

ALASKA

PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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March 3, 2017

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Larry Van Daele's appointment to the BOG

Dear Chairman Giessel and Senate Resources Committee Members,

The Alaska Professional Hunters Association (APHA) strongly recommends that Dr. Larry Van Daele be confirmed to the Board of Game.

First and foremost, the BOG should be focused on conservation and health of game populations. Dr. Van Daele's 35 years of employment with ADF&G, where he spent much of his career as the area management biologist in Kodiak, will prove valuable as challenging resource decisions emerge. He is extremely knowledgeable on wildlife issues throughout the state, and would be invaluable on the BOG. Over Dr. Van Daele's long history with the state, he has worked with Federal Advisory Councils, State Fish and Game Advisory Councils, Native Corporations, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and various work and study groups. He is also an internationally recognized bear expert.

Throughout his career, he has shown himself to be a consensus builder, in fact, few individuals possess the ability to work through controversial issues, bridge divides, and come to fair conclusions like Dr. Van Daele.

Mr. Van Daele is approachable, knowledgeable, and fair. This has led to him being respected by ALL user groups. It would be hard to find a more qualified individual for the Board of Game. It is also worth noting that it has been many years since there has been a BOG member from Kodiak.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that you appoint Dr. Van Daele to the Board of Game.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sam Rohrer
President, APHA