

HB

878



Alaska State Legislature

House

HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FISH & GAME ISSUES

Alvin Osterback, Chairman

Pouch V, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3715

HEARING NOTIFICATIONS

Re : Musk Oxen

BILL	DATE INFORMED	LETTER/PHONE	INFORMED	HEARING DATE
SS HB 878	4/3/80		Rep. Fuller ✓ Dept. of Fish & Game ^{will testify} Bob Hinman of Game Div. ^{4/9/ 4/9/80} to testify Rep. Phil Guy , to testify ✓ ^{will call back} Alaska Professional Hunters, ✓ Randy Smith Dept. of Revenue.	4/8/80

The bill permits the Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to lower the resident tag fee for musk oxen in certain situations. There are presently 167 musk oxen counted on Nelson Island. This amount of musk oxen has been determined by the Department of Fish and Game to be too many for the habitat. Therefore it is necessary for some of the musk oxen to be harvested. The people of Toksook Bay and the Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee requested that the legislature lower the tag fee in order that they be given the opportunity to take these surplus musk oxen for their personal use. The Nelson Island area is very poor in red meat resources and the musk oxen would be a beneficial supplement to their diet. Presently the tag fee for residents makes the taking of musk oxen prohibitively expensive. Allowing the Board of Game to lower the tag fee and provide for an open season when a surplus exists would enable these villagers to take musk oxen while providing for a healthy and stable populations on the island.

The people of Toksook Bay and the advisory committee decided that they would rather not have a sports hunt of musk oxen on the island. Rather than follow a plan similar to that on Nunivak Island, where local villagers take part in the guiding for musk oxen, the people of Toksook Bay requested that they and the other villagers of the Nelson Island area be able to harvest this surplus in the discretion of the Board of Game. This bill

would provide for similar arrangements for other musk oxen herds. Something needs to be done at this time to provide for the welfare of the musk oxen herd on Nelson Island and this bill provides the flexibility to harvest the surplus animals according to the desires of the people who have lived with the musk oxen since their transplant from Nunivak Island. It also should be noted, however, that nothing in this bill is intended to require the Board of Game to reduce or eliminate the resident Big Game Tag for musk oxen in instances such as the Nunivak Island sport hunt in which the Board determines that the \$500 resident tag is appropriate.

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1. Addition of a sub-paragraph that institutes a \$1000 non-resident big game tag fee for musk oxen.

Section 2. Paragraph 18, which presently deals only with bears, is revised to include musk oxen. It requires a \$500 resident big game tag fee for musk oxen. Additional language is inserted stating: However, the Board of Game may reduce or eliminate the fee for a resident big game tag for musk oxen for an open season.

Section 3. The present section on musk oxen is repealed and replaced by Permit Applications:

(a) If the Board of Game declares an open season for

musk oxen and has not reduced or eliminated the \$500 resident tag fee, the department shall conduct a drawing for permits to take musk oxen.

(b) If an open season is declared and the Board has reduced or eliminated the resident tag fee, permits to take musk oxen shall be issued in the order the applications were received. No person is eligible for more than one permit per year. The department may not charge an application fee for permits if the tag fee has been reduced or eliminated. In all other cases the application fee is \$10.

(c) Except for musk oxen, the permit application fee for which a limited drawing is conducted is \$5.

Fiscal note indicates no fiscal impact.

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. CSSSIB 878
 Title Relating to fees for hunting musk oxen
 Requested by _____ Date _____

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected _____ Revenue _____
 Program Category Affected Fish & Game Support
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Fish & Game Licensing

(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		0	0	0	0	0
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

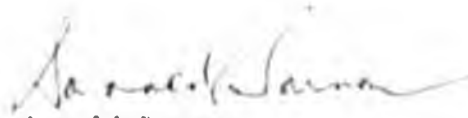
GENERAL FUND		0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

This Bill would return it to the present law.

IV. DATE April 7, 1980 PREPARED BY 
 AGENCY REVENUE
 PHONE 465-2313
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. CSSSHB 878
 Title An Act relating to fees for hunting musk oxen
 Requested by Resource Committee Date 4/21/80

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Department of Fish and Game
 Program Category Affected Natural Resource Management
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Game Division
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

There is no fiscal impact on the operation of the Department with this Act. Also, there will be no major revenue impact by this Act.

IV. DATE 4/23/80 PREPARED BY Russell H. Clark
 AGENCY Department of Fish and Game
 PHONE 465-4120

Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)
 Office of the Governor-Keith Specking

SPORT FISH & GAME RECEIPTS
 Calendar Year 1979
 Final - January 1, 1979 thru December 31, 1979
 Prepared January 14, 1980

CODE	TYPE OF LICENSE	NUMBER	GROSS	NET	NET/SPORT	NET/GAME	NET/GENERAL
201	R. Sport Fishing	83,782	\$ 836,726.58	\$ 793,793.33	\$ 793,793.33	-----	-----
202	R. Hunting	22,618	271,416.00	259,240.47	-----	259,240.47	-----
203-A	R. Hunt/Trap	2,170	32,550.00	30,909.33	-----	28,536.43	2,372.90
204	R. Spt. Fish/Hunt	29,004	638,088.00	604,913.93	274,960.90	329,953.03	-----
205	R. Fish/Hunt/Trap	9,328	233,200.00	220,723.25	88,289.31	114,632.27	17,801.67
206	NR. 10-Day Spt. Fish	34,473	517,095.00	492,039.41	492,039.41	-----	-----
207	NR Sport Fishing	12,411	372,330.00	353,964.63	353,964.63	-----	-----
208	NR Hunting	4,345	260,700.00	248,300.74	-----	248,300.74	-----
209	NR Fish/Hunt	1,002	90,180.00	85,562.50	28,462.04	57,100.46	-----
210	NR Hunt/Trap	53	10,600.00	10,022.98	-----	6,030.43	4,992.55
211	NR 1-Day Spt. Fish	16,346	81,730.00	77,531.45	77,531.45	-----	-----
212	NR Military Spt. Fish	6,980	69,800.00	66,448.15	66,448.15	-----	-----
213	NR Military Small Hunt	979	11,748.00	11,127.95	-----	11,127.95	-----
214	NR Military Fish/Hunt	878	19,316.00	18,431.46	8,377.93	10,053.53	-----
217-3B	R. Trap	1,465	4,395.00	4,189.10	-----	1,532.94	2,656.16
218	Duplicate License	2,905	5,810.00	5,524.47	-----	-----	5,524.47
120	Fish/Fur/Game Farm	4	400.00	381.41	-----	-----	381.41
121	R. Fur Dealer	105	5,250.00	4,942.74	-----	-----	4,942.74
122	NR Fur Dealer	5	1,000.00	931.56	-----	-----	931.56
123	R. Taxidermy	37	2,775.00	2,604.56	-----	-----	2,604.56
124	NR Taxidermy	2	400.00	382.82	-----	-----	382.82
200	Permit Fees	18,915	96,595.00	94,665.50	-----	94,665.50	-----
201-B	R. Blind Spt. Fish	10	2.50	2.37	2.37	-----	-----
205-A	R. 25c Hunt/Fish/Trap	8,334	2,083.50	1,981.92	660.57	1,149.51	171.84
SUBTOTAL		256,151	\$3,564,190.58	\$3,368,616.03	\$2,184,530.09	\$1,162,323.26	\$41,762.68
215	R. Big Game Tags	3,538	90,825.00	87,481.14	-----	87,481.14	-----
216	NR. Big Game Tags	7,301	1,290,050.00	1,229,716.83	-----	1,229,716.83	-----
TOTAL		266,990	\$4,945,065.58	\$4,705,814.00	\$2,184,530.09	\$2,479,521.23	\$41,762.68

RESIDENT TAGS		
* B/G Bear	3,533	\$88,325.00
* Muskox	5	2,500.00
TOTAL	3,538	\$90,825.00

Gross	\$4,945,065.58	
Cost	239,251.58	4.81%
Net	\$4,705,814.00	

NON-RESIDENT TAGS		
B/G Bear	1,036	\$ 259,000.00
Black Bear	1,262	126,200.00
Deer	390	13,650.00
Moose	1,837	367,400.00
Sheep	661	165,250.00
Elk	12	1,500.00
Goat	392	49,000.00
Caribou	1,364	270,600.00
Wolf	749	12,450.00
Wolverine	60	3,000.00
Bison	-----	-----
* Muskox	15	15,000.00
Walrus	4	1,000.00
Total	7,301	\$1,290,050.00

Residents entitled to Sport Fish	130,458	
Non-residents entitled to Sport Fish	72,000	202,548
Residents entitled to Hunt	71,454	
Non-residents entitled to Hunt	7,257	78,711
Residents entitled to Trap	21,297	
Non-residents entitled to Trap	53	21,350

SS for HB 878

Section 3. AS 16.05.345 is repealed and re-enacted by the following:
Charges the Board of Game with declaring open seasons on male and female musk oxen. If the Board of Game declares an open season for female musk oxen the department shall issue permits in the order the applications are received. The department may not charge a fee for an application for a female musk oxen.

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. Sponsor Substitute for House Bill No. 878
 Title An act relation to fees for hunting muskoxen
 Requested by Resources Date March 20, 1980

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Department of Revenue
 Program Category Affected Fish & Game Support
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Fish & Game Licensing
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL						

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

Revenue Effects

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						
Game Management fund	-0-	.6	.6			

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

IV. DATE March 20, 1980 PREPARED BY I nda Gene Lockridge
 AGENCY Department of Revenue
 PHONE 465-2376
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. Sponsor Substitute for House Bill No. 878
 Title An act relating to fees for hunting muskoxen
 Requested by Resources Date March 20, 1980

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Department of Revenue
 Program Category Affected Fish & Game Support
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Fish & Game Licensing
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EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-			

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

IV. DATE March 20, 1980 PREPARED BY Linda Gene Lockridge
 AGENCY Department of Revenue
 PHONE 465-2376
 Original: Legislative Finance
 Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on Resources

April 22, 1980

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

TO: Senate Resource Committee Members
FROM: Jens Zehbe, Staff Member
REGARDING: CSSSHB 878

This bill amends the Fish and Game statutes with the following:

- 1) Addition of a sub-paragraph that institutes a \$1000 non-resident big game tag fee for musk oxen.
- 2) Paragraph (18), which presently deals only with bears is revised to include musk oxen. It requires a \$500 resident big game tag fee for musk oxen. Additional language is inserted stating: However, the Board of Game may reduce or eliminate the fee for a resident big game tag for musk oxen for an open season.
- 3) The present section on musk oxen AS 16.05.345 is repealed. It is replaced by a new section entitled Permit Applications which states:
 - a) If the Board of Game declares an open season for musk oxen and has not reduced or eliminated the \$500 resident tag fee, the department shall conduct a drawing for permits to take musk oxen.
 - b) If an open season is declared and the Board has reduced or eliminated the resident tag fee, permits to take musk oxen shall be issued in the order the applications were received. No person is eligible for more than one permit per year. The department may not charge an application fee for permits if the tag fee has been reduced or eliminated. In all other cases the application fee is \$10.
 - c) Except for musk oxen, the permit application fee for which a limited drawing is conducted is \$5.

CSSSHB 878- An Act relating to fees for hunting musk oxen

This bill is intended to permit the Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to lower the resident tag fee for musk oxen in certain situations. There are presently 167 musk oxen counted on Nelson Island. This amount of musk oxen has been determined by the Department of Fish and Game to be too many for the habitat. Therefore, it is necessary for some of the musk oxen to be harvested. The people of Toksook Bay and the Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee, meeting in Toksook Bay, requested that the legislature lower the tag fee in order that they be given the opportunity to take these surplus musk oxen for their personal use. The Nelson Island area is very poor in red meat resources and the musk oxen would be a very beneficial supplement to their diet. Presently, the tag fee for residents makes the taking of musk oxen prohibitively expensive. Allowing the Board of Game to lower the tag fee and provide for an open season when a surplus exists would enable these villagers to take musk oxen while providing for a healthy and stable population on the island.

The people of Toksook Bay and the advisory committee decided that they would rather not have a sports hunt of musk oxen on the island. Rather than follow a plan similar to that on Nunivak Island, where local villagers take part in the guiding for musk oxen, the people of Toksook Bay requested that they and the other villagers of the Nelson Island area be able to harvest this surplus in the discretion of the Board of Game. This bill would provide for similar arrangements for other musk oxen herds. Something needs to be done at this time to provide for the welfare of the musk oxen herd on Nelson Island, this bill provides for the flexibility to harvest the surplus animals according to the desires of the people who have lived with the musk oxen since their transplant from Nunivak Island. It also should be noted however, that nothing in this bill is intended to require the board of Game to reduce or eliminate the resident Big Game Tag for musk oxen in instances such as the Nunivak Island sport hunt in which the Board determines that the \$500 resident tag is appropriate.

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

BOARD OF FISHERIES/BOARD OF GAME DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

SUPPORT BUILDING
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON SSHB 878

by Greg Cook, Executive Director
Boards of Fisheries and Game
(465-4110)

The Board of Game has received a request from Representative Phillip Guy to consider SSHB 878. Please accept the following comments.

- I. The Board of Game strongly supports that portion of SSHB 878 lowering the tag fee for resident hunters of cow muskoxen. The Board's decision, briefly stated, rests on biological reasoning. The muskox herd presently located on Nelson Island is acknowledged to be at a population level that is in excess of what the habitat can sustain over a term of years. Consequently, the Board of Game is desirous of reducing the number of animals in the herd. The most effective way to achieve a rapid, long-term reduction in the population is to kill females.

At their regulatory meeting in Fairbanks in April 1980, the Board of Game adopted an amended version of Proposal #282 providing for a hunting season on Nelson Island in which twenty cows may be taken by registration permit. The Board directed the Department of Fish and Game to administer the hunt in such a manner as to favor residents of Nelson Island; permits will be available on a first come, first served basis and will only be available on Nelson Island.

If no hunters take the cows available, then the Board has directed the Department to kill twenty animals and distribute the meat to local villagers.

- Delete*
- II. The Board of Game does not favor the portion of SSHB 878 imposing by statute a system for the administration of permits. The Board's opinion is that our present permit system functions well, and the public would not be served by the procedure the bill proposes.

- III. The concept of reserving the Nelson Island muskox resource for the exclusive use of Island residents deserves special comment. The Board opposes any "Nelson Island residents only" hunt.

Muskoxen on Nelson Island originate from a 1967-1968 transplant from Nunivak Island by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Alaska acting in concert. The funds for this transplant were derived from revenues generated by the hunting public as a whole. The Board of Game believes that the muskoxen on Nelson Island are a common property resource; they exist on Nelson Island only by virtue of funds derived from the public as a whole. To foreclose hunting by the general public by limiting the use of that resource to only residents of Nelson Island would be improper. Such a limitation would be both biologically unnecessary and constitutionally suspect. Following the subsistence policy of the Board of Game, the Board has structured the permit hunt described in paragraph two of this letter to heavily favor local residents

without absolutely denying hunting to other Alaskans. The Board feels this is the proper approach and respectfully requests that you delete Section 3 of SSHB 878 so that the permit hunt may be administered as described in this letter.

Thank you for your consideration of these views.

Relating to fees for hunting musk oxen.

Section 1. AS 16.05.340 (a) (16) is amended by adding a new subparagraph:
(O) Musk oxen, each\$1,000

Section 2. AS 16.05.340 (a) (18) is amended by the following: adds
big game to Resident tags deletes For Bear Brown or Grizzly, Each
..... ..\$25 adds subsections

- (A) Bear, brown or grizzly, each\$25
- (B) Musk oxen male, each\$500
- (C) Musk oxen female, each\$50

Section 3. AS 16.05.345 is repealed and re-enacted by the following:
deletes the big game tag fee of \$500 for residents and \$1,000 for non-
residents adds subsection (b) the permit application fee for all
species for which a limited drawing is conducted is \$5 except as
provided in (a) of this section.

Section 4. AS 16.05.345 (a) (19) is repealed

This bill is intended to permit the Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to lower the resident tag fee for musk oxen in certain situations. There are presently 167 musk oxen counted on Nelson Island. This amount of musk oxen has been determined by the Department of Fish and Game to be too many for the habitat. Therefore, it is necessary for some of the musk oxen to be harvested. The people of Toksook Bay and the Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee, meeting in Toksook Bay, requested that the legislature lower the tag fee in order that they be given the opportunity to take these surplus musk oxen for their personal use. The Nelson Island area is very poor in red meat resources and the musk oxen would be a very beneficial supplement to their diet. Presently, the tag fee for residents makes the taking of musk oxen prohibitively expensive. Allowing the Board of Game to lower the tag fee and provide for an open season when a surplus exists would enable these villagers to take musk oxen while providing for a healthy and stable population on the island.

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the musk oxen herd on Nelson Island, this bill provides for the flexibility to harvest the ^{surplus} surplus animals according to the desires of the people who have lived with the musk oxen since their transplant from Nunivak Island. It also should be noted, however, that nothing in this bill is intended to require the Board of Game to reduce or eliminate the resident Big Game Tag for musk oxen in instances such as the Nunivak Island sport hunt in which the Board determines that the \$500 resident tag is appropriate.

Request / Harold Spard DR
Norm Cohen
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