

SCOMM

67:18

Contents

Proposed amendments to CS for Senate Bill No. 422

(Finance)

**Relating to the transporting of hunters, big
game, Commercial Use license and fee,
transporter reporting requirement**

Position Statements

A D F & G, Game Division

A D F & G, Protection Division (Public Safety)

Task Force on Guiding and Game

Alaska Board of Game

Transporter promotional material

Rationale for Proposed Amendments to CSSB 422

4/18/90

1. re: adding cutoff date of Dec. 31, 1990 to transition language in new Section 22 (AIR CARRIER ADVERTISING).

* The current language (passed 4/17) allows air carriers that are not licensed as transporters to continue using promotional material about big game commercial services as long as it was produced prior to April 1, 1990.

* Unless there is a cutoff date, air carriers could continue indefinitely to advertise big game commercial services without a transporters license, and thereby circumvent the licensing requirement for any transporters that advertise.

* To make the advertising requirement enforceable, there must be a cutoff date to the transitional period. The end of calendar year 1990 is proposed to give the air carriers a grace period for the 1990 hunting seasons.

* Without a cutoff, enforcement officers would have to prove in court that advertising materials were published after April 1, 1990, which could require costly and difficult efforts to get affidavit from publishers that in many cases are outside Alaska.

2. re: deleting the amendment passed 4/17/90 that exempts some transporters from the commercial use permit and fee.

* All air carriers transporting hunters, equipment, or harvested big game animals are benefitting commercially from the use of the public wildlife resource, regardless of their fee structure to the customers. Therefore, all air carriers that are transporters should have to obtain a commercial use permit and pay the required fee.

* Over one-third of the 65,000-70,000 big game animals taken each year are commercially transported by air carriers. They are the single largest method of commercial transportation to the field used by the hunting public.

* Whether an air carrier charges a point-to-point rate or a special "hunting rate" does not define commercial use of the wildlife resource. It is the fact that wildlife is there and available to hunters that results in air charter business and profits for the air carrier.

* The fees for commercial use permits are accounted separately so that they can be allocated for support of wildlife management and enforcement. If a subset of air carriers are exempt from paying these fees, the people of the state are not receiving compensation for the commercial use of the wildlife resource. That means there will be less potential funding to manage and protect wildlife resources. License fee revenues from transporters are not available to support wildlife management and protection.

23,300

**Legislative Task Force on
Guiding and Game**

January 1990

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Task Force also recommends unanimously that:

- 1. The legislature maintain adequate funding for the Department of Fish and Game's Division of Wildlife Conservation, and the Department of Public Safety's Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection. The success of the proposed management system for guide-outfitting depends heavily upon the ability of these state agencies to gather biological data, monitor wildlife use, and enforce laws and regulations.**
- 2. Increased fiscal support for the Board be approved and provided through the Department of Commerce and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing. The Board's workload will be extremely heavy especially during the first five years of the new program, if the system is to be implemented successfully.**
- 3. Letters should be solicited from the federal land management agencies indicating their support for the provisions of the draft legislation proposing an area-based management system for big game guide-outfitting, and expressing their intention to cooperate with the state in implementing this system.**

While the following recommendations are not unanimously endorsed, it is the consensus of the Task Force that they merit future consideration by the legislature or another task force.

- 1. Immediate attention should be given to further managing transporters who provide unguided hunting services. We are aware that the state must not interfere unnecessarily with air or water commerce; on the other hand, transporters can directly contribute to overharvest in some areas and then readily shift into other areas. Those who provide commercial services for hunting must participate with the big-game guide-outfitting industry in reimbursing the state for commercial use of the public wildlife resource.**

Regulatory action by the new Big Game Commercial Services Board will be necessary, and enabling legislation may be required by the legislature. The legislature may wish to consider establishing another task force to further explore this problem and recommend solutions.

- 2. The Board should consider increasing the commercial use permit fee from that temporarily established in 1989. While we wish to leave to the Board the final decision on what the charge should be, we believe the present fee of \$100 does not sufficiently reimburse the state for the commercial use of the public wildlife resource.**

RESOLUTION NO. 90-50-BOG

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

RELATING TO REPORTING OF HUNTER USAGE OF AIR TAXI OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, it is of critical importance to the Board of Game in its role of protecting the wildlife resources of the State and allocating uses of these resources to the public, to know the location, numbers and timing of game harvest by hunters utilizing air taxi transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that air transportation is a very important means of access to game resources by many citizens of Alaska as well as non-residents, and

WHEREAS, the Board has received many reports from the public of excessive local harvest in certain areas by hunters transported by air taxi, and

WHEREAS, the lack of legal requirements for reporting of hunters transported by air taxi operators prevents the Board from having the information necessary to objectively determine whether a problem exists and whether corrective action is necessary,

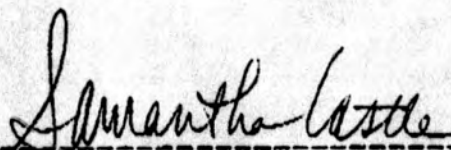
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

the Alaska Board of Game urges the Alaska State Legislature to pass legislation that would require all air taxi operators to report the number of hunters and big game animals transported; and

RESOLUTION NO. 90-50-806
Alaska Board of Game
Page Two

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that copies of this Resolution be promptly transmitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Chairmen of the Senate and House Resources, and Transportation, committees, and to the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game.



Samantha Castle, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game

ADOPTED: April 2, 1990
Anchorage, Alaska
VOTE: 7 Favor 0 Oppose



World-Record Barren Ground Caribou, which scored 463 $\frac{1}{2}$ points, was taken from the Ugashik Lake area, which lies in the heart of Unit-9E.

Techniques for hunting bulls vary with the time and season you hunt. In August when the season opens, you have to travel into the high alpine tundra and search with binoculars. One of the best ways to locate a trophy bull in the fall is fly the area between Ugashik Lakes and King Salmon. When you spot a large group of bulls you can land far ahead of them, along their migration route, and hunt them on the following day.

Both Unit's have many lakes and rivers on which to land and provide you with great flexibility in determining your hunting location.

Hunters should be prepared for rain showers and lots of wind. Bring only the best rain gear and tents. Hunters must furnish their own camp gear. Carrying your own gear provides greater flexibility in choosing an area to hunt

with a good concentration of game. It is imperative that you restrict yourself to essential gear only and leave luxury items at home. Added weight means additional cost. Bring good waterproof boots and some warm clothing. Pack lightweight groceries and enough per person for additional days in case of inclement weather conditions. Remember, you are on your own so be prepared. Delays because of weather may cause schedule problems. Plan your trip with these acts of nature in mind.

A non-resident hunting license is \$60.00. Tags for caribou are \$300.00 each. Tags for moose are \$300.00 each. Prices may change with regulation. Call or write for current prices, packages available, deposit forms & hunters general information sheet. (Tags & license costs may change by state regulation.)

Reservations can be made in advance as soon as practical, drop-ins are welcome. We request a non-refundable deposit of 30% of estimated costs to confirm dates.

If we can be of any further assistance in planning your trip, please do not hesitate to write or call. If you require outfitting, please call or write for details.

337-5755

Van Hartley

owner, operator

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Anchorage, AK 99515

June - Sept (907) 246-3437

Branch River Air Service

Van Hartley

P.O. Box 545

King Salmon, AK 99613

Trophy Hunting Alaska Peninsula



Branch River Air Service

Branch River Air Service offers unguided flyout dropoff hunts for moose and caribou. Alaska law requires a guide for sheep, grizzly or brown bear for non-resident hunters. Branch River Air Service is not a guide service and do not offer guided trips to hunters. Grizzly or brown bear can be taken by residents without guide service and we can accomodate them on a flyout dropoff basis. Non-residents do not need a guide for moose or caribou.

The estimated prices for these unguided hunts are based on average costs and do not necessarily include extra trips which might be required to fly all your meat and trophies out. Alaska law requires that all meat be salvaged for human consumption. Therefore, plan on flying out all the game you take. Alaska law also states that you cannot shoot game the same day you were airborne, so plan your trip accordingly and give yourself time.

Price of these unguided dropoff hunts start at \$300.00 per hunter with a minimum of two. The total cost of a hunt would be determined by the number of persons in the party, the locations of your hunt, the amount of flying to locate the game and the amount of game taken. Call or write for current rates & packages available.

There is excellent moose and caribou hunting on the Alaska Peninsula. We provide access to Game Management Units (Units) 9 and 17 from King Salmon by use of float equipped aircraft. When you arrive in King Salmon you are met at the airport and you and your gear are provided transportation to the river from which you will depart on your hunting trip.

The moose season in Unit-9 usually runs from September 10 - September 20. Caribou season in Unit-9 starts August 10 and runs through March 31. Unit-17 has 3 subunits. The moose season there runs from September 5 - September



15. The Caribou season in Unit-17 runs from August 10 - March 31. It should be noted that the best caribou hunting is during the August, September, October seasons. To obtain a map of the Unit's and the Alaska Game Regulations write to:

Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
King Salmon, AK 99613
or call: (907) 246-3340

Moose in Unit-9 can be found along the rivers, streams and lakes during the season and usually at the 300-700 ft. elevations in the foothills of the Aleutian Range. Unit-9E is managed as a trophy moose area. Several bulls have been taken here with antler spreads measuring in the 60- to 70-inch class. In the western drainages of the Aleutian Range bulls are found in the willow stands. Hunting moose requires a lot of effort and physical stamina. It can be accomplished by flying around in search of game

and finding a suitable lake or stream near the game. Another favorite is to plan a float trip on a river and hunt along the river.

Moose in Unit-17 are best hunted along timberline either by locating game from the air that are near suitable landing spots or planning a float trip on the many rivers and streams.

Caribou hunting on the Alaska Peninsula is some of the best in the world. There are approximately 62,000 caribou located in Unit-9 and another 33,000 in Unit-17. Trophy size caribou are found in both herds and have some of the largest body size caribou in the state. The terrain in these units varies from coastal marshes to rolling lowlands tundra and taiga vegetation. River bottoms are mostly black spruce with some white spruce, birch and alder.

Over 25% of the caribou listed in the Records of North America came out of Unit-9E. A



FISH

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FLY

into a native reserve not otherwise open to the public. On with your own guide after boating down a river to creeks and lakes teeming with fighting northern pike and trophy-size grayling.

ENJOY

nature's wildlife in a serene wilderness setting. A rustic cabin is available for overnighting. Motels, RV parks and tent sites are also available in the town of Tok.

HUNTING FOR MOOSE, CARIBOU, BEAR OR SHEEP

Let us fly you by float or wheel plane to a place where no other hunter can be seen. Skilled and experienced pilots will transport you to one of the many thousands of lakes, or set you above the timberline on mountain strips.

We will take you where you have the best chance of viewing the migrating caribou herds, spotting moose or climbing the mountains for Dall sheep. The Tok management area is one of the top three trophy areas in the state for Dall sheep.

Fly-in hunts have an **80% to 100%** success rate.

Alaska Fish & Game figures for this area state that north of Tok, moose have increased 50% since 1981. Caribou are growing 10% a year to herds over 22,000.

DUCK HUNTING

Duck hunting is available on a private native reserve. Abundant waterfowl abide on the marshy vegetation of many thousands of lakes. A guide, air transportation and a boat are provided.



The thrill and excitement of seeing abundant wildlife can be your experience of a lifetime.

Veteran's Air Service Inc. has been in operation for 11 years with a good safety record. The company is fully insured to federal and state standards and meets all state and federal certificate requirements.



Hunting...

Hunting in Alaska is one of North America's most challenging and rewarding experiences. Trail Ridge Air has the knowledge and the equipment to get you to the best spots at the best times for the best success. We have spent years flying Alaska finding the ultimate locations for natural beauty and abundant wildlife.

We recommend from 7 to 14 days for your hunting trip depending on which species of game you are hunting. We specialize in a combination moose-caribou hunt. You start out at a caribou camp and, after

5 to 7 days, are moved to a new camp for moose. This is a very popular hunt to maximize your success and also lets you see more of Alaska's beauty. Additional camps can be added for goat or black bear if desired.

In addition to the combination hunts described above we can also recommend the following:

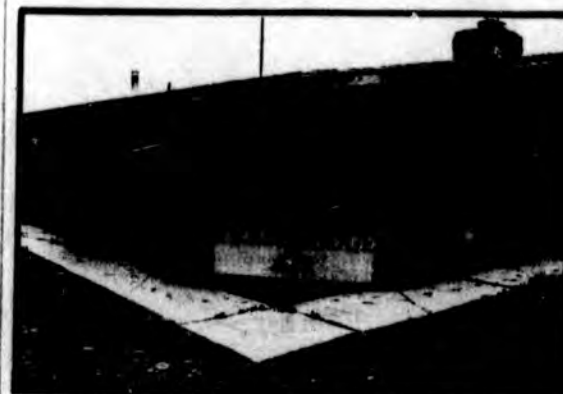
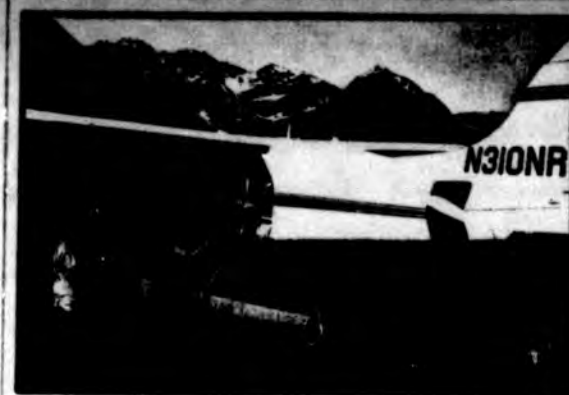
- a simple fly-in, drop-off trip where you provide all the gear;
- fly in to one of our tent camps or cabins that have basic supplies—you provide the rest;
- our combination hunts as described above—you bring your own camping gear or we can provide whatever you need;
- try a relaxing float trip for a change—it's a great way to combine hunting and fishing in a variety of places.

We want to make your hunting trip in Alaska all that you have imagined it could be. We are confident that we can make this hunting trip a dream come true for you.

The chart shows the usual seasons for game. These are set each year; we recommend you contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the hunting seasons, license and tag information each year.

Black Bear	year round
Caribou	Aug. 10 - Nov. 30
Deer (Sitka)	Aug. 1 - Dec. 31
Moose	Sept. 1 - Sept. 30
Mt. Goat	Aug. 15 - Sept. 30
*Dall Sheep	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
*Brown Bear	changes yearly

*For non-residents a guide is required for these species; ask us for more information.



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- MOOSE
- BEAR



STARTING AT

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Montague or
Knight Island
(Unit 6)
4 person
minimum

- DEER



\$350

Prince William
Sound Spring
Bear Hunt
(Unit 6)
2 person minimum

- BEAR

\$500

Rainy Pass
Area
Unit 16B
3 person minimum

- MOOSE
- CARIBOU
- BEAR



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Tutna Lakes
Area
(Unit 17 & 19)
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- MOOSE
- CARIBOU
- BEAR

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Silvertip Lodge
3 Nights
No minimum

- MOOSE
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Very high success rates for Bear, Moose, Caribou, and Deer at more than competitive rates

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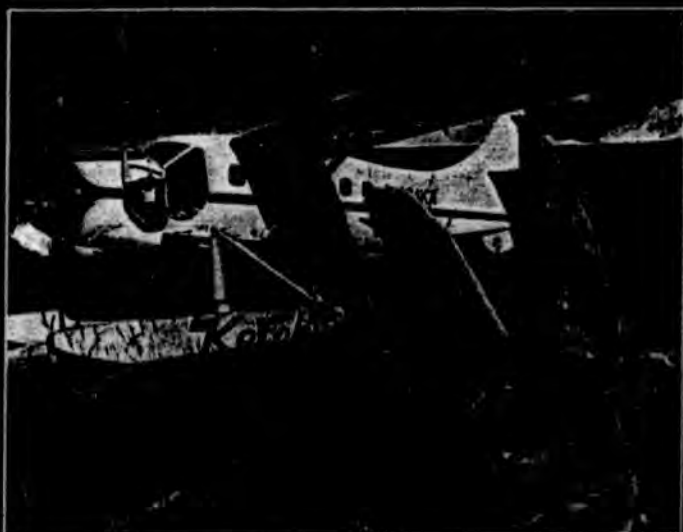
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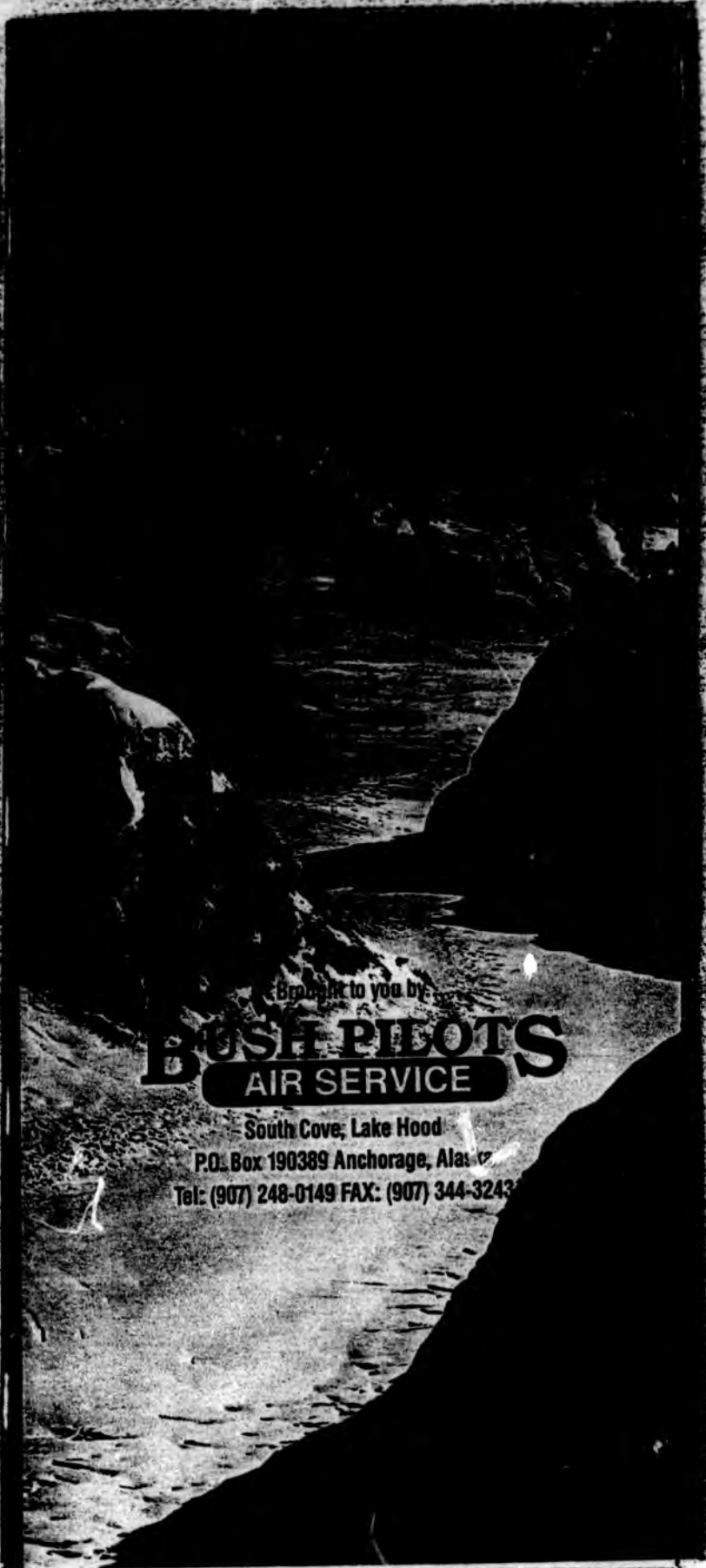
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