

HB

566

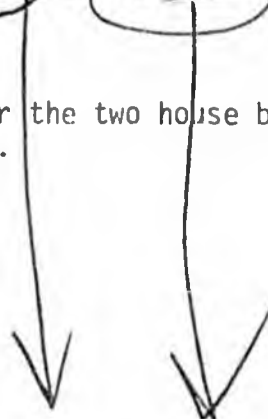
ALASKA
STATE LEGISLATURE

MEMORANDUM

February 2, 1978

TO: Diane Nelson, A.A. for Representative Alvin Osterback
FROM: Adelheid Herrmann, A.A. for Representative Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
SUBJECT: Back up material for HB 625 and HB 566

Diane - Enclosed is back up material for the two house bills. I will be getting more information to you as I collect it.



P.O. Box 91
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

January 9, 1978

Hi Ron:

Me again. This letter is my written testimony on my proposals that I'm personally sending in. Would appreciate it if you would have it read at your Board of Game meeting in March.

In the last seven (7) years I've flown over 3,000 hours, of which, 95% was in unit 17. A good 2,000 of it while hunting and trapping. I've flown the whole unit not just part of it, every year. I've noticed this past two (2) years a real noticable drop in the moose population. The only place I kept records was the Tikchik River in 1975-76-77. In February 1975 I counted some 249 moose in the Tikchik River. In February of 1976, 178 and in January 1977 only 38. Nick Steen done one in 1977 also and I believe his count was around 35. I don't know if he done any the other two years. I've also noticed the Sunshine Vally herd has dropped, how much I cannot say. I did not keep track. The Muklung-Iowithla herd as I call them, are holding out better as the area where they seem to originate is heavily timbered, not to many big lakes or streams, making fall hunting hard.

Thus the hunting pressure comes in the winter when the "excess" animals come over the hill down the Iowithla in an attempt to reach the main river.

The past two years these moose were hit hard - I don't believe 10% made it through, including cows and calves.

This year I counted 35 moose on top in November. I spotted 7 kills before the season opened in the same area. I've seen as many as 70 this same time of year in this same area. I believe these moose are the main source for replenishing the lower river.

In conclusion I believe we can take our 21 days winter season, split the time in half and put it on front of our fall season which we can open 10 days earlier and not do any harm and at the same time cut our hunting time by 1/3, reduce the cow take and hopefully get a increase in moose population again.

Thank you for your time and considerations.

Sincerely,

Leon C. Braswell

Leon C. Braswell

Division of Game
L. C. BRASWELL
CHIEF BFG.

JAN 19

ADM. ASST.
LIBRARY
FILE

RECEIVED
JAN 19 1978

DEPARTMENT OF THE AG AND GAME

✓
Proposal #1

✓
Sec. 5 AAC 81.320 BIG GAME HUNTING, Moose, Unit 17. Change in dates. 1

Delet present dates and add August 20 - September 10. Page 84

JUSTIFICATION: To encourage the taking of bulls only. No one here likes to eat tough rutting bulls. Bigger bulls are being passed up because of the present season being in the rut. Meat hunters would rather shoot smaller bulls and tender cows than taking a chance on smelly, tough bulls. In a ^{Early} late season, on the other hand, a big bull would be preferred in late August before he starts to run which makes him tough, and before he mates which makes him tougher and rather smelly.

Proposal #2

✓
Sec. 5 AAC 81.320 BIG GAME HUNTING, Moose, Unit 17. Delete the December season only. Page 84

JUSTIFICATION: We need to protect our cows, being as their the choice meat in winter and poaching of cows is easy during winter days when there isn't much light and nite travel is no problem. Almost impossible to enforce.

Proposal #3 REQUIRE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION SECTION NOT OPEN

✓
Sec. 5 AAC 84.270 FUR ANIMAL TRAPPING, Beaver

Keep the same season February 1-28/29. Keep same bag limit, 15 per person. Open ALL of Unit 17.

JUSTIFICATION: The beaver made their comeback. Proven by villager's and all interested local people traveling the rivers. Also proven by biological studies done this fall on beaver by State Officials.

✓
Proposal #4

Sec. 5 AAC 81-070 BIG GAME, Prohibit the use of Track Vehicles. Page 23 & 24

JUSTIFICATION: Moose tend to yard up in wintering areas making it easier to take. Moose close to villages are readily taken this time of the year in those yarding areas. Moose population is down considerably in Unit 17. Man's mode of travel in winter is so modern now that he can go over

frozen rivers, deep snow, bare tundra, frozen marshes, up hills and over mountains, around large nigger heads, through small brush, through litely timered area's without to much effortand time with one piece of machinery which keep; it max. energy for long periods of time. The poor moose has only what God gave him 4 hoofs with legs to match. He sinks out of sight in soft snow, slips on the ice and tires after a short while of trying to escape at his top speed, slows down and becomes an easy take. Cows and small bulls are again the choice take as big bulls remain tough and skinny through the winter months.

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Rushagak Advisory
Committee

Regulation book page No. 18 in trapping regs.
35 in hunting regs.

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

5 AAC 84.115 (c) 5AAC 81.185 (c)

Lee C. Braswell
Representing:

S. W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 & 9

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: Game Management Units 17 and 9 in S.W. Alaska

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) Those portions of Section C on page 18
in the trapping regulations relating to the attachment of leg bones to wolf
hides should be deleted in Game Management Units 17 and 9 for both trapping
and hunting.

Justification: This biological information is not currently being used in these
units and deletion of this requirement provide a convenience to the trapper
and hunter.

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory

Committee

Regulation book page No. 68 and 70

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

5 AAC 81.320 (5)

Leon C. Russell
Representing:

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: G.M.U. 9A, 9B and 17.

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) _____

Caribou G.M.U. 9A, 9B and 17 August 10 - March 31

Bag limit (3) three caribou

Justification: This area is within the range of the Mulchatna caribou herd and
all hunting is on the same population. Uniform season and bag limits would
be both biologically and enforcement beneficial. The existing discrepancy
in season and bag limits present a problem for hunters as it is difficult to

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION . XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory

Committee

Regulation book page No. 84

Leon C. Maxwell
Representing:

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No. :

S.W. Alaska

5 AAC 31.320 (9)

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: G.M.U. 17 Moose hunting season

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) _____

G.M.U. 17 Sept. 1-10 Bag limit no change.,
Dec. 10-31

Justification: The committee is recommending uniform season dates for Unit 17 and
9(A), 9(B) and 9(C). This will distribute hunting pressure more uniformly be-
tween the two units and eliminate enforcement problems. The earlier season date
in September is strongly desired by local residents to eliminate hunting during

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory Committee

Regulation book page No. 81

Leon C. Brownell
Representing:

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No. :

S.W. Alaska

5 AAC 81.320 (9)

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: G.M.U. 9(A), 9(B) and 9(C) Moose hunting season.

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) G.M.U. 9(A), 9(B) and 9(C).

Sept. 1-10 No change in bag limits..

Dec. 10-31

Justification: The committee is recommending uniform season dates for Unit 17 and 9(A), 9(B) & 9(C). This will distribute hunting pressure more uniformly between the two units and eliminate enforcement problems. The earlier season date in September is strongly desired by local residents to eliminate hunting during the rut.

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory

Committee

Lem C. Brannell
Representing:

Regulation book page No. 81

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No. :

5 AAC 81.320(9)

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: G.M.U. 9(E) Moose hunting season.

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) G.M.U. 9(E) Sept. 1-20. No change

in bag limit.

Justification: Eliminate hunting during the rutt when bulls are quite vulnerable
to sport hunting. The guides don't need this advantage that isn't considered
desirable by local residents who wish to take moose for meat. This will help
prevent an excessive harvest.

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX
SPORT FISH DIVISION _____
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION _____

Submitted by:

Rushagak Advisory
Committee.

Regulation book page No. 16

Leon C. Brownell
Representing:

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

5 AAC 81.050

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9 and 19

Objective: Add new regulation _____
Delete regulation _____
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

Area(s) affected: G.M.U. 9, 17 and 19

Suggested wording (append if lengthy) Aerial wolf permits shall be issued for

Game Management Units 9, 17 and 19 with a limit of ten wolves per permit.

Permits shall be renewable and season dates shall be November 1 to April 30.

Justification: Wolf population are increasing in this area. Increases in wolf
population have been known to be detrimental to other big game population.