

Alaska Chapter SCI
PO Box 770511
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 980-9018



March 3, 2015

The Honorable Louise Stutes
Alaska State House
Alaska State Capitol Rm. 416
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Stutes:

This letter is in regard to House Bill 103 related to the Board of Fish and the Board of Game. It is our opinion that this legislation should either not move forward or be amended so as to allow for reasonable actions within the Board's deliberative process. The proposed work draft as currently written may closely resemble existing regulations; however, it seems to us that those regulations address the initial promulgation of regulations, and do not currently affect Board actions once they are taken up and deliberated upon.

It seems to us that the best way to illustrate the concerns we have would be to compare this with a similar requirement on the Legislature itself. If a bill made it through the public process that is the committee system and onto the floor, under the wishes of those supporting HB 103 if that bill was amended in anyway on the floor it would have to go back to committee for more public review. That would severely hamper the process as I am sure you can appreciate.

I would also like to address some of the reasons given for forwarding this legislation. It has come to our attention that part of the reason related to a "secret meeting" in Anchorage related to proposals before the Board of Game on sheep hunting. Most major groups with a clear interest in sheep hunting were invited to the meeting which as you can see by my invite attached was also billed as an informal meeting. Denying such meetings and discussions would in our opinion violate people's constitutional right to assemble and discuss issues. Here was the list of invitees: Gary Stevens V.P. of the Alaska Outdoor Council. Sam Rohrer, President of the Alaska Professional Hunters Assoc. Spencie Netschert, President of SCI Alaska Chapter, Kevin Kehoe, President of the Alaska Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation, Mark Richards, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers and Joe Want. Joe is a recognized expert on sheep and brown bear hunting.

There also seems to be some confusion over two "Board generated proposals" at the January 8, 2015 Board of Game meeting. Our interpretation of those two proposals is that they were a compilation and consolidation of proposals coming from the public over the past three years dealing with sheep management and hunting. Both the Board of Game and Board of Fish have exercised this prerogative for years and to us it makes sense that they do so. Please remember these positions are essentially voluntary often dealing with controversial and emotional issues.

SCI's Top Gun Chapter

Consolidation of similar proposals lessens the Board's workload and helps streamline meetings and therefore costs.

We don't necessarily disagree with the premise of the bill's author and fully support a robust and open public process; however, we don't believe HB 103 significantly contributes to those goals. We believe a better approach would be a letter or resolution admonishing the Joint Boards to revisit their guidelines for proposals and the public process so as to make clear what the parameters are for dealing with proposals and the ways in which the public can express their concerns on those proposals.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brett Barringer", written in a cursive style.

Brett Barringer
President

Cc: Rep. Tammy Wilson
Members of the House Fisheries Committee
Members of the Legislative Outdoor Heritage Caucus



Edward Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>

Re: Informal Sheep Working Group Meeting

Gary Stevens <garyatsls@cs.com>

Sat, Jan 3, 2015 at 8:57 AM

To: barringer_19@yahoo.com, tspraker@alaska.net, tony.kavalok@alaska.gov, alaskanate@gmail.com, bruce.dale@alaska.gov

Cc: elk3006@alaska.net, eddie@aksafariclub.org, thorstacey@gmail.com, kandik@starband.net, sam@kodiakbearcamp.com, wantj43@gmail.com, kevinkehoe@alaskan.com

Good Morning,

Unfortunately, I can't make it today. I sincerely appreciate the invitation and look forward to working with everyone in the future. Hopefully, I will see most of you at the upcoming AC and BOG meetings.

Thanks for being involved!

Gary

garyatsls@cs.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Barringer <barringer_19@yahoo.com>

To: Ted Spraker <tspraker@alaska.net>; tony.kavalok <tony.kavalok@alaska.gov>; alaskanate <alaskanate@gmail.com>; bruce.dale <bruce.dale@alaska.gov>

Cc: Tom & Spencie Netschert <elk3006@alaska.net>; Eddie Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>; Thor Stacey <thorstacey@gmail.com>; Mark Richards <kandik@starband.net>; Gary Stevens <garyatsls@cs.com>; Sam Rohrer <sam@kodiakbearcamp.com>; Joe Want <wantj43@gmail.com>; Kevin Kehoe <kevinkehoe@alaskan.com>

Sent: Fri, Dec 26, 2014 7:15 am

Subject: Informal Sheep Working Group Meeting

All,

We will be having an informal sheep hunting working group meeting Saturday January 3rd. The meeting will take place at 10am in the Alaska fish and game headquarters conference room on Raspberry Road. The informal working group includes members from the Alaska Professional Hunter's Association, Alaska Backcountry Hunter's Association, Alaska Outdoor Counsel, Alaska Chapter Wild Sheep Foundation, Kenai Chapter of Safari Club International, Fish and Game, and the Alaska Chapter of Safari Club International. We formally request your presence to observe our informal working group's discussion. I understand this is short notice. Please RSVP, so we can account for food and refreshments. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brett A. Barringer
President Alaska Chapter SCI
907-947-0983 cell



Edward Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>

Re: Informal Sheep Working Group Meeting

Gary Stevens <garyatsis@cs.com>

Fri, Dec 26, 2014 at 8:25 AM

To: barringer_19@yahoo.com, tspraker@alaska.net, tony.kavalok@alaska.gov, alaskanate@gmail.com, bruce.dale@alaska.gov

Cc: elk3006@alaska.net, eddie@aksafariclub.org, thorstacey@gmail.com, kandik@starband.net, sam@kodiakbearcamp.com, wantj43@gmail.com, kevinkehoe@alaskan.com

Morning Brett,

I will be there.

Thanks,
Gary

garyatsis@cs.com

Gary Stevens
907-229-4710

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Barringer <barringer_19@yahoo.com>

To: Ted Spraker <tspraker@alaska.net>; tony.kavalok <tony.kavalok@alaska.gov>; alaskanate <alaskanate@gmail.com>; bruce.dale <bruce.dale@alaska.gov>

Cc: Tom & Spencie Netschert <elk3006@alaska.net>; Eddie Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>; Thor Stacey <thorstacey@gmail.com>; Mark Richards <kandik@starband.net>; Gary Stevens

<garyatsis@cs.com>; Sam Rohrer <sam@kodiakbearcamp.com>; Joe Want <wantj43@gmail.com>; Kevin Kehoe <kevinkehoe@alaskan.com>

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Sincerely,

Dr. Brett A. Barringer
President Alaska Chapter SCI
907-947-0983 cell



Edward Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>

Dall Sheep Working Group

Brett Barringer <barringer_19@yahoo.com>

Wed, Dec 24, 2014 at 11:06 AM

Reply-To: Brett Barringer <barringer_19@yahoo.com>

To: "elk3006@alaska.net" <elk3006@alaska.net>, Eddie Grasser <eddie@aksafariclub.org>, Thor Stacey <thorstacey@gmail.com>, Sam Rohrer <sam@kodiakbearcamp.com>, Mark Richards <kandik@starband.net>, Ted Spraker <tspraker@alaska.net>, Kevin Kehoe <kevinkehoe@alaskan.com>, ~~Gary Stevens <garystevens@gmail.com>~~, Joe Want <wantj43@gmail.com>

All,

I have confirmation for a time and place. We will be meeting on Saturday January 3rd at the fish and game office on Raspberry Road here in Anchorage. The meeting will be at 10am. The office is locked and closed, so we will be let in all at once. Please be there a few minutes early, so we can start on time. Thanks and have a Merry Christmas!

Brett

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