

Offered: 2/28/84
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Moss

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 337 (Resources)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Delta Junction bison range;
7 and providing for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

10 (1) the Delta Junction bison herd is a highly valued state
11 wildlife resource;

12 (2) drawing permits issued for the hunting of Delta Junction
13 bison constitute a valuable source of state revenue;

14 (3) the Delta Junction bison herd has established the Delta
15 agricultural project as a fall and winter range;

16 (4) the feeding, wallowing, and traveling by the Delta Junction
17 bison herd within the Delta agricultural project has resulted in damage to
18 crops, monetary loss to local farmers, legal conflicts, and physical harm
19 to the herd;

20 (5) the bison range concept is a proven means of keeping bison
21 in an area as long as adequate forage is available on the range;

22 (6) the current state of development of the Delta Junction bison
23 range area is inadequate to sustain bison for more than a few weeks;

24 (7) the expansion of available forage on the Delta Junction
25 bison range area is required to provide a winter range for the Delta Junc-
26 tion bison herd and to effectively keep the herd from grazing within the
27 Delta agricultural project; and

28 (8) a bison drift barrier must be constructed along the northern
29 boundary of the Delta Junction Bison Range to prevent the Delta Junction

1 bison herd from drifting onto the project and causing further harm to
2 crops.

3 * Sec. 2. AS 16.05.346 is repealed and reenacted to read:

4 Sec. 16.05.346. PERMIT APPLICATIONS. (a) If the Board of Game
5 establishes an open season for musk oxen and has not reduced or elimi-
6 nated the \$500 resident tag fee under AS 16.05.340(a)(16), the depart-
7 ment shall conduct a drawing for permits to take the musk oxen. If
8 the Board of Game establishes an open season for musk oxen for which
9 the Board of Game has reduced or eliminated the resident tag fee, the
10 department shall issue permits to take the musk oxen in the order in
11 which applications are received by the department. A person is not
12 eligible for more than one musk oxen permit a year. The department
13 may not charge a fee for an application for a musk oxen permit for an
14 open season in which the Board of Game has reduced or eliminated the
15 resident tag fee under AS 16.05.340(a)(16). In all other cases the
16 application fee for a musk oxen permit is \$10.

17 (b) The application fee for a drawing permit issued by the
18 department for the hunting of bison in the Delta Junction bison range
19 area is \$10.

20 (c) Except as provided in (a) and (b) of this section, the
21 permit application fee for all species for which a limited drawing is
22 conducted is \$5.

23 * Sec. 3. AS 16.05.346 is repealed and reenacted to read:

24 Sec. 16.05.346. PERMIT APPLICATIONS. (a) If the Board of Game
25 establishes an open season for musk oxen and has not reduced or elimi-
26 nated the \$500 resident tag fee under AS 16.05.340(a)(16), the depart-
27 ment shall conduct a drawing for permits to take the musk oxen. If
28 the Board of Game establishes an open season for musk oxen for which
29 the Board of Game has reduced or eliminated the resident tag fee, the

1 department shall issue permits to take the musk oxen in the order in
2 which applications are received by the department. A person is not
3 eligible for more than one musk oxen permit a year. The department
4 may not charge a fee for an application for a musk oxen permit for an
5 open season in which the Board of Game has reduced or eliminated the
6 resident tag fee under AS 16.05.340(a)(16). In all other cases the
7 application fee for a musk oxen permit is \$10.

8 (b) Except as provided in (a) of this section, the permit
9 application fee for all species for which a limited drawing is
10 conducted is \$5.

11 * Sec. 4. AS 16.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

12 Sec. 16.20.311. BISON RANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The
13 governor shall appoint a seven-member Delta Junction Bison Range
14 Advisory Committee. The governor shall appoint members to represent
15 the following interests:

16 (1) two members representing the Delta agricultural proj-
17 ect;

18 (2) two members representing Delta Junction sport hunters
19 and the state fish and game advisory committee;

20 (3) one member representing nonconsumptive wildlife users;

21 (4) one member representing timber, mining and other con-
22 sumptive natural resource industries; and

23 (5) one member representing the tourism industry.

24 (b) The committee shall consult with and offer its advice to the
25 Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Commerce and Economic
26 Development, and the Alaska Agricultural Action Council, on matters
27 relating to the game management plan required under AS 16.20.310 and
28 the construction and maintenance of a bison drift barrier along the
29 northern boundary of the Delta Junction Bison Range.

1 (c) A member of the advisory committee is not entitled to per
2 diem, travel, or other compensation from the state for the performance
3 of acts as a committee member.

4 Sec. 16.20.312. BISON RANGE TIMBER SALES. The Department of
5 Natural Resources, division of forestry, shall provide for the sale of
6 timber in the Delta Junction bison range area in a manner that does
7 not delay implementation of the game management plan required under
8 AS 16.20.310.

9 * Sec. 5. AS 16.20.300, 16.20.310, 16.20.311, 16.20.312, and 16.20.320
10 are repealed.

11 * Sec. 6. Section 3, ch. 39, SLA 1979 and sec. 1, ch. 73, SLA 1980 are
12 repealed.

13 * Sec. 7. Sections 1, 2, 4, and 6 of this Act take effect July 1, 1984.

14 * Sec. 8. Sections 3 and 5 of this Act take effect August 1, 1995.