

HB

18

CS

Jody Moss
(586-3126)
parties, clean, cook.
assist in serving

2/23

hell
over

ll

Just to call to your attention that in fact, wolf has attacked man. Wolves, because of their excessive number in the Interior, are a problem. The Dept. of Fish and Game has not solved the problem, mainly because of outside political pressures, as well as insufficient staff to police the perimeter of our towns and villages.

Don Rasmussen

PATIENT ENCOUNTER FORM

Name _____ Camp Oldman
EMPLOYER _____ WORKMEN'S COMP. NUMBER _____ DATE 11-4-75 TIME: 1615
BIRTHDATE _____ ALLERGIES None SOCIAL SECURITY NO. _____

Subjective **S**

*Go being bitten by a wolf.
RT wrist - needs to report
it.*

T.
P.
R.
B.P.

Objective **O**

abrasion RT wrist skin not broken.

Assessment **A**

as above

Plan **P**

*Dip Tetanus
Boosters -
sterpen*

Medications	Time/Date Given

[Signature] Field Medical Technician

MEDICAL RECORDS RELEASE

After evaluation of my medical condition the attending physician is authorized to release my medical records to the Bechtel Medical Department. This release also includes records and information concerning hospitalization pertaining to this illness/injury.

Signed _____ Witness _____

EXAMINING PHYSICIAN'S REPORT (See reverse side for instructions) Date _____

Positive Historical Findings: _____
Positive Physical Findings: _____
Diagnosis: _____
Treatment: _____
Further Recommendations and Disposition: _____
Date Patient May Return to Work: _____

Address: _____ (City) _____ (State)
Signed _____ M.D.
Address: _____ (City) _____ (State)

L

S-4 June

539.36 6213

5 Nov 74 #1

NAME

c/o Wolfbite at camp state wa

1975 (1) shivering off on benzocaine and lidocaine
came right behind and just signed
him in the st. focus and "continued
on his way

(2) The Dental Dr. who treated mid anterior
teeth 1 1/2 hrs. and found severe
hemorrhage or drainage
Tetanus 400

(3) anal. lites

- (1) 1. Estrone wash 2. 1000 o. phenol
2. Myringotomy
3. Keep with anal. lites

HB 18 am

am

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SWANSON

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 18 am

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the management of wolves; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 16.05.784. MANAGEMENT OF WOLVES. (a) Notwithstanding the
11 authority of the Board of Game in sec. 255 of this chapter,

12 (1) nothing prohibits a person from taking a wolf ~~at any time~~
13 in any game management unit or subunit by any means except the use of
14 poison, if the person holds a valid ~~resident~~ hunting license;

15 (2) upon taking a wolf, any person, whether resident or
16 nonresident, shall notify, within 30 days, the appropriate person in the
17 division of fish and wildlife protection of the Department of Public
18 Safety as designated by the ^{Commissioner} Legislative Council; the notification shall
19 specify, but not be limited to, the date of taking, the location of
20 taking, and the sex of the animal; the division of fish and wildlife
21 protection shall compile a record of all notifications under this para-
22 graph and submit it to the Legislative Council and the Department of
23 Fish and Game at least once every six months.

24 (b) The Legislative Council shall review the record submitted
25 under (a) of this section and advise the legislature within 10 days of
26 the beginning of each regular session on whether to repeal or retain
27 this section.

28 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
29 070(c).

3M
end of month
C
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

Dick
written
7/20/19

Mar 231
HB 18
HB 20

- HB 249 - State
Fin
- HB 250 - Resources
Fin
- HB 251 - Mass & Fin
- * " 252 - Res.
Fin
- * " 253 - Res.
Fin
- ✓ " 254 - r. 21
- " 255 - Fin
- 256 - 28 L 21
- 257 - 201 J hb
- 258 - Fin
- ✓ 259 - r. 21

HB 260 - r. 21 - Barge
HB 261 - r. 21
HB 262 - r. 21
HB 263 - r. 21

Nobak
7 Bills
r. 21

BILL ANALYSIS

ASSIGNMENT DATE _____

UNASSIGNED _____

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	SPONSOR (PRINCIPAL) Rep. Swanson	BILL NO. HB-18
-----------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

DEPARTMENT POSITION
The Department is opposed to this legislation

DIVISION DIRECTOR <i>R.A. Rausch</i> R.A. Rausch	DATE 1/31/77	COMMISSIONER <i>James W. Brooks</i> James W. Brooks	DATE 1/31/77
--	-----------------	---	-----------------

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE

POSITION NOTED POSITION APPROVED POSITION DISAPPROVED

BY: _____ DATE: _____

SUMMARY

(1) RELATED BILLS (SIMILAR OR CONFLICTING)
none

(2) a. ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL unknown		(2) b. ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL unknown
---	--	---

(3) PROGRAM EFFECTS OF BILL

This bill would eliminate effective management of wolves by removing all authority regulating their take from the Board of Game and the department. Effective management would also be hampered by the transfer of management authority, compiling harvest reports, to the Department of Public Safety.

(4) FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL ANALYSIS ATTACHED

(5) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED:
none

(6) COMMENTS: The enactment of this bill would make it impossible to assure perpetuation of the wolf in Alaska and would seem to be in violation of Article VII, Section 4 of the State Constitution which requires that "...resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses." While it is true that the state has embarked on wolf control programs in selected portions of the state, it is equally true that there are a number of places in the state where the wolf population level dictates closed seasons during portions of the year and a careful limitation of methods and means employed in taking them.

One provision of this bill violates Federal Public Law 92-159 in that it would waive the prohibition on taking of wolves with the aid of aircraft except under a permit issued by the state. Proposed Section 16.05.784(a)(2), which sets up a system for reporting wolves taken, should more appropriately direct persons taking wolves to report to the Department of Fish and Game. This bill, if enacted, would seriously detract from any cohesive systems management program. The authority for managing wolves is now vested with the Board of Game,

features of management superior to existing programs.

Marey Thompson

Bia OCS interior Dept

group from Alaska / land and waters
Alaska should have a voice in
its land and est
carter sea.

REAA camping in
sup REAA on school construction
in REAA : 18th of feb in afternoon
B.I.A.C REAA areas are concerned

lack of funds in schools have to buy blankets

Bia don't have to go to schools if
they don't want to

Margaret Bidlo

PHI HUMAN LIFE SH WILL REFUGEE

h L 5



JUNEAU ALASKA

Alaska State Legislature House

HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Alvin Osterback, Chairman

MEMORANDUM

21 February 1977

When HB 18 was taken up in this Committee on 1 February 1977 the following suggestions were made for amendments.

1. Line 12 thru line 14 delete and add, " (1) nothing prohibits a person who holds a valid hunting license from taking a wolf in any game management unit or subunit by any means except
 - (A) the use of poison; or
 - (B) the taking of a wolf from an aircraft, unless the taking is authorized under permit issued by the commissioner;
2. Line 18, delete "Legislative Council" and replace with "Commissioner"

A motion is necessary to adopt a Committee Substitute to incorporate these amendments.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

*Jeanne
for your info -
in all files
under
HB 18*

MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1977

SUBJECT: Comments on HB 18 and HB 20
TO: Representative Alvin Osterback
FROM: Joel F. Bennett *J.F.B.*
Legislative Counsel

You have asked me to comment on the bill analysis done by the Department of Fish and Game on HB 18 and HB 20, both by Representative Swanson.

HB 18 seeks to institute wolf control by allowing private persons full license to hunt, at any time, by any means. The Department of Fish and Game objected to this on two grounds: (1) that it violated article VIII, section 4; and (2) that it violated federal law (P.L. 92-159). The "General Authority" provision of Alaska Constitution, article VIII, section 2, empowers that legislature to provide for the "utilization, development and conservation of all natural resources..." In section 4 it further specifies that this shall be done on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses." I find no clear violation of article VIII, section 4. HB 18 is merely a legislative scheme for the management of wolves, presumably having biological as well as public policy justification. As evidence of concern for the potential overharvest of wolves, a notification procedure was established. At the beginning of each year the legislature will evaluate the number of animals taken and where, and determine whether a proper balance of wolves has been attained.

Furthermore, in reviewing the minutes of the Constitutional Convention (Part 4) on article VIII, section 4, I find no clear-cut interpretation or helpful elaboration of the sustained yield concept. It was intentionally loosely defined. The Secretary of the committee on Resources discusses it briefly on P.2451 as follows:

"...in our reference to sustained yield, we have in mind no narrow definition of "sustained yield, "as is used, for example, in forestry, but the broad premise that insofar as possible a principle

of sustained yield shall be used with respect to administration of those resources which are susceptible of sustained yield, and where it is desirable. For example, predators would not be maintained on a sustained yield basis...." and on P.2457: "For fish, for wild life, and for some other replenishable resources, such as huckleberries, as an example, it is difficult or even impossible to measure accurately the factors by which a calculated sustained yield will be determined. Yet, the term "sustained yield principle" is used in connection with the management of such resources. When so used in this article, it denotes conscious application insofar as practicable, of principles of management intended to sustain the yield of the resource being managed."

(2) The second objection to HB 18 is well founded and will require an amendment that prohibits taking of wolves by means of aircraft. Although resisted by the U.S. Attorney General on legal grounds, an amendment to the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (P.L. 92-159) imposed a federal criminal penalty of \$5,000 or 1 year imprisonment for the offense. This, of course, subjects those taking wolves from aircraft under HB 18 to federal prosecution, regardless of state law.

HB 20 clearly removes a management function from the Department of Fish and Game. Without judging the merits of such a policy, it must be concluded that it is within the authority of the legislature to do so. Under article III, section 22:

"...executive and administrative departments and agencies of the state government and their respective functions, powers and duties shall be allocated by law among and within not more than twenty principal departments..."

What authority the legislature grants under law it can take away. By the passage of an Act such as HB 20, it is presumed that management guidelines and data were fully considered and that the legislature has acted in the best interest of the state, with attention to the dictates of article VIII, sections 1-7 of the Alaska Constitution. There is no apparent violation of the sustained yield principle in HB 20. Presumably, the intent of the bill is to restore moose to their former levels, at numbers compatible with other species. It could be argued that the bill further's sustained yield by producing more moose for the "utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources...for the maximum benefit of the people." (article VIII, section 2).

In addition, the "sustained yield" and "wildlife...reserved to the people for common use, phrases in the Alaska Consti-

Representative Alvin Osterback
February 3, 1977
Page #3

tution are not necessarily synonymous with "harvest" - "use" may reasonably be interpreted as availability for recreational viewing, photography or scientific study. "Sustained yield" in the sense of "harvest" may give way to preferences for certain non-consumptive uses under a reasonable interpretation of article VIII, section 4. I might add that the legislature recognizes other legitimate "uses" of wildlife when it creates state parks, and game sanctuaries, not oriented to hunting. Chapter 219 SLA 1975 further illustrates this expanded use concept, in the preamble to creation of the Department's wildlife photography concept:

"...encourage other necessary public uses of wildlife in addition to their legitimate harvest."

The fact that HB 20 goes against the current local option, antlerless scheme, and effectively takes a portion of the management authority from the board of game may or may not be poor policy but it violates no constitutional law.

I hope this will be of some assistance to the committee.

JFB:smh

803(L 42 U.S.C. 296b(b))⁸³ is amended by striking out "Surgeon General's" and inserting in lieu thereof "Secretary's". Section 841 (a) (42 U.S.C. 298(a))⁸⁴ is amended by striking out "Surgeon General" and inserting in lieu thereof "Secretary (or his delegate)".

Approved November 18, 1971.

FISH AND WILDLIFE—SHOOTING FROM AIRCRAFT

For Legislative History of Act, see p. 1735

PUBLIC LAW 92-159; 85 STAT. 480

[H. R. 5060]

An Act to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to provide a criminal penalty for shooting at certain birds, fish, and other animals from an aircraft.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That:

The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"Sec. 13. (a) Any person who—

"(1) while airborne in an aircraft shoots or attempts to shoot for the purpose of capturing or killing any bird, fish, or other animal; or

"(2) uses an aircraft to harass any bird, fish, or other animal; or

"(3) knowingly participates in using an aircraft for any purpose referred to in paragraph (1) or (2);

shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

"(b)(1) This section shall not apply to any person if such person is employed by, or is an authorized agent of or is operating under a license or permit of, any State or the United States to administer or protect or aid in the administration or protection of land, water, wildlife, livestock, domesticated animals, human life, or crops, and each such person so operating under a license or permit shall report to the applicable issuing authority each calendar quarter the number and type of animals so taken.

"(2) In any case in which a State, or any agency thereof, issues a permit referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection, it shall file with the Secretary of the Interior an annual report containing such information as the Secretary shall prescribe, including but not limited to—

"(A) the name and address of each person to whom a permit was issued;

"(B) a description of the animals authorized to be taken thereunder, the number of animals authorized to be taken, and a description of the area from which the animals are authorized to be taken;

83. 42 U.S.C.A. § 296b(b).

84. 42 U.S.C.A. § 298(a).

“(C) the number and type of animals taken by such person to whom a permit was issued; and

“(D) the reason for issuing the permit.

“(c) As used in this section, the term ‘aircraft’ means any contrivance used for flight in the air.”

Sec. 2. (a) Section 609 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1429)⁸⁵ is amended by inserting “(a)” immediately after “Sec. 609.” and by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“VIOLATION OF CERTAIN LAWS

“(b) The Administrator, in his discretion, may issue an order amending, modifying, suspending, or revoking any airman certificate upon conviction of the holder of such certificate of any violation of subsection (a) of section 13 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, regarding the use or operation of an aircraft.”

(b)(1) Immediately after the section heading of such section 609, insert the following:

“PROCEDURE”

(2) That portion of the table of contents contained in the first section of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 which appears under the side heading

“Sec. 609. Amendment, suspension, and revocation of certification.” is amended by adding the following:

“(c) Procedure.

“(b) Violation of certain laws.”.

Sec. 3. The amendments made by the first section of this Act shall take effect as of the thirtieth day after the date of enactment of such section; except that, in any case in which a State is not authorized to issue any permit referred to in the amendments made by such first section, such amendments shall take effect in any such State as of the thirtieth day after the expiration of the next regular session of the legislature of such State which begins on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved November 18, 1971.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATION ACT, 1972

PUBLIC LAW 92-160; 85 STAT. 482

[H. R. 11418]

An Act making appropriations for military construction for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That:

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, for military

85. 49 U.S.C.A. § 1429(a), (b).

construction functions for other purposes, namely

M For acquisition, construction of permanent public works as currently authorized by Acts, and in sections to remain available u

M For acquisition, construction of permanent public works currently authorized and in sections 2673 personnel in the Naval services necessary for main available until

M For acquisition, construction of permanent public works Force as currently authorized Acts, and in \$289,189,000, to remain

MILIT For acquisition, construction of permanent public works of the Department of the Office of Civil or military construction States Code, \$14,800,000, not to exceed \$14,800,000, determined by the Secretary of Defense, to be transferred to the Department for military construction

MILIT For construction of facilities for the Department as authorized by the Act and the Reserve expended.

MILIT For construction of facilities for the Department and contributions States Code, as authorized, to remain available

M For construction of facilities for the Department

Am

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SWANSON

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 18 Am

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the management of wolves; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 16.05.784. MANAGEMENT OF WOLVES. (a) Notwithstanding the
11 authority of the Board of Game in sec. 255 of this chapter,

12 (1) nothing prohibits a person from taking a wolf ~~at any time~~
13 in any game management unit or subunit by any means except the use of
14 poison, if the person holds a valid ~~resident~~ hunting license;

15 (2) upon taking a wolf, any person, whether resident or
16 nonresident, shall notify, within 30 days, the appropriate person in the
17 division of fish and wildlife protection of the Department of Public
18 Safety as designated by the ^{Commissioner} Legislative Council; the notification shall
19 specify, but not be limited to, the date of taking, the location of
20 taking, and the sex of the animal; the division of fish and wildlife
21 protection shall compile a record of all notifications under this para-
22 graph and submit it to the Legislative Council and the Department of
23 Fish and Game at least once every six months.

24 (b) The Legislative Council shall review the record submitted
25 under (a) of this section and advise the legislature within 10 days of
26 the beginning of each regular session on whether to repeal or retain
27 this section.

28 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
29 070(c).

BILL ANALYSIS

ASSIGNMENT DATE _____

UNASSIGNED _____

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	SPONSOR (PRINCIPAL) Rep. Swanson	BILL NO. HB-18
-----------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

DEPARTMENT POSITION
The Department is opposed to this legislation.

DIVISION DIRECTOR <i>R.A. Rausch</i> R.A. Rausch	DATE 1/31/77	COMMISSIONER <i>James W. Brooks</i> James W. Brooks	DATE 1/31/77
--	-----------------	---	-----------------

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE

POSITION NOTED POSITION APPROVED POSITION DISAPPROVED

BY: _____ DATE: _____

SUMMARY

(1) RELATED BILLS (SIMILAR OR CONFLICTING)
none

(2) a. ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL unknown	(2) b. ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL unknown
---	---

(3) PROGRAM EFFECTS OF BILL

This bill would eliminate effective management of wolves by removing all authority regulating their take from the Board of Game and the department. Effective management would also be hampered by the transfer of management authority, compiling harvest reports, to the Department of Public Safety.

(4) FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL ANALYSIS ATTACHED

(5) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED:
none

(6) COMMENTS: The enactment of this bill would make it impossible to assure perpetuation of the wolf in Alaska and would seem to be in violation of Article VIII, Section 4 of the State Constitution which requires that "...resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses." While it is true that the state has embarked on wolf control programs in selected portions of the state, it is equally true that there are a number of places in the state where the wolf population level dictates closed seasons during portions of the year and a careful limitation of methods and means employed in taking them.

One provision of this bill violates Federal Public Law 92-159 in that it would waive the prohibition on taking of wolves with the aid of aircraft except under a permit issued by the state. Proposed Section 16.05.784(a)(2), which sets up a system for reporting wolves taken, should more appropriately direct persons taking wolves to report to the Department of Fish and Game. This bill, if enacted, would seriously detract from any cohesive systems of management with the Board of Game.

features of management superior to existing programs.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

FEB 02 1977

SUPPORT BUILDING - JUNEAU 99801

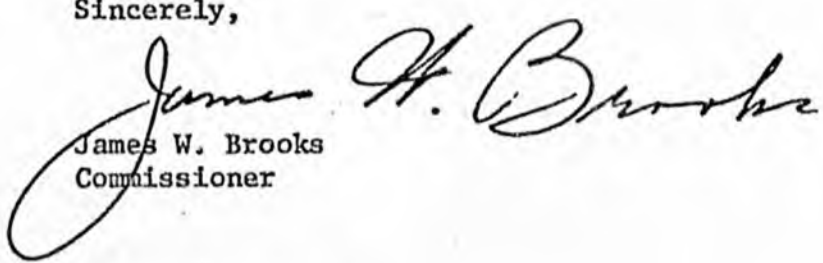
January 28, 1977

The Honorable Hugh Malone
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Malone:

Transmitted herewith is a report on the status of the predator control program in District 2, submitted in compliance with the direction of the Legislature (FY 77 Operating and Capital Budget, Natural Resources, p. 132).

Sincerely,


James W. Brooks
Commissioner

cc: Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Chairman, House Finance Committee
Mike Whitehead, Office of the Governor

STATUS OF WOLF PROGRAM IN GMU 3

The 1976 session of the Alaska Legislature appropriated \$50,000 to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the reduction of wolf populations in the vicinity of Petersburg and Wrangell (Election District 2). The need for this program was documented in the attached presentation by the Region I game staff to the Board of Game on March 22, 1976.

Deer populations declined steadily in the Petersburg-Wrangell area from 1965 through 1972, primarily as a result of severe winters. Since 1972, winter conditions have not been a major factor, but deer numbers continued to decline through 1975 in areas where wolves are present, leading managers to believe that wolves were the primary limiting factor during this period.

Deer populations throughout Units 1B and 3 are presently below acceptable hunting levels. The southern portion of Mitkof, Wrangell and Etolin Islands presently show a slight improvement since 1975 but on Kupreanof and Kuiu Islands it is difficult to locate evidence of deer.

Wolf populations have also declined since 1975. Surveys in March 1976 indicated approximately 38 wolves on Kupreanof, Mitkof, Wrangell and Etolin Islands; current estimate for the same area is 20. No wolves have been taken in GMU 3 since March 1976.

Although wolf populations have declined, even the few present have a significant impact on the low deer populations. We are attempting to further reduce the wolf population and maintain them at low level until deer populations increase.

The present program consists of hiring three local trappers to concentrate trapping efforts on Mitkof, Kupreanof, Wrangell and Etolin Islands. We also have authority for aerial hunting from helicopters but to date here has not been sufficient snow cover for tracking.

Trapping efforts, begun in early January, have been delayed somewhat by unusually warm weather, but efforts are currently being made on these islands. To date, only 2 wolves have been taken by department trappers in Election District 2, but we anticipate success to rise in February and March.

With wolf numbers fairly low to begin with, removal efforts will cost more per wolf caught than would be the case when populations are high. However, it must also be realized that removal of a few wolves now may do more good in restoring deer herds than removal of a much larger number when both wolves and deer were more abundant.

The program has been discussed with Advisory Committees and residents of Petersburg, Wrangell and Kake. In spite of poor success, local citizens feel the program is justified and consider the techniques and efforts acceptable. The low status of deer is presently the most important game management concern of the residents of GMU 3.

Expenditures through January will be approximately \$13,000. Of this, over \$5,300 is for temporary hires; \$4,900 for traps, fuel and groceries, \$2,600 for vessel rental and aircraft support and \$200 for miscellaneous items. Anticipated expenditures through April will be about \$8,000 per month for trapping, leaving a balance of \$10,000 for aerial hunting and reconnaissance if weather conditions permit.

A DEER AND WOLF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN UNITS 1(B) and 3
Board of Game Meeting - Anchorage, March 22, 1976

Introduction

The current deer population in Unit 3 is at the lowest level that it has been since at least the early 1940's. The present wolf population is apparently able to impede the normal recovery of the depressed deer population. The Department of Fish and Game is proposing a program to reduce wolf predation on deer until they have recovered sufficiently to allow their use by both humans and predators. Concurrently we would obtain additional information on predator-prey relationships that would be useful in managing wildlife resources.

Deer have historically been the major big game species used by hunting residents of this unit (primarily from Petersburg, Kake and Wrangell). In recent years deer populations have declined drastically within Unit 3 so that in 1975 the hunting season was closed entirely and local residents have repeatedly requested that the wolf population be reduced to remove some of the predation pressure on the deer population. Winter weather conditions is considered the primary limiting factor causing the initial declines but when deer populations have reached a low level, predation by wolves becomes significant - prolonging or preventing deer recovery or even further reducing the population. We recognize

that given sufficient time the deer population would recover but the time that apparently will be required is not acceptable to the residents who want to enjoy good hunting returns nor to those of us involved in the management of the wildlife resources.

Historical Information

Deer populations have fluctuated many times during the past throughout Region I, but to our knowledge, populations in Unit 3 are now lower than at any time since the early 1940's. There have been periods when Unit 3 had the highest deer population within the region. Deer were abundant in Unit 3 from 1956 through 1964. From 1965 through 1968 the area experienced a series of colder-than-average winters resulting in a steady decline in deer numbers. This decline was climaxed by the most severe winter in recent history in 1968-69 and another severe winter in 1971-72. Since 1972, winters have been relatively mild but deer populations have not responded. Weather has apparently not been a major limiting factor since 1972.

Harvest data provide good indications of deer abundance. From 1960 throughout 1966 Petersburg and Wrangell hunters usually took over 2000 deer, primarily from Unit 3, and the average number of deer taken per hunter was usually over two deer with a high of 3.5 deer for Petersburg hunters in 1961 (Table 1). From 1967 through 1971 there was a reduction in numbers of deer taken, the average dropped below two deer per hunter and in 1972, 73, and 74 less than five

Table 1. Estimates of deer harvest and hunter success, by Petersburg and Wrangell residents, Unit 3 total deer harvest and deer seasons and bag limits.

Year	By residents of Petersburg		By residents of Wrangell		Unit 3 Total Deer Harvest	Season	Bag limit
	Harvest	Deer/Hunter	Harvest	Deer/Hunter			
1960	1320	2.4	920	2.5	3350	8/20-12/15	4 deer
1961	1922	3.5	785	2.2	3700	8/01-11/30	4 deer
1962	1180	2.0	860	2.0	2310	8/01-12/15	4 deer
1963	1160	2.1	820	2.4	2750	8/01-12/31	4 deer
1964	1400	2.3	670	2.1	2490	8/01-12/31	4 deer
1965	1260	1.8	420	1.5	1890	8/01-12/31	4 deer
1966	1730	2.4	570	1.4	2710	8/01-12/31	4 deer
1967	1030	1.3	590	1.4	2230	8/01-12/31	4 deer
1968	1090	1.4	520	1.3	1990	8/01-12/15	4 deer
1969	310	0.5	490	0.6	800	8/01-12/15	4 ^a
1970	300	1.4	140	0.4	350	8/01-12/15	4 ^a
1971	506	0.8	130	0.4	190	8/01-11/30	3 ^b
1972	132	0.3	89	0.3	60	8/01-11/30	2
1973	442	1.1	124	0.6	50	9/01-11/30	1
1974	335	0.9	116	0.6	40	9/01-11/30	1
1975	NO OPEN SEASON						

a 2 antlered deer on Mitkof Island

b 2 antlered deer on Mitkof, Wrangell, Etolin and Woronkofski Island

percent of deer killed by Petersburg and Wrangell residents were taken within Unit 3. From 1960 through 1968 the bag limit was four deer of either sex with the season generally from August 1 through December 31. From 1969 through 1972 the bag limit was reduced to two antlered deer in parts of Unit 3 and in 1973 and 1974 was further reduced to only one antlered deer. In 1975 Unit 3 was closed to deer hunting. In spite of all the hunting restrictions and subsequent reduced harvest, deer populations continued to decline. This decline continued during years when winters were mild and deer survival should have been good.

The northern portion of Kupreanof Island has historically been one of the major deer wintering areas in Unit 3. When deer were abundant there were so many tracks that it was impossible to determine numbers. On March 2, 1976, not a single deer track was observed on a foot transect in this area.

Wolves

Wolves have always been present within Units 1(B) and 3 in varying abundance. Wolf populations normally follow deer trends, but there is usually a lag of several years before wolf populations begin to decrease after a deer low. Wolf bounty and sealing records provide some idea of wolf abundance. As bounties are still paid in Units 1, 2, and 3, there is more incentive to submit wolves for sealing and records may be more accurate than for non-bounty units. From 1963 through 1971, an average of 44 wolves were taken

annually from Unit 3 with highs of 82 in 1967-68, and 72 in 1969-70. In 1974-75, only 11 wolves were taken and in 1975-76, ¹¹ ~~17~~ have been taken to date. There is no question that wolf populations are now lower in Unit 3 than during the 1960's. The deer population is so low however, that the ratio of wolves to deer is unacceptably high.

When deer were plentiful almost every wolf stomach or scat examined contained deer. In a study within Unit 3 in 1958, 125 of 131 scats examined contained deer remains. During the first five years after wolves were introduced to Coronation Island, of 499 scats collected, 450 contained deer. When deer become scarce, wolves utilize other food sources which has happened in Unit 3. In 1975-76, of nine wolf stomachs and scats examined, only two contained deer remains.

Adjacent Areas in Unit 4

The northern portion of Unit 3 and the southern portion of Admiralty Island (Unit 4) are separated by a water body only 15 miles in width. In a recent survey of a six-mile segment of beach on Admiralty Island, 69 deer were observed. In over 11 hours of aerial survey time covering hundreds of miles of Kupreanof and Mitkof Islands in Unit 3, no deer were observed. Winter conditions are normally more severe on Admiralty Island than in Unit 3. More deer were lost per unit area on Admiralty Island in the late 1960's than in Unit 3. Range conditions are presently much better in Unit 3 than in Unit 4 and Unit 3 has a greater potential for

producing deer than Unit 4. Hunting pressure is higher on Admiralty than in most of Unit 3. In the past, there have been times when deer were more abundant in Unit 3 than in Unit 4. Deer populations on Admiralty have recovered from the severe winters of 1968-1969 and 1970-1971, however, in Unit 3 they have not shown any signs of recovery. A major difference between the two areas is wolves which are present in Unit 3 but absent in Unit 4. Similarly during a foot survey in July 1975 the deer populations on six small islands in Unit 3 without wolves were higher than adjacent areas which did support wolves.

Many game biologists consider predation a natural factor which can contribute to healthy prey populations. In recent years, however, almost every investigator of predator-prey relationships has determined that given certain conditions, predators can reduce prey species below acceptable levels. This has happened in Unit 3 as it has gone from one of the best deer areas in Region I to a level so low that no hunting is allowed.

Recent Surveys

During February and early March, 1976, aerial surveys were flown in Unit 3 to evaluate the deer and wolf population status. Most of these surveys were flown shortly after snow storms so that tracking conditions were good to excellent. Surveys were concentrated on Wrangell, Etolin, Mitkof and Kupreanof Islands as these were the areas most intensively

hunted by Petersburg, Kake and Wrangell residents. Both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters (11.0 hrs. fixed-wing and 7.5 hrs. helicopter) were used. Generally a fixed-wing aircraft was used initially and location of tracks were marked on a map. A helicopter was then used to land near any tracks that could not be identified with certainty from the fixed-wing. The following number of different sets of wolf and deer tracks were observed on each island.

	<u>Deer Tracks</u>	<u>Wolf Tracks</u>	<u>Hr's. Flying</u>
Mitkof Island	6	6	4.3
Kupreanof Island	2	10	6.9
Wrangell Island	0	10	3.4
Etolin Island	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3.9</u>
TOTALS	8	38	18.5

It is significant that there were more observations of wolf tracks than deer tracks.

In addition to the aerial surveys, nine transects were walked on locations of Mitkof and Kupreanof Islands which have supported some of the highest deer populations in the past. These transects extended from the beach inland approximately on-half mile. With existing snow conditions, they transversed the majority of usable winter range. On these nine transects, only two deer tracks were observed. Wolf tracks were present (4 separate tracks) on three transects. On similar transects in Unit 4, hundreds of deer tracks can be observed. During beach counts utilizing boats within the survey areas, no deer have been observed. On a boat survey around Wrangell Island, stopping at several locations, the

Only deer tracks observed were on Blake Island (6 tracks).

Blake Island normally does not support a wolf population.

Present Program

We have contracted most trappers in Unit 3 and are collecting specimen material from wolves that are being taken by local trappers and hunters, however, trapping pressure is light and spotty because of the low wolf population. To obtain additional specimen material from areas not presently being hunted or trapped we have recently employed two trappers, one from Wrangell and one from Petersburg. Materials obtained from any wolves taken will be valuable in further documenting the deer-wolf situation in Unit 3 and will add to our knowledge of predator-prey relationships. Trapping is not a very effective method of taking wolves when the population is low, however.

Proposed Program

The basic objective is to expedite the recovery of the deer population to a level that will allow their use by both humans and wolves. To accomplish this, the Department of Fish and Game considers it necessary to reduce the current wolf population as much as possible on certain islands and maintain it at a lower level until the deer population recovers. Wolves commonly move from island to island in Unit 3 and from the mainland in Unit 1B to the islands. Efforts to maintain lowered wolf populations would be concentrated on those islands that were traditionally the most popular

islands for deer hunting. Based on our surveys, our estimate of the wolf population on these islands is:

	<u>Estimated Population</u>
Mitkof Island	6
Kupreanof Island	10
Wrangell Island	10
Etolin Island	12

In addition, recent surveys have shown that approximately 11 wolves are present within the Stikine River drainage (below the Canadian Boundary). These wolves can cross both to Wrangell and Mitkof Islands. Efforts to maintain a desired wolf population on Mitkof and Wrangell Islands would be ineffective unless comparable measures were initiated on the Stikine River.

Presently hunting and trapping are the only available options for taking wolves and these seem to be ineffective in reducing the wolf population to a level to allow a normal recovery of the deer in Unit 3. We request the Board of Game to authorize Department personnel to use helicopters to take those wolves that hunters or trappers do not take to maintain the wolf population at the desired level until the deer population recovers. We recognize that the expense involved in a large systematic aerial hunting program in Southeastern Alaska would be unjustified. However during regular activities in the past, Department personnel could have taken wolves from helicopters and this is the authority we are now requesting. It would be a useful tool in our overall program to re-establish deer and wolf population levels.

similar to those that were present in the 1960's. The general public from Unit 3 and the Petersburg and Wrangell advisory Committees support this concept.

Summary

Deer populations in Unit 3 are presently extremely low. We believe there is adequate evidence to demonstrate that predation by wolves is presently the major limiting factor. We recommend that most wolves be removed from Mitkof, Kupreanof, Wrangell and Etolin Islands in Unit 3 and on the Stikine River in Unit 1(B) this year and that the wolf populations be maintained at that level until deer populations recover. We request authority to use helicopters to take wolves on an opportunity basis. The extremely low deer population in Unit 3 has caused a loss of public confidence in the Department's game management programs. We wish to not only correct this situation, but to be allowed to manage game in the best interest of the resource and the user. We recognize the State and National implications but hold that such game management measures to be consistent with the best public interests and professional game management standards.

Feb. 1, 1977

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE:

BY: Resources Committee

To: _____ HOUSE BILL No. 18

SENATE BILL No. _____

PAGE: 1

LINE: 12

" 14
" 18

Line 12 delete "at any time)

Line 14 delete "resident"

Line 18 delete "Legislative Council"
and insert "Commissioner"

by:
Rick Union
adopted by
Resources
on 2/22/77

Just amend forms
Check

34-06-

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SWANSON

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 18

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the management of wolves; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 16.05.784. MANAGEMENT OF WOLVES. (a) Notwithstanding the
11 authority of the Board of Game in sec. 255 of this chapter,

12 (1) nothing prohibits a person from taking a wolf at any time *out*
13 in any game management unit or subunit by any means except the use of
14 poison, if the person holds a valid resident hunting license;

15 (2) upon taking a wolf, any person, whether resident or
16 nonresident, shall notify, within 30 days, the appropriate person in the
17 division of fish and wildlife protection of the Department of Public
18 Safety as designated by the Commissioner *out* Legislative Council the notification shall
19 specify, but not be limited to, the date of taking, the location of
20 taking, and the sex of the animal; the division of fish and wildlife
21 protection shall compile a record of all notifications under this para-
22 graph and submit it to the Legislative Council and the Department of
23 Fish and Game at least once every six months.

24 (b) The Legislative Council shall review the record submitted
25 under (a) of this section and advise the legislature within 10 days of
26 the beginning of each regular session on whether to repeal or retain
27 this section.

28 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
29 070(c).

#

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SUPPORT BUILDING
JUNEAU 99801

February 9, 1977

The Honorable Alvin Osterback, Chairman
House Resource Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Osterback:

Re: Request for information on wolf harvest and cost to state of
wolf control, Unit 20A

I have attached statewide wolf harvest information for the year 1976.

The cost figure for the wolf control effort in game management Unit 20A
follows:

Helicopter Charter	\$16,759.00
Estimated line item 100, 200, 300 & 400 costs	<u>\$ 8,000.00</u>
	\$24,759.00

Total wolves taken - 66

Sale of 50 wolf skins @\$275+ per skin	(13,789)
Remaining skins held by Div. of Admin.	<u>(4,000) Est.</u>
Net cost to state of central operations	6,970


The average net cost per wolf killed equals approximately \$106.00.

During questions on House Bill 20 Representative Urion requested information
on the 1976 harvest of moose in Unit 16. The projected harvest follows:

16B	215 Bulls and 135 females	- 350
16A	80 Bulls and 40 females	- <u>120</u>
	Total	470

If you should require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,


Robert A. Rausch, Director
Division of Game

cc: Commissioner Brooks

HB
18

HB
20

SPECIES: Wolf

x Bounty Records

** From Aerial Permits & Bounty Records

*** Mandatory Sealing

Unit	YEAR														
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x*	x	x	x	**	**	***	***	***
1			67	23	36	36	17	24	53	41	53	67	97	35	50
2			12	43	53	57	50	66	78	113	83	59	42	29	15
3			18	26	37	27	52	40	82	15	72	38	57	24	27
5					1	4	7	3	6	8	2	10	2	5	2
6					1	1	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	6
7	-----Closed-----														
9			4	9	16	44	27	51	24	22	26	7	24	24	31
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
11			8	21	24	30	117	70	40	7	10	23	56	48	28
12		1	8	-	17	24	47	38	57	31	123	14	94	64	37
13							64	31	120	1	41	91	111	80	75
14				3	8	11	19	30	17	1	1	8	12	16	8
15	-----Closed-----														
16				5	21	37	84	36	66	6	2	21	40	13	13
17				15	14	1	18	26	24	15	3	13	28	20	20
18	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	0	2
19	1	1	12	34	53	57	110	147	17	18	21	42	95	59	39
20	24	49	90	95	237	267	262	366	265	134	256	141	249	296	304
21	11	14	75	132	43	33	187	189	105	26	32	32	93	48	102
22	-	-	-	6	0	4	11	15	28	6	7	2	11	5	7
23	18	20	71	23	41	35	47	164	177	134	80	4	70	83	40
24	5	47	12	85	17	45	67	219	276	58	35	23	129	100	60
25	32	62	82	86	50	25	59	59	145	61	34	36	121	47	56
26	117	63	45	37	49	59	41	102	83	67	47	0	0	71	46
Unk	3	0	15	4	0	3	1	2	45	0	-	4	0	41	-
Total	211	257	605	675	713	800	1292	1679	1711	764	929	635	1335	1071	970

SPECIES: Wolf

x Bounty Records

** From Aerial Permits & Bounty Records

*** Mandatory Sealing

Unit	YEAR	
	*** 74-75	*** 75-76
1	62	65
2	10	44
3	11	24
5	9	11
6	4	7
7	1	9
9	52	27
10	1	0
11	34	18
12	40	40
13	103	110
14	24	19
15	5	12
16	41	34
17	111	47
18	4	3
19	63	82
20	291	335
21	37	77
22	21	2
23	47	144
24	65	45
25	48	49
26	6	34
Urk	--	5
Total	1090	1243

1/ Records for these three years are incomplete because of the transition from statewide bounties to a mandatory sealing provision..

NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 49 / KOTZEBUE, ALASKA 99752 / TELEPHONE (907) 442-3301



February 3, 1977

NANA-77-A054

Leslie E. (Red) Swanson
State Representative
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Swanson:

I am responding to your letter requesting comments on House Bill No. 18 and House Bill No. 20 introduced by yourself. The former relates to funding and the latter to the taking of antlerless moose.

Unfortunately we do not feel that NANA can support these bills at this time. It seems to us that you are attempting to legislate game management. One of the reasons that we have a Fish & Game Department is to manage our wildlife resources. To attempt to manage it by the legislation is to take away the very flexibility that is needed in order to assure good management of wildlife resources.

We understand the intent of what you are trying to do and do not disagree necessarily with the programs you have outlined. However we have very strong feelings that these programs should be initiated by the Department of Fish & Game and not by the Legislature.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment. We'd be glad to discuss the bills with you at anytime.

Sincerely yours,

NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION, INC.

John Shiveley, Jr.

John Shiveley
Vice President, Operations

JS/ar

cc: Leo Schaeffer, Jr.
Frank Ferguson
Al Osterback ✓
Kay Poland
James Brooks



Member Villages: Ambler, Buckland, Candle, Deering, Klana, Kivalina, Kohuk, Kotzebue, Noatak, Noorvik, Seiawik, Shungnak

File. A 12
1-29-77

Committee on Resources.

I urge you to recommend House Bills
no. 18 - & no 20. - for passing - with
the strongest emphasis.

I have lived in Alaska 35 years - and
have hunted widely - until the last 4
years - when I considered the game too
scarce to jeopardize by my taking any
game.

I have killed a lot more moose than
any other - but they went to feed a lot
of kids - (not my own) - and I never
wasted any meat -

The ignoramuses in game management
would go broke as cattle farmers - or
ranchers - in two years - any farm
boy of 12 years of age - know that you
protect all cows & high calves -
killing or selling only mature bulls -
and that you prevent all predation!

America gained 9 million population
from 1970 - to 1975 - & they forecast
another 41 million in the next 20
years. And we need predators?

Somebody is mixed up - & it is
the game management suits.
Let them go as they are - and the only
game we will have - will be in

goas!

Why don't you take a page from the
Scandinavians - They harvest moose
by the 10's of thousands every year.
Predators are eliminated -

Thank you

Joe Wogler

Box 7

Fish Hawk

99707

How is to the same kind of
hunting for the young that
I've enjoyed!