce hatchery production of pink and chum salmon by 25%, posing a significant risk to the hatchery-supported ecosystem in Southeast Alaska and threatening the stability of salmon resources relied upon by commercial, sport, and subsistence harvesters, as well as local communities for food security, cultural traditions, and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in hatchery production would jeopardize food security and access to salmon for subsistence, personal use, and sport fisheries, directly impacting the cultural practices, heritage, and economic stability of communities across the region; and

WHEREAS, the current scientific data on the impact of hatchery fish on wild salmon populations remains inconclusive and does not justify the significant cuts proposed in Proposal 156; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's hatchery system operates as a nonprofit model, funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes, and adheres to stringent public permitting and scientific standards to ensure wild salmon populations are protected while benefiting all user groups; and

WHEREAS, Proposal 156 introduces unnecessary regulatory oversight that would conflict with the proven balance between hatchery and wild stock management achieved under existing frameworks, complicating long-term planning and financial stability for hatchery operators; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska hatchery programs represent a long-standing partnership between private nonprofits and the state, providing significant economic, cultural, and social benefits while maintaining sustainable practices that protect wild salmon stocks;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WRANGELL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE THAT:

Section 1. The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee strongly opposes Proposal 156, scheduled for consideration at the January 28 - February 9, 2025, Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting, and urges the Board to reject this proposal to prevent detrimental impacts on Southeast Alaska's hatchery programs, coastal communities, and fishery-dependent livelihoods.

Section 2. The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee reaffirms its support for SSRAA, DIPAC, and NSRAA, recognizing their essential contributions to sustaining salmon resources critical for local economies, cultural practices, and the continued availability of salmon for all user groups.

Section 3. The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee calls upon the Alaska Board of Fisheries to prioritize science-based, objective assessments for hatchery management and collaborate with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, hatchery operators, and local stakeholders to ensure management decisions reflect the economic, cultural, and ecological value of Southeast Alaska's hatchery programs.

XV. **OTHER NEW BUSINESS:** None

Adjournment: 9:10 PM

Minutes Recorded By: _David Rak_____

Minutes Approved By: _Chris Guggenbickler_____

Date: __01/07/2026_____