

HB

144

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Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Ken Lancaster District 8

Sponsor Statement
For

HOUSE BILL 144

"An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose"

House Bill 144 will add moose to AS 16.05.407(a), which currently requires nonresidents to be accompanied while hunting brown bear, grizzly bear, mountain goat, and sheep in Alaska. This bill will add moose to that list and require a nonresident to hunt moose with a guide.

Moose are an extremely valuable and widely used resource of the State of Alaska; as such they should be managed wisely. A big step in managing a resource wisely is to require accountability from those that use the resource. Another very important step is to eliminate, as much as possible, any waste of that resource.

Passage of this bill will assure that nonresident moose hunters are given the assistance needed, by someone accountable, for legal hunting and proper game care during their time in the field. At present unaccompanied nonresidents account for a significantly greater proportion of subsistence related conflicts, violations of wanton waste laws, and illegal hunting practices.

Guides attempt to police and maintain the strength of the resource. This legislation will enhance that opportunity.

E-Mail: Representative_Ken_Lancaster@legis.state.ak.us

Cooper Landing • Bear Creek • Funny River • Hope • Moose Pass • Ridgeway • Seward • Soldotna • Sterling

1. Conserving Alaska's Resource.

Moose numbers across most of Alaska are low and declining. While predation, especially by wolves, is the major factor in this problem, non-resident hunting does have an impact and needs to be slowed. Guided non-resident numbers have remained relatively stable as non-guided, non-resident "drop off" moose hunter numbers continue to rise explosively and now outnumber guided hunters by a wide margin statewide.

2. Wasting Alaska's Resource.

Non-guided, non-resident moose hunters account for almost all cases of wanton waste according to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony. Fish and Wildlife Protection also testified guided moose hunters in the same area have had virtually no violations. The assumption is that hunters who do not live in Alaska may have no idea what represents a legal moose (50" minimum antler spread) or how to handle an animal 10 times the size of a whitetail deer without roads, vehicles, or refrigeration. Reports have surfaced of non-guided hunters shooting a moose under 50", leaving it without salvaging the meat, and then shooting a second moose. This is where a professional guide is of utmost importance.

3. Protecting Subsistence.

As the moose population declines there is more and more competition between subsistence and non-resident moose hunters. Since non-guided or "drop off" hunter numbers have increased sharply and are the source of most conflicts, many native and subsistence organizations now support a guide requirement for non-resident moose hunters. They can see it will be disastrous to a subsistence way of life not to limit non-guided hunters who now hunt the very same moose subsistence users need to survive. Guides are sensitive to rural needs and in many areas hire native employees and contribute substantial amounts of meat to those unable to hunt. In fact, there are a great number of guides who give all the meat generated back to Alaskans who depend on it.

4. Protecting Resident Opportunity.

Alaskan resident and non-guided non-resident hunters also compete directly for the same diminishing resource. Hunts conducted by most urban Alaskan and non-resident "drop off" moose hunters are just about identical. They both use the same air taxi transporter services to reach the same hunting grounds to hunt for the same moose. Crowding and other conflicts between these two groups have reached epidemic proportions in some areas. Many Alaskans refuse to continue this charade, driven out by "drop off" non-residents who think it is normal to camp on a lake that looks like a small city and where you better be wearing blaze orange to keep from being shot. Guides operate almost exclusively in very remote areas, which are not accessible to most air taxi operators or resident hunters.

5. Accountability

Air charter companies, outfitters, and transporters who provide travel, gear, and advice to non-guided hunters are not held accountable for any violations committed by those hunters. This does nothing to encourage the companies supplying these services to make sure their hunters salvage all edible meat, shoot legal moose, respect land ownership conditions, not leave a garbage dump, and not hunt the same day they were airborne. Guides, however, are held to a very high level of accountability. They are responsible for any violation by hunters in their care. This makes it vitally important to guides that each and every regulation or law is followed precisely. Guides stand to lose everything if they do not do so.

Another accountability issue is that guides generally conduct hunts in the same, fairly small, specific area around a permanent base camp or lodge each year. This, along with State regulation limiting guide area size, demands that a guide care for the moose population in his area carefully. Should a guide not do this he will put himself out of business because of his inability to move where there are more moose. An air taxi or transporter has no such problem. If they saturate an area with hunters and wipe out all the moose, they can move on to any other area in the entire state.

6. Maintaining Economic Benefit

Guided moose hunts extract maximum value from each animal, far surpassing non-guided hunts. On average, a guided moose hunter will leave 3 times the money in Alaska than a non-guided hunter will. This additional money received goes to assistant guides, packers, cooks, in-state goods or services and represents a major "value added" factor to each guided moose hunt. It is much like selling a barrel of Alaskan oil wholesale for \$10 or processing it in Alaska and selling it for \$30 a barrel.

7. Maintaining Hunting Quality

As crowding by non-guided non-resident "drop off" hunters continues to grow unchecked, hunt quality for all hunters will continue to plummet. Conflicts with "drop off" nonresidents is a very critical issue with just about every Alaskan hunter. Complaints range from trespassing and safety to the virtual garbage dumps left behind by someone who probably never intends on coming back to Alaska. These conflicts also undermine efforts by Alaskan guides to provide a hunt quality equal with the rest of the world. Alaska is the only place left on the planet that does not require a guide for non-local people to hunt moose. The Yukon Territory, for example, requires guides for non-resident moose hunters because of the exact problems we are now facing. They understand that for residents to have reasonable success and guides to provide quality hunts there must be restrictions on non-residents participation.

Conclusion:

Big game guiding is one of the best industries in Alaska for generating a very large amount of money from a very small part of a renewable resource. Over 127 million dollars is generated annually with virtually all money from this industry kept in-state. Local and Native hire is used just about exclusively with 95% all of the moose meat generated being given back to local Alaskans who need it for subsistence. This unsung powerhouse of Alaska's economy is in danger of being wiped out because of unregulated and unsupervised use of our resource by people who do not even live in Alaska.

(Handwritten initials)

22-1.S0602J
Utermohle
3/21/01

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 144(RES)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES LANCASTER, Scalzi, Chenault, James, Kapsner, Moses

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1. AS 16.05.407(b) is amended to read:**

5 (b) An applicant for a nonresident big game tag for the taking of an animal
6 specified in (a) or (g) of this section shall first furnish to the state, on a form provided
7 by the state, an affidavit showing that the applicant will be personally accompanied
8 while hunting by a person who is qualified under the terms of (a) or (g) of this section.
9 A person who falsifies the required affidavit is guilty of perjury under AS 11.56.200.

10 *** Sec. 2. AS 16.05.407(d) is amended to read:**

11 (d) A nonresident who violates (a) or (g) of this section, or who fails to
12 furnish an affidavit under (b) of this section, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon
13 conviction is punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by a fine of
14 not more than \$5,000, or by both.

1 * Sec. 3. AS 16.05.407(f) is amended to read:

2 (f) An applicant for a nonresident hunt permit for the taking of an animal
3 specified in (a) or (g) of this section shall, if requested by the department, first furnish
4 to the department proof of prior authorization to use federal or private land where the
5 permit hunt will occur. The authorization shall be provided to the applicant by the
6 registered guide or master guide with whom the applicant has contracted to guide the
7 permit hunt.

8 * Sec. 4. AS 16.05.407 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (g) It is unlawful for a nonresident to hunt, pursue, or take moose in this state
10 unless personally accompanied by

11 (1) a person who is licensed as a registered guide, master guide, class-
12 A assistant guide, or assistant guide under AS 08.54;

13 (2) a resident over 19 years of age who is

14 (A) the spouse of the nonresident; or

15 (B) related to the nonresident, within and including the second
16 degree of kindred, by marriage or blood; or

17 (3) a resident over 19 years of age who

18 (A) has provided advance notification to the department, on a
19 form provided by the department, that the person will be accompanying the
20 nonresident to hunt moose;

21 (B) under this paragraph, does not accompany more than three
22 nonresidents to hunt moose during a calendar year; and

23 (C) does not receive compensation for accompanying the
24 nonresident to hunt moose.

25 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect January 1, 2002.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
Bill Version: HB 144
() Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
Title: Guides for Nonresident Moose Hunters BRU: Wildlife Conservation
Sponsor: Representative Lancaster Component: Wildlife Conservation
Requester: _____ Component Number: 473

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	0.0	(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	950.6	950.6	950.6	950.6	950.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other -- F&G Fund (1024)		(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)	(950.6)
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2002 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Assumptions: (1) General Funds will be appropriated to compensate for losses to the F&G Fund and allow the division to maintain existing programs; (2) demand for nonresident moose hunting will remain constant in the future; (3) the guide requirement will result in approximately the same reduction in nonresident hunters for moose as resulted with imposition of the 1989 guide requirement for mountain goats (i.e., 70%). This will equate to an annual loss of license and tag revenue to the Fish & Game Fund of about \$950.6.

[3732 nonresident hunters x 75% unguided x 70% reduction in hunters x \$485 license/tag fee = \$950.6]

In addition, based on a 1994 study of economic expenditures by unguided nonresident hunters, the annual loss of nearly 2000 hunters will result in the loss of over \$6.1 million annually to local economies (e.g., for transportation, fuel, restaurants, groceries, lodging, hunting equipment, photo supplies, equipment rental, meat processing, taxidermy services, shipping, tours, souvenirs, gifts, entertainment, etc.).

Prepared by: Matt Robus, Deputy Director Phone 465-4190
Division: Wildlife Conservation Date/Time 4/16/01 12:00 AM
Approved by: _____ Date _____
Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

1821

22-I.S0602U
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Listening to you – Getting things done.

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Subject: HB-144

Date: Fri, 13 Apr 2001 06:50:44 -0600

From: "Jim Rogers" <jrogers@sanz-inc.com>

To: <Jennifer_Yuhas@Legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Jennifer -

This bill, HB-144, deserves to die quickly, with a wooden stake through it.

I have hunted big game for over 20 years and have NEVER hired a guide. In addition, I have introduced several friends and coworkers to the joys of big game hunting. Although we often split costs for food and fuel, I have never charged a fee of any kind. A bill such as HB-144 would unjustly prohibit such activity.

Lets call HB-144 what it really is - "The Professional Guide Full Employment Act", or maybe "The Non-Resident Hunter Reduction Act".

It has long been a goal of mine to come to Alaska for a combined hunting and fishing trip with my brothers, all of us non-residents. (My uncle once owned a hunting lodge there.) We were thinking about going later this year or next. If HB-144 becomes law, our money will go elsewhere. I'm sure many other non-residents will feel the same.

Thank you.

James D. Rogers
System Engineer
jrogers@sanz-inc.com

303-660-3933 x210
303-814-0693 fax
303-885-7410 cell

Storage Area Networks
900 W. Castleton Road, Suite 210
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Subject: HB 144

Date: Thu, 22 Mar 2001 22:09:43 -0900

From: "Bill O'Halloran" <nrcr@gci.net>

To: Representative_Reggie_Joule@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us

Please do not support this horrible HB 144 attempt to deprive non-resident hunters the right to hunt moose in Alaska. **This misguided attempt to deny common folks this wonderful opportunity and only allow the wealthy to hunt moose is absolutely wrong!** If this is based on a concern for wanton waste, then make the penalty stiffer, **don't penalize the thousands of ordinary honest folks who come to our state** for that once in a lifetime dream hunting vacation. This bill will crush those Alaskans **like me** who make an honest living as Big Game Transporters in this state. There are much better ways to accomplish game management goals than trashing the dreams of American hunters and Alaskans alike!

VOTE **NO** ON HB 144

Respectfully,

Bill O'Halloran
Registered Voter!

Subject: HB-144 - Guide Required Moose Hunts

Date: Fri, 6 Apr 2001 11:21:52 -0800

From: "Randy in Alaska" <randj@gci.net>

To: "Jennifer Yuhas" <Jennifer_Yuhas@Legis.state.ak.us>

As an avid sportsman, being a life member of the North American Hunting Club, I have the privilege to trade hunts with other sportsman around the country. Many of these sportsman offer hunts for white tail deer, turkey, antelope, elk and so on in trade for an opportunity to hunt moose in Alaska. If HB-144 passes I will no longer be able to offer these fellow sportsmen the chance to trade hunts and in turn will lose the opportunity to take advantage of the hunts they offer. This will obviously decline the number of sportsman from outside the state and in turn decrease the number of out-of-state licenses and tags. Most sportsman are like myself and can't afford to hire a professional guide. I truly believe that if this HB-144 passes the state will lose revenue from these sportsman who take advantage of "swap-hunts" with fellow club members. Please vote this Bill down and consider the average sportsman like myself who is not privileged enough to hire professional guides.

Sincerely,

Randy Ellwood

Life Member, North American Hunting Club
Life Member, North American Fishing Club
Member, Varmint Hunters Association
Member, Alaska Trappers Association
Member, National Rifle Association

George Valentine • 5023 West Little Water Peak Drive • Riverton, UT. 84065

March 29, 2001

House of Representatives
% Beverly Masek
% Drew Scalzi
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska

APR 09 2001

Re: HB144

Dear House Representatives,

I recently became aware of HB 144 that would require all Non-Residents that wish to hunt moose in the state of Alaska, be required to have a professional guide.

As an avid sportsman, and hunter preparing a hunting trip to Alaska, I strongly and respectfully request that you *vote against* such measures.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has indicated that this Bill does nothing to help them in the management of moose. In fact they suggested that if a professional guide/outfitter would be required, there would be a significant drop in revenues to the Department from loss of license fee's. In addition, talking with several of the bush pilots in Anchorage, they feel they would they would see a big drop in revenues also. Not to mention all the other related outdoor industries that would be effected by this requirement.

If you review the statistics that are available from the Outfitters and Guides Association, you would see that a large number of non-residents do obtain the specific services from professional guides for their hunts. Most of them do not have the knowledge or time to do it by themselves. However, there are other people, like myself, that prefer to put a hunting trip together by ourselves.

Please vote against HB 144, it serves no real purpose in game management and if passed will have a dramatic impact on revenue sources for your state.

Sincerely,


George Valentine

Subject: HB 14- Guides for Non-Resident Moose Hunters

Date: Tue, 17 Apr 2001 15:26:47 -0800

From: "Dennis Confer" <wilyv@gci.net>

To: <Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Representative Masek & House Resource Committee:

I am very agitated by this proposal. Please excuse my writing here as time is short. I understand your committee is to meet Friday, April 20 on this matter. I have been recuperating from a by-pass and just became aware of this proposal. I think requiring a guide for non-resident moose hunters is ridiculous. I hope the proposal is thoroughly studied before action is taken. Some points to consider mainly around who benefits, who loses and why:

1. A guide requirement is unconstitutional (U.S.) if pressed. The basis is supposedly for the protection of the client. If that is the real purpose, under "equal protection" meaning for "all", when it has to be for all citizens (resident & non-resident). The real reason for a guide requirement is for monopolization of the resource (clients) by guides.
2. More and more freedoms are lost each year. Who perpetuates that and why - greed and power.
3. Safety of clients - if records are thoroughly checked, I think it will be evident that more guides and guided clients are killed hunting and flying than unguided non-residents or residents. The reason being is that guides take more risks as there is more at risk - large guide fees and the guides' reputation for kills.
4. Loss of revenue - non-resident license and tag fees largely foot the bill for Fish & Game management and conservation in Alaska. Take a look at how many non-resident licenses & tags (\$485) are bought and subtract out those that are guided - those figures are available from required guide reports. Don't think that non-residents will come to Alaska guided and make up the difference. Those that can afford it, do and those that can't afford it, don't. Although unguided, non-resident moose hunters contribute a lot to our economy through fees to air taxis, in state airlines and air freight shippers, motels, restaurants, gift shops, etc. There would be a big loss to Alaskans with no good reason other than to benefit guides.
5. Loss of moose meat - most unguided non-resident hunters come for meat and antlers - they want the most for their dollars spent. They are inclined to take care of meat as best they can. Guided hunters are mainly interested in antlers and bragging rights and I've known a lot of them and many seldom take any meat home. Do guides take better care of meat than unguided hunters - I doubt it. Guides don't usually cut, dress and pack meat - they hire cheap labor (assistant guides & packers) to do that unpleasant chore - many of these have one year or less experience than non-resident hunters. Guides make sure the meat gets back to camp to be legal but after that, who knows. Many guided hunters think they bought a moose when they hired a guide and bought a tag - they are seriously upset if they don't make a kill.
6. The state may be more responsible for lost/spoiled moose meat than anyone else. Season closures have been set back in many places from Sept. 30 to the 25th, from the 25th to the 20th, from the 20th to the 15th at the same time that we have experienced warmer and warmer Septembers and winters for the past 6 to 8 years. It has remained warmer and warmer, later and later. Hunting is best done when temperatures are colder. The state has not been responsive by adjusting season dates later to correspond with the temperatures. If the state were concerned with spoiled meat, they could require "everyone" to attend briefings before hunts on how to handle everything AS THEY DO FOR SOME (SUB) GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS.
7. Most of our land in Alaska is federal land that supposedly all U.S. citizens have rights in. This proposal will effectively shut out many U.S. citizens from exercising their rights.
8. There are some great guides - real people out there and there are some real jealous, greedy ones that want everything for themselves.

9. The real reason for a guide requirement is monopolization of the resource (clients), not moose, to the detriment of other business people in Alaska.
10. The moose population is healthy - supposedly about 155,000. Get the statistics from F & G on harvest rates and you will see that moose are under-utilized by anyone's idea of being conservative.

There is lots of room in Alaska when you get away from the cities. There is no good reason to restrict moose hunting to the few that want or can afford to be guided. I have assisted over 1,000 unguided very successful moose & caribou hunters in the last 20 years. Many of them have returned to Alaska time after time because it was affordable unguided for hunting and fishing. They lost very little meat to bears and spoilage because I taught them how to deal with the problems before they went to the field. I have no great interest in revenue from this resource myself now but someone has to speak up for their rights. It would be great for Fish & Game to survey the non-resident moose hunters from their license/tag sale records and find out what they think and what they've done even on a sample basis - they should have a say in the matter of utilization of public land. There will be an overall loss in revenue to Alaskans if the proposal is adopted.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I can be contacted in Anchorage at 338-3099 - my mail address is 2509 Kilkenny Circle, Anchorage, AK 99504.

Dennis Confer

Co-Chairs: Beverly Masek
Drew Scalzi

March 30, 2001

APR 03 2001

HB144

My name is Mike Keim. I am currently a resident of Salt Lake City, Ut. I was privileged to have my greatest outdoor experience in September of 2000 when I spent 13 days on a self-guided Moose and Caribou hunt in the great state of Alaska. We hunted unit 25 an area definately not suffering from over-hunting. In my group of five (father-in-law, and three brother-in-laws) we were privileged to harvest 3 Caribou, and 1 Moose. It was the adventure of a lifetime. There was so much more to this trip than the kill. We all came home entirely satisfied. Our harvest would have been a total disappointment for most guides and their clients, but it couldn't have been any better for us. The point is, it is not all about killing animals. Every hunter doesn't have to be successful to have a great time. Our group had several missed opportunities for moose, but that is hunting and we relish those experiences. They are a part of the hunt, and as satisfying as the 1 moose "success" we had on this hunt. The sheer remoteness of the area, and the abundance of all types of wildlife we saw were awesome. We saw 9 grizzlies. Unbelievable!!

HB144 seems to be an exclusionary measure that would take one more step towards removing the average guy from the hunting scene. After discussing this issue with the Alaska fish and game it seems that this bill would do relatively nothing to address the declining moose problem, and would only serve to pad the pockets of the guide industry. What a terrible thing it would be to force all non-residents of Alaska to hunt with a guide. This law would make it impossible for me to ever hunt moose in Alaska again. HB144 would take the average person out of the Alaska hunting scene completely. I've already resigned myself to the fact that I will never have the opportunity to hunt a Grizzly bear, Mountain Goat, or Sheep, because these hunts have been reserved for the wealthy. It would be a shame to see Moose go the same way. In case you haven't checked, the average guided moose hunt is between \$7,000-\$10,000 dollars.

As I understand it, the bulk of this bill is concerned with a declining moose population, and guides who feel that their areas are being over-run with non-resident hunters. There are numerous ways to help declining populations, and control over-hunting. I do not see how HB144 addresses either of these problems.

I have a B.S. degree in Wildlife and Range Management from Brigham Young University, and am an avid outdoorsman and hunter. One management tool in use in nearly every state in the west including Alaska is the lottery draw system. This system controls the number of hunters in any given area in a given year, allowing Moose populations in this case to stabilize and grow. It also offers everyone a fair chance to draw a tag at some point. I'm not sure if this is the solution, but it works elsewhere. It is not an exclusionary policy that takes moose hunting out of reach of the average person.

I am sure that I couldn't even hit the tip of the ice berg when it comes to the financial impacts this bill could have on so much of Alaska's small businesses. I own a small business my self and know all to well that small market changes can have large effects. I

have spoke to the air charter service we used last year on our hunt, and this will devastate them. We also rented rafts, rental cars, purchased fishing tackle, ammunition, food and drinks, hotel rooms on the front and back of our trip, and even had an afternoon of golf in Fairbanks. Our small group of 5 injected over \$15,000 dollars in the Alaskan economy last fall.

Alaska's hunting resources are a treasure to be protected so that they will be around for generations to come. I urge you to find ways to do this without excluding such a large portion of the hunting population in order to do it. Every non-resident deserves the opportunity at some time in their life, even if they cannot afford a fully guided hunt.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Keim".

Sincerely,
Mike Keim

Subject: Fw: HB 144

Date: Wed, 4 Apr 2001 12:35:54 -0700

From: "M Smith" <smitty19@peoplepc.com>

To: <Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us>

----- Original Message -----

From: M Sm...

To: [Representative Mike Chenault@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us)

Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2001 12:18 PM

Subject: HB 144

Dear Rep. Chenault,

I am writing to you concerning House Bill 144. I am a resident of Michigan but I try to hunt at least one other state each year.

So far I have been fortunate to have hunted Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, South Dakota, Florida, Georgia, and

Alabama. I am a working guy so I can only afford to go to one other state per year. My dream for next year (2002), was to hunt

moose in your great state of Alaska. I cannot afford \$ 8-12,000 to go on a fully guided hunt, so I (and 3 other partners) were going

to go unguided.

House Bill 144 would eliminate the possibility of that dream hunt coming true. Please consider the hundreds of non-residents

like me that cannot afford the higher priced guided hunts. People like us would be glad to spend a few thousand dollars apiece

on license fees, transportation, float planes, food, equipment, gifts, etc. in Alaska. The only benefit of making guides mandatory,

would be to the guides themselves. All of the things I just mentioned would benefit Alaska in general. And because so many

people like me could not afford the guides, Alaska would lose in the long run.

Please consider leaving the rules the way they are.

Thanks for your time.

Michael Smith

Co-Chairs: Beverly Masek
Drew Scalzi

March 30, 2001

APR 03 2001

HB144

My name is Mike Keim. I am currently a resident of Salt Lake City, Ut. I was privileged to have my greatest outdoor experience in September of 2000 when I spent 13 days on a self-guided Moose and Caribou hunt in the great state of Alaska. We hunted unit 25 an area definately not suffering from over-hunting. In my group of five (father-in-law, and three brother-in-laws) we were privileged to harvest 3 Caribou, and 1 Moose. It was the adventure of a lifetime. There was so much more to this trip than the kill. We all came home entirely satisfied. Our harvest would have been a total disappointment for most guides and their clients, but it couldn't have been any better for us. The point is, it is not all about killing animals. Every hunter doesn't have to be successful to have a great time. Our group hand several missed opportunities for moose, but that is hunting and we relish those experiences. They are a part of the hunt, and as satisfying as the 1 moose "success" we had on this hunt. The sheer remoteness of the area, and the abundance of all types of wildlife we saw were awesome. We saw 9 grizzlies. Unbelievable!!

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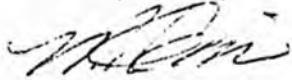
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Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Keim".

Sincerely,
Mike Keim

William S. Fay
3677 Piedmont Drive
Highland, CA 92346

April 9, 2001
Page 1

Senator Rick Halalford
Senator Georgiana Lincoln
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Representative Brian Porter
Representative Ken Lancaster
Representative Beverly Masek
Representative Drew Scalzi
Representative Harry Crawford
Representative Carl Moses
Representative John Coghill
Representative Jeannette James
Representative Hugh Fate

Re: House Bill 144, Adding Moose to the Guide Required List

“An Act requiring non-resident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose; and providing for an effective date.”

Section 1.AS 15.05.407 (a) amended to read:

- (a) It is unlawful for a non-resident to hunt, pursue, or take brown bear, grizzly bear, mountain goat, moose or sheep in this state[,] unless personally accompanied by
 - (1) a person who is licensed as a registered guide, master guide, Class-A assistant guide, or an assistant guide under AS 08.54; or
 - (2) a resident over 19 years of age who is
 - (A) the spouse of the non-resident; or
 - (B) related to the non-resident, within and including the second degree of kindred, by marriage or blood.

*Sec. 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2002.

April 9, 2001
Page 2

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am writing as a concerned sportsman regarding the above-mentioned bill. As you are aware, your fellow representative, Ken Lancaster, is sponsoring the bill to this legislative session. My hope is that you read and understand my concerns regarding this bill and you take my thoughts into account as you help pass this Bill.

I have been coming to Alaska since 1987. Most of my trips are for hunting and fishing. My usual stay in Alaska is between 2 to 4 weeks every year. I enjoy Alaska very much and I am hopelessly addicted to this great land. During my years spent in Alaska I have seen many changes to this great state. Some of which are alarming to me as they should be with every American sportsman. My greatest fear is that Alaska will not be able to offer my children and their children the same unmolested quality of peace and tranquility that this last great frontier has offered many, many before me. I know that the land will remain unchanged for many more years, but my concern is the wildlife and the changes I have seen in the short time I have been coming to Alaska.

I am now concerned with Proposition 114 which the Alaska board of Game recently adopted, requiring a permit system in some Game Management units for all non-resident hunters will not go far enough in addressing "drop off" hunters. I have seen hoards of hunters located in some areas, who have been dropped off, over-populating that area with more hunters than game. This can't be a good thing to leave unchecked. I have talked to many fellow hunters after their hunt and I have been told they were dropped off in a certain guides area because the flying service knows the guides have had good success in that area which leads me to believe, they are becoming guides themselves without the same responsibility as guides. With drop off hunters there is no responsibility for legal moose kills or professional meat care, or wanton waste violations. Air taxi services just "drop off", and pick up and if there are no more permits for that area they just take them to where there are some permits available. The Pedro Bay Corporation and the Kuskokwim Corporation offer positive feedback for this bill that addresses this very issue. It is imperative that the Registered Alaska Guides become the caretakers of Alaska's most precious natural resources. The Alaska State Department of Wildlife Protection and the Alaska State Board of Fish and Game as well as Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance and Alaska Professional Hunters Association have come forward in favor of this legislation. With the permit system any drop off hunter displaced will find another hunting area using the same air taxi service. Eventually these areas will need to be placed on a permit system also. This makes placing moose on a guided species list clearly the practical solution. At least this way we have a responsible group of people looking after Alaska's natural resources.

I also support the buddy hunt amendment requested by Representative Masek's office with guidelines included that see to it the host be held accountable to the letter of the law.

April 9, 2001

Page 3

Your help in supporting this legislative action will go a long way in helping stabilize the moose population. It will put it in the hands of Alaska's guides where it truly belongs and keeps Alaska's air taxi service where it really is an "air taxi service". A permit system for hunting moose as a non-resident is not something I believe to be the complete answer. I would like to see the whole system left the way it was, but I think the time for change has come and the obvious choice we need to make is to see that Alaska's guides become America's caretakers for Alaska's great wilderness. There is already a guide requirement for brown bear, sheep and mountain goat, adding moose to the guide list will require legislative action. I hope you take the big picture into view when you make your decisions and help support-putting moose in the care of Alaska's guides.

Again, change is hard to accept and adding moose to the guides list is hard to accept but the alternative solution of the permit system does nothing to help regulate the whole problem we are facing and putting moose on the guide list is a small price to pay for keeping Alaska the "Last Great Frontier" to be enjoyed by all for hundreds of years to come.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

William S. Fay

WSF/rf

Subject: RE: HB 144

Date: Tue, 10 Apr 2001 13:46:32 -0800

From: "Budd" <2bgood@pobox.alaska.net>

To: <Jennifer_Yuhas@legis.state.ak.us>

The guides and people with big money have a substantial advantage over the common folk to obtain moose. Not only is that unconstitutional, but it leaves people who want to take moose for family food out in the cold.

Instead of passing HB 144, you need to build roads into the wilderness so the common folks of Alaska can share the resources like the Constitution guarantees.

I have had enough of guides and their big money clients. They get their share. The rural residents get their share. If we live in suburbia, we get the empty pot.

Enough already! Defeat HB 144!

Budd Goodyear - Wasilla

Subject: Proposal to force out-of-staters to use guides

Date: Wed, 11 Apr 2001 18:38:18 -0400

From: Jeff Galvin <galvin@mindspring.com>

To: Jennifer_Yuhas@Legis.state.ak.us

Ms. Yuhas,

Just wanted to let you know that I think this would be a mistake. I have friends that live in Alaska that are more than qualified to act as a guide for me. I don't want to have to pay a high-dollar guide to come hunting there. Please, don't make this mistake. I would probably not be able to come if such a restriction is passed.

Thanks for your time,
Jeff Galvin

Subject: HB-144

Date: Wed, 11 Apr 2001 08:46:33 -0800

From: Warren Eastland <nutwood@gci.net>

To: Jennifer_Yuhas@Legis.state.ak.us

Dear Ms. Yuhas,

As an Alaskan and a hunter who has Outside friends, I am opposed to HB 144 which would require a guide for a non-resident to hunt moose. My friends and I cannot get together often because of the distance that separates us, but when we do we like to go hunting. Sometimes, I go to their state and hunt deer with them. Other times, they come here to beautiful Alaska and hunt moose with me. This bill would steal from me the opportunity to hunt with my friends in this state that I so deeply enjoy.

I do not wish HB 144 to become law.

Thank you,

--

Warren Eastland
PhD Ecologist & Hunter

When a demon pisses on your gunpowder,
all skill is in vain.

Subject: Guides Only

Date: Wed, 11 Apr 2001 02:21:09 -0800

From: Robert Fimon <ryfimon@gci.net>

To: Jennifer_Yuhas@legis.state.ak.us

I've been informed by an Alaskan resident and friend of mine that a bill is being introduced that we don't like. That is not good for Alaskan Moose hunters. This bill would prohibit me from having a non-resident hunting partner accompany me on Moose hunts. All this bill would do is put money in registered guides pockets and restrict my freedom as an individual to have a non-resident hunting partner. Matter of fact, some of these guide services are operated by non-residence. I don't like this bill, I will fight this bill, We will stop this bill in its tracks.

Subject: HB-144

Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2001 08:34:36 -0800

From: "Kelvin" <kgurney@wildak.net>

To: <Jenniier_Yuhas@Legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Ms. Yuhas,

I take most items posted in the Internet with a very large grain of salt. However on the off chance there is some facts in this posting I am writing you. The main purpose to the Internet posting was to alert people to the fact that:

"The original bill would not provide for a "buddy hunt" if you wanted to take your friend, fiancé, or relative past second degree...that could even exclude step children you had if you were now divorced from that spouse, or your god child."

Let me offer my support to a "hunting buddy" amendment. It's not too often I take someone from out of state hunting. (I've been in Alaska for over 20 years and have taken non-relatives hunting 3 times.) All three times it has been friends of family. None the less I would like the ability to continue such a practice.

Thank you,
Kelvin Gurney
PO Box 443
Delta Junction, AK 99737

Subject: HB 144**Date:** Fri, 23 Mar 2001 11:53:15 -0900**From:** "Stan Parkerson" <stan@denalihunts.com>**To:** <Representative_Ken_Lancaster@legis.state.ak.us>

CC: <Helen_Donahue@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Hugh_Fate@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Joe_Green@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Mary_Kapsner@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Beverly_Measek@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Gary_Stevens@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator_Pete_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us>, <Helen_Donahue@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Mr. Lancaster,

This message is much longer than I had hoped, I sincerely hope that you'll find time to read it in its entirety.

PLEASE OPEN THE ATTACHMENT, It contains an option that I came up with before I knew the resource committee was working on a "Buddy Bill" It's the message I was going to send before I talked to Ms. Donahue this morning. Think you'll find it interesting.


As requested by your aid Helen Donahue I read the House resource committee's work draft of HB144 "Buddy Bill" and would like to comment. The first thing that comes to mind was, it's WEAK. I believe we'd be better served being more restrictive with whom may accompany non-resident hunters and then make this system available for sheep, grizzlies and goats also.

I understand that the Dept of Fish and Game said they would attach a million dollar budget to this bill. The only reason I can see this is necessary would be to recoup the lost revenues for non-resident license sales. The statistics show in 1999 about 3000 NR moose license and tags were sold (800 to guided hunters). So it is fair to assume 2000 less NR tags will be sold at \$500.00 a whack, Wa La! \$1,000,000.00!

I am a moose guide. This plan I have come up with is not intended to appease the thousands of NR hunters that wish to come hunt here, rather to help the frustrated resident that wants to occasionally go hunting with a friend that doesn't live here.

Sincerely,

Stan Parke:son
Fairbanks, AK 455-6056

 letter to the legis doc.doc	<p>Name: letter to the legis doc.doc Type: Winword File (application/msword) Encoding: base64 Download Status: Not downloaded with message</p>
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03/20/2001

Subject: HB144

Dear Legislator,

My name is Stan Parkerson. I'm a registered guide in Alaska and I APPOSE HB 144.

There are many ways to curb the influx of non-resident hunters. A couple of ideas that come to mind are: Make the hunts a drawing permit or require transporters to register a limited number of use areas (one or two), much like the current guide use areas and restrict the numbers of hunters each transporter can take into a given area.

However, if the legislature deems this bill necessary it should only be passed with the following amendments:

AMENDMENT #1

ADD to the list of persons that nonresidents may hunt with to include:

(C) a friend or distant relative who possesses a "PERMIT TO ACCOMPANY".

PERMITS TO ACCOMPANY will be issued through the Department of Fish and Game to persons who qualify. Qualifications and conditions should include:

- 1) The applicant is 21 years old and has proof of four years Alaska residency.
- 2) The applicant has purchased a resident hunting or fishing license three out of the last five years.
- 3) A PERMIT TO ACCOMPANY may only be issued to accompany a maximum of two persons in any three year time period and for only one species of big game regulated under this section.
- 4) The applicant has no hunting or fishing violations in the past five years.
- 5) The applicant must hold a current hunter education or bowhunter education card.
- 6) It is unlawful for persons holding a PERMIT TO ACCOMPANY to receive payment for this arrangement, although it is acceptable for the involved parties to split equally any documented hunting expenses (food and transportation etc...).
- 7) The PERMIT TO ACCOMPANY cannot be used to accompany non-resident aliens.
- 8) The applicant has paid the appropriate administrative fees of \$????

Continued

REASON FOR AMENDMENT

Thousands of Alaskans travel outside Alaska each year to hunt deer, elk and many other species of big game with friends and distant relatives. It's an unreasonable law that does not allow qualified Alaska residents to share with these friends the Alaskan hunting experience.

This amendment should apply to all big game species currently on the list (not just moose). It can be added to the bill and still maintain its original intent: to eliminate the growing number of non-resident drop hunters flown in by unscrupulous air taxis.

AMENDMENT #2

Change effective date from [January 1, 2002] to January 1, 2003

Sec. 2 This Act takes effect January 1, 2003.

REASON FOR CHANGE

The high demand for quality drop hunts, has forced most reputable transporters and outfitters to book hunters several years in advance. If this law goes into effect as it is currently written, many businesses will have to refund thousands of dollars in deposits. Returning these deposits will cause undue hardship for these businesses.

CLOSING STATEMENT

This is a serious issue. And I remind you that these statements are coming from a very active Alaskan moose guide. In the hunting community, Alaskans are rapidly developing a reputation as being selfish and greedy. If we're not careful, we Alaskans will be faced with reciprocal laws in other states. We all know this is an economic issue for guides, not a game management problem or safety issue as its supporters will represent. I guarantee the dollars lost by eliminating unguided non-resident moose hunts will not come close to being recouped by the higher price hunters will have to pay to guides. Instead, most hunters simply won't come to Alaska!

Thank you for your consideration of this problem. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this issue in further detail please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Alaskan Guide!

Stan Parkerson
1441 Ivans Alley
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
stan@denalihunts.com or (907) 455-6056

Subject: (no subject)

Date: Mon, 9 Apr 2001 15:09:44 EDT

From: AlaskaBush@aol.com

To: Senator_Rick_Halalford@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Brian_Porter@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Ken_Lancaster@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Harry_Crawford@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Carl_Moses@legis.state.ak.us, Senator_Georgianna_Lincoln@legis.state.ak.us,
Senator_Lyman_Hoffman@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Jeannette_James@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Hugh_Fate@legis.state.ak.us

Alaska Bush Adventures
P.O. Box 243861
Anchorage, Alaska 99524
(907) 522-1712

RE: House Bill 144, Adding Moose to the Guide Required List.
"An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose;
and providing for an effective date."
Section 1. AS 15.05.407 (a) amended to read:

(a) It is unlawful for a nonresident to hunt, pursue, or take brown bear, grizzly bear, mountain goat, moose, or sheep in this state[,] unless personally accompanied by

(1) a person who is licensed as a registered guide, master guide, class-A assistant guide, or an assistant guide under AS 08.54; or

(2) a resident over 19 years of age who is

(A) the spouse of the nonresident; or

(B) related to the nonresident, within and including the second degree of kindred, by marriage or blood.

*Sec.2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2002.

Dear _____,

I am writing not only as a Professional Guide and Outfitter regarding the above-mentioned Bill, but also as a concerned citizen. As you are aware, your fellow Representative, Ken Lancaster, is sponsoring this monumental bill to this Legislative Session. I am requesting that you read my following concerns and comments as they may greatly impact the Alaskan economy in various modes both financially and environmentally.

I have been in business as owner and operator of Alaska Bush Adventures since 1985. During this time I have seen many changes take place in the Alaska wilderness. I came to Anchorage in 1978 to enjoy a time I feel many people will regretfully never see of the Alaska I once knew. I am now concerned that proposal 114, that the Alaska Board of Game, recently adopted, requiring a permit system in some Game Management units for all nonresident hunters will only become a partial solution to the problem of "drop off" hunts. There have been numerous complaints regarding air taxi "drop off" services, which, in my opinion, need proper investigation and remediation. As a registered Guide in Alaska, I employ numerous locals who in turn increase the Alaskan economy. I, as well as many other guides in Alaska, are highly educated and disciplined in caring for our resources. We are held accountable to the State of Alaska for legal moose takes and that the meat is properly cared for and salvaged as according to state regulations. Air

taxi's bear no such responsibility. There are numerous illegal and sub-legal takes, and violations of wanton waste. Not to mention battles with subsistence hunters by drop off taxis. The Pedro Bay Corporation as well as the Kuskokwim Corporation offering positive feedback for this Bill addresses this very issue. It is imperative that Registered Alaska Guides be the caretakers of our most precious resource. The Alaska State Department of Wildlife Protection and the Alaska State Board of Fish and Game are also in favor of this legislation as well as the Alaska Professional Hunters Association and Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance. Another issue, which must be addressed, is the "domino effect" caused by proposal #114. When the permit system, as described in BOG Spring 2000 Proposal Book, takes effect next season, many Guides as well as the local communities will suffer financially. Any displaced hunters from the effected areas will find another hunting area by using the same air taxi to find some other area, which has not yet been affected by the permit system. It will only be a matter of time before these areas will also need to be placed on a permit system also. In this manner, as you can clearly see, the only solution is that of placing moose on the guided specie list. I will also support the buddy hunt amendment requested by representative Masek's office with some guidelines as to making the host of the hunt accountable for the hunt to be properly conducted.

I am therefore, requesting your assistance in solving this very serious and important issue to our Alaska's economy and wilderness. This should go along way to help stabilize the states population of Moose and enable others in the future to enjoy the same as we do today. Please support a resolution to the problems associated with unsupervised nonresident drop off hunters in requiring a guide for moose hunting. A permit system for hunting moose, as a nonresident, is not the solution to the problem. However, adding moose to the guided species will go a long way to help the Moose population continue to stay healthy. There is already a guide requirement for nonresident hunting of brown bear, grizzly bear, sheep and mountain goat. Therefore, adding moose to this list will require legislative action. We would all greatly appreciate your support in accomplishing this task and I look forward to a positive reply from you very soon.

Respectfully,

Hugh L.

Krank

4-9-01

**Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance**

P.O. Box 123

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

(907) 262-9249 tel. (907) 262-8867 fax e-mail: haeg@alaska.net

Representative Beverly Masek

April 6, 2001

R.E: House Bill 144 and House Resource Committee Substitute for HB 144, your proposed amendment to HB144; "An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose"

Representative Masek,

Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance represents hunters and guides concerned with preserving hunting opportunities in Alaska. We, along with the Alaska Professional Hunters Association, were instrumental in helping Representative Lancaster, Scalzi, Chenault, James, Kapsner, and Moses introduce HB 144. AWWA and APHA continue to stand behind HB 144 100%.

Both AWWA and APHA have concerns with any amendment to the original Bill. The first proposed amendment of allowing a resident of Alaska to bring 3 nonresident "buddies" to hunt moose in Alaska each year was adamantly opposed by both AWWA and APHA. There is already a provision to allow an Alaskan resident to bring nonresident family within the second degree of kindred on a moose hunt. We feel that to allow a resident to bring 3 "buddies" a year to hunt moose will encourage illegal guiding and not address the original problem. We would like to point out that the Yukon Territory only allows a resident to take one nonresident moose hunter out every four years.

AWWA is willing to compromise on the "buddy" hunt and will support each resident being able to bring a maximum of one nonresident moose hunter out each year. We would prefer to hold this to one nonresident every two years however. AWWA will also support any modifications APHA wishes to make to the "buddy" hunt amendment.

It is imperative to many family businesses that this legislation move forward this session. Any help you may be in accomplishing this is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

David S. Haeg
Director, Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

CC: House Resource Members and various other interested Legislators.

March 29, 2001

House of Representatives
% Beverly Masek
% Drew Scalzi
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska

APR 09 2001

Re: HB144

Dear House Representatives,

I recently became aware of HB 144 that would require all Non-Residents that wish to hunt moose in the state of Alaska, be required to have a professional guide.

As an avid sportsman, and hunter preparing a hunting trip to Alaska, I strongly and respectfully request that you *vote against* such measures.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has indicated that this Bill does nothing to help them in the management of moose. In fact they suggested that if a professional guide/outfitter would be required, there would be a significant drop in revenues to the Department from loss of license fee's. In addition, talking with several of the bush pilots in Anchorage, they feel they would see a big drop in revenues also. Not to mention all the other related outdoor industries that would be effected by this requirement.

If you review the statistics that are available from the Outfitters and Guides Association, you would see that a large number of non-residents do obtain the specific services from professional guides for their hunts. Most of them do not have the knowledge or time to do it by themselves. However, there are other people, like myself, that prefer to put a hunting trip together by ourselves.

Please vote against HB 144, it serves no real purpose in game management and if passed will have a dramatic impact on revenue sources for your state.

Sincerely,


George Valentine

May 25, 1999

Mr. Rob Holt
President APHA

Dear Rob,

We met about a year and a half ago in Palmer (Scott Ogans meeting). Rod Arno brought you to the meeting.

I read your positions and editorials with great interest and felt it was time to comment on your latest "How Should We Manage Our Game" (intensive management).

First - I am a 40 year resident - 20 year guide and a life member of APHA. You, as President of APHA are my professional representative in the industry. So here is a little constituency input.

The graphs enclosed are accurate and unexaggerated. They represent the management practices of our Game Department (their report card). The first chart is a statewide report, the other 5 deal with Unit 13. All of the data is Department of Game data.

When I read your article in text and out of text I question how "Intensively" you have researched all of the information needed to come to your conclusions? You seem to identify some problems that don't correlate with the research we have done over the past 15 years.

A few points:

1. The first chart represents 3 years worth of research.
 - A. 100% of the ungulate population dies annually (harvestable surplus).
 - B. The allocation argument is not among human user groups.
 - C. The ECO predator protection management of the Dept. of Game has caused this imbalance.
 - D. 3% allocated to human harvest is not devisable amongst user groups, (no matter how you cut it).
 - E. Human harvest is not even a consideration in the Departments management philosophy.

Mr. Rob Holt

May 25, 1999

Page 2

2. The next 3 charts represent Unit 13 - they demonstrate -
 - A. The declining reproductive base of the moose herd (the sustaining part of sustained yield).
 - B. The Departments management practices (over protection of bears - Sterling Miller).
 - C. The production capabilities of breeding population.
 - D. The predation - currently a predator pit - (over 2000 bears).
 - E. Human harvest isn't even a tool anymore.
3. The next 2 charts speak to wolf dynamics - (since air born)
 - A. You decide what to do.
4. The extra chart demonstrates the 4 management philosophies currently being practiced world wide.
 - A. The EQUALITY MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY #3 is the only one that is compatible with our State Constitution and stands any hope of solving the subsistence, sport, commercial allocation problems we face. The statement is we must return to a management philosophy of "ABUNDANCE OF HUMAN HARVESTABLE SURPLUS OF UNGULATES".

What is in it for us? (you and I)

We represent four user groups - Viewing, personal use, commercial use and subsistence use. If we manage for equal allocation of harvestable surplus ungulates (50% predators - 50% humans) we could easily allocate 100,000 ungulates subsistence, 100,000 ungulates personal use, 100,000 ungulates commercial use. That leaves 300,000 ungulates for predators. This may seem over simplistic but it is the difference between the Departments MONITOR (ECO) philosophy and "Intensive Management" philosophy. The commercial value of 100,000 moose, sheep and caribou is over a billion dollars yearly.

Our intent and purpose has been to find a solution to the constant shortages of human harvestable game. We found the cause (the Department) and we promoted a solution "Intensive Management".

Mr. Ron Holt

May 25, 1999

Page 3

From your article it looks like you have misidentified the cause and have not offered any solution!

I would ask of you to come up with a solution to the increasing shortages that are about to remove commercial use and personal use from the user groups completely?

ABUNDANCE - "Intensive Management" is the best we can do.

Regards,

Bill Hagar

Bill Hagar

431 Gaffney Road

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

(907)452-6295

BH/sh

enc1s

cc - Rod Wingo

Rick Telford

Unfortunately, the narrow view adopted by each of the several user factions leaves members of those factions feeling as though their particular use is not being considered equally. That's an obvious outcome of a process that tries to accommodate, on equal footing, several varying interests; it just isn't possible to make everyone happy.

So what does all this discontent with the board process mean? It means that if a user group feels it does not get its say, it looks for other avenues. Two ways to directly and effectively steer the board process are through voter initiatives and prescriptive legislation. Many people, if asked, would say that the first time these interferences showed up on the screen would be when anti-wolf hunting activists achieved a voter initiative on same day airborne wolf hunting.

They not only prevailed in getting it on the ballot, the voters saw it their way and currently the Board of Game must regulate our use of wolves and any control of them by means other than promoting same day airborne hunting. While that was a devastating blow to effective wildlife management in Alaska, it was not the first significant interference with the board process by a self interested faction. Probably not the first, but setting a direction that would color the process much more dramatically and permanently, was subsistence legislation.

Alaska's Tier II Subsistence Legislation attempts to provide, in times of shortage, an opportunity for those with more dependence on a resource to maintain their access to the game while excluding other users effectively.

How Should We Manage Our Game?

During the most recent Board of Game meeting, several proposals brought to light the complications of the way we manage our wildlife and the unrealistic approach that some user groups have advocated.

The public access board process has for many years provided the best opportunity for local use patterns and knowledge to be brought up through the advisory committees, as well as an avenue for direct public input before and during the deliberations by the board members.

The result of this law is that our Board of Game is directed to eliminate use, in many cases by all other users, once it has been declared that the allowable harvest level does not meet the projected subsistence needs. With many people believing that subsistence is the highest and best use of our wildlife, and with the inability of the Board or the State to differentiate between real subsistence use and disguised subsistence use, it is fairly easy to see that eventually every game animal in the state will be managed for subsistence.

The Nelchina Caribou herd is an excellent example. Because so many people who would like to hunt Nelchina Caribou qualify as subsistence users, the Board of Game can not allow one guided non-resident hunter, even when the harvest objective encourages shooting cow caribou to bring the herd size under control. With each attempt at narrowing the state definition of subsistence, we run the risk of further irritating the situation by inviting another ballot initiative or more legislation.

One of the worst legislative interferences, though not as far reaching as the subsistence legislation (yet), is the intensive management law. This law was introduced with of course, good intentions by a constituency concerned with maintaining their opportunity to harvest (for subsistence?) in the face of the Board's waning ability to control predators.

To keep this all in perspective, we must remember that the intensive management law, the Tier II subsistence law and the initiative to ban same day airborne wolf hunting are essentially symptomatic of heavy concentrated use of one area, the Nelchina Basin, upper Susitna Valley road system, the place where 80% of the urban hunters from central and south-central Alaska hunt.

However once they become law, they're applicable statewide. Essentially what the intensive management law does is remove the Board's ability to promulgate regulations that will reduce the harvest by humans until all other factors are elim-

inated. That means habitat enhancement where possible, and reducing predator populations-wolves and bears to be specific. With brown bears in some areas identified as moose calf consumers, the intensive management law slates them for a drastic reduction in numbers.

In this respect, the value placed on relatively cheap moose meat by urban hunters outweighs the value that guides, the greater hunting public and non-hunting "users" place on brown bear. If there was a way to keep this reckless management scenario within one or two heavily used game management units, it would be reasonable to assume "normal" management for the rest of the state.

Unfortunately, the laws of our state are subject to interpretation by Board of Game members who are swayed by public testimony and the urge to do what they believe to be right. Their decisions once implemented may not reflect or even resemble the intent of the law, as imagined by its proponents.

This past March at the Board of Game meetings the North Peninsula caribou herd on the Alaska Peninsula slipped into the abyss of Tier II. It is possible that it may never be hunted again by a non-resident hunter. With wolves being hard to control there, the area was slated to be managed "intensively". That means that perhaps the most valuable, well managed brown bear population in the world will be compromised in the interest of meat. It is fairly plain that this allocation process, though a great concept, has been severely compromised in its ability to provide consistent access for minority user groups, and adequate conservation of our wildlife resources.

In looking farther down the road, it is reasonable to consider other allocative scenarios if we can not bring this one back to reason. Allocating direct percentages to each user group is one that works well. Subsistence use, with some redefining, could be allocated a percentage of the allowable harvest and the same could be done for non-resident users, or in keep-

ing with the Orwechek decision that disallows exclusive guide areas and calls the guide the harvester, allocate a direct percentage to the guide. Both true subsistence users and non-resident hunters are minority groups, leaving the clear majority percentage allocation for resident Alaskan hunters, urban or otherwise.

AURAL

Our responsibility now is to remain involved and effectively escalate our presence on local advisory committees and even on the Board itself. If the state subsistence law remains intact we must persuade the Board or Legislature to redefine a subsistence user, and if the intensive management law is not repealed, it must be reinterpreted to disallow its use in places like the Alaska Peninsula. why?

We all owe a debt of gratitude to those professional hunters who were at the Board of Game meetings this spring, thank you. Those of us who could not spare the time need to make an organized effort to include the Board of Game meetings in our calendar, for the way things are now, our way of life depends on you.

APNH-PAL

Rob Holt

WHAT IS APNA'S
OFFICIAL POSITION

ON:

- 1) Subsistence LAW
TITLE VIII of ANILCA
- 2) Intensive Management
LAW
- 3) Habituation of
PREDATORS
- 4) GUIDE AREAS
- 5) ~~GUIDE~~ AIR TAXI
OUTFITTING



ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL

P.O. Box 73902
Fairbanks, Ak. 99707
(907) 455-4262
FAX 455-6447

March 28, 2001

Representative Beverly Masek, Co-Chair
Representative Drew Scalzi, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
Alaska State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representatives Masek and Scalzi:

The Alaska Outdoor Council recently completed its annual meeting which was held in Fairbanks, Alaska this year. Twenty-four delegates representing thousands of AOC members and member clubs met for two days, March 24 and 25, 2001, to provide direction to the Board of Directors on issues of importance.

Two of the issues addressed by the membership are currently before your committee. They are HB 93, and HB 144.

HB 93 would assess resident fishermen an additional \$10 to catch fish in the personal use dipnet fishery on the Kenai River. The AOC delegates voted unanimously to oppose this legislation. In discussing this issue, members questioned the reasons behind the legislation. In discussions with ADF&G's Habitat Division, it was pointed out that this is an area affected by Cook Inlet tidal action and they felt there was little if any habitat concerns. However, they did point out that there are concerns over issues of litter and the disposal of human waste.

One of the primary reasons our members opposed this legislation relates to the effort sportfishing interests have put toward habitat projects on the Kenai River to date. Several millions of dollars have been expended by sportfishing interests to maintain or enhance habitat along the Kenai River while little if any has been expended by commercial fishing interests. Considering that, our members felt it was wrong impose a 40% increase in license fees for fishermen to catch fish for the family table.

We believe that if any fee increase is going to be imposed, then it should be across the board for all licensed fishermen and it should reflect the same percentage increase. In other words, if you are going to increase fees by 40% for Alaskans trying to feed their

families, then commercial fishermen using the resource tied to this river system should have a 40% increase in their license fees so that they too may contribute to any habitat concerns.

It is our hope that the Resources Committee will take into account the factual data regarding the situation on the dipnet fishery on the Lower Kenai and continue to hold this bill in committee. Until some equitable measure can be found to charge all parties using the lower river, we feel it is unconscionable to levy an additional charge on just one user group.

The second measure we would like to bring to your attention at this time involves HB 144. Again, AOC delegates voted unanimously to oppose this bill. It is noteworthy that in developing a position on this legislation, there were delegates from all three Alaskan chapters of Safari Club International and three of the most prominent hunting conservation clubs in the state, the Territorial Sportsmen, the Matanuska Valley Sportsmen, and the Tanana Valley Sportsmen.

The discussion on HB 144 centered on the fact that this legislation has little if anything to do with conservation, and a whole lot to do with using government to eliminate competition in a particular business arena. That is something most of our members felt government should stay out of, or at least act in a manner that does not completely eliminate one commercial use in favor of another.

Another important point raised by the member delegates related to their desire to continue to be able to take friends along on moose hunts here in Alaska. Since a large amount of moose hunting in Alaska is done on federal public lands, many members wondered why the owners of that land should be forced to hire a guide. Also a few members pointed out that they often accompany family members who do not fall within the second degree of kindred category.

The Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game have many tools available to it to ensure the viability of our game resources. Although some of those tools such as drawing permits may not be desirable to some commercial operators, they nonetheless provide the Board with the necessary latitude to conserve our game resources.

Our members were also unanimous in their view that the main reason we have to restrict access to the resource is directly related to the administration's refusal to manage wildlife populations. This position was strengthened in a presentation made by one of the GMU 13 area biologists to the assembled delegates. His conclusion was that we have the available habitat and the only limiting factor in providing for human harvest opportunities was wolf and bear predation.

As some of you may be aware, nonresident hunting was completely closed in GMU 13 at the recent Board of Game meeting. The fact of the matter is requiring nonresidents to have guides in order to hunt moose here in Alaska will not slow the current decline in moose populations. Every area biologist who testified at the Board of Game meeting in Anchorage made it clear that unless we undertake some management program directed at predator/prey relationships, the Board and the Department will have no choice but to eliminate nonresident hunting.

We realize that there are two concerns driving this issue. First there are those who believe that non-resident hunters are less responsible than resident hunters regarding retrieval and care of meat. Although there are examples of spoiled meat coming into village airstrips, there hasn't been any research to determine whether the meat belongs to resident or non-resident hunters. Information provided by the ADF&G indicates that a large contingency of drop hunters are residents.

^{CF}
Secondly, many villagers have raised concern over the intrusion of drop hunters into their traditional hunting areas. Again, before we use the government to create a business monopoly for one commercial user over another, we believe factual data should be presented demonstrating that these drop hunters are primarily nonresidents, and that they significantly impact the resource. Preliminary data seems to indicate there is a mix of resident and nonresident hunters using transporter services, and that success rates for drop hunters are significantly lower than for guided hunters. Although there are more drop hunters than guided, guided hunters may remove more moose from those populations of concern.

Last of all, in our discussions with the Department of Fish and Game, they have consistently told us they oppose HB 144. We believe the Legislature should do likewise.

Our members are appreciative of this opportunity to present their views on the above issues. It is timely that the AOC annual meeting fell during the ongoing debate on HB 93 and HB 144. In considering action related to these pieces of legislation, we hope you will recognize that delegate opposition was unanimous and that those delegates represent a large segment of Alaska's hunting and fishing public.

Sincerely,



Carl Rosier
President

cc: House Resources Committee Members
Representative Ken Lancaster

Subject: Non-resident hunter sells moose on eBay
Date: Sun, 18 Feb 2001 15:13:55 -0900
From: Richard Wood <ah@gci.net>
Organization: Alaskan Heritage Bookshop
To: Representative_Ken_Lancaster@legis.state.ak.us

Non-resident hunters are taking our game animals home and making a profit on them!

This should be illegal if it is not already.

An Alaska moose taken just last year has sold on eBay for \$2000.00

<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=1111140065>

the seller also deals in antlers and has a web site:

<http://www.antlerchandelier.net/>

This kind of activity should be stopped.

Dick Wood, Juneau

Alaska Trophy Safaris

WITH

Dennis Harms

ALASKA MASTER GUIDE

OVER 25
YEARS ALASKAN
GUIDING EXPERIENCE

18118 James Way
P.O. Box 670071
Chugiak, Alaska 99567
Phone/Fax: (907) 696-2484

April 17, 2001

Representative Beverly Mesek
State Capitol, Rm. 128
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Mesek:

I urge you to support House Bill #144, which addresses the need for "guide required" for moose for non-resident hunters in Alaska. I am not particularly in favor of the "buddy hunt" as it would be hard to enforce, but understand that it may be a compromise to get support for this bill.

Your support of House Bill #144 is very important because of the decline in the moose populations around the State. This is a much better solution to overcrowding than a drawing permit for non-residents.

Respectfully,

Dennis

Harvey Dennis Harms
Alaska Master Guide

Subject: Support HB 144

Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2001 00:24:48 EDT

From: WildmanAlaska@aol.com

To: Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Beverly:

We met a number of times when I was in Juneau dealing with guide issues. I am writing you, not only as a guide, but an Alaskan who has provided tens of thousand of pounds of moose meat to the villages of Port Heiden, Pilot Point, Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon and Nelson Lagoon. These people have been very supportive and appreciative of my efforts as a guide to properly care for and deliver good meat. This relationship has been ongoing for more than 20 years and could end if the State of Alaska doesn't get smart on drop off, unguided moose hunts.

I am writing you in strong support of House Bill 144, which will add Alaska's valuable Moose resource to the guide required species list, as are Dall Sheep, Mountain Goat and Brown & Grizzly Bear.

It is a FACT that unguided nonresident MOOSE hunters are cited time and time again for wanton waste of moose meat. This is because the majority of unguided nonresident MOOSE hunters are simply not prepared to cope with 600 to 800 pounds of raw and unpreserved meat in the field. This continued violation of Alaska's game laws must be stopped.

Verify this with: The Alaska Dept. Fish & Game Enforcement
 National Park Service
 The USF&Wildlife Service

The native community is resentful of unguided, nonresident hunters wasting precious MOOSE meat that could be properly cared for and used to feed Alaskans. Alaska's Registered and Master Guides have a long history of properly salvaging and caring for harvested meat. It is their license and livelihood and reputation as an outfitter that is on the line if they don't perform this take, and perform it well. Meat harvested on guided hunts is nearly always provided to the closest community to the hunting area for consumption by the local residents.

VALUE ADDED RESOURCE

Alaska's Registered and Master guides provide a VALUE ADDED product to the end user. The wholesale of Alaska's MOOSE must stop. We have reached the end of the time that we can sell Alaska's moose for mere engine time. Guided hunts provide more employment for Alaskans; Assistant guides, cooks, packers, drivers and pilots. Guided hunts provide revenue to the State in the form of Land Use Fees to DNR, Guide Licenses. Guides spend millions of dollars in the local economy for equipment. Guided hunts require money to be spent in remote villages for: Supplies, Fuel, and Air Taxis. Guide hunts are Alaska's oldest form of tourism.

Certain areas of Alaska are under invasion from drop off nonresident hunters who don't have a clue about properly handling moose meat. Many areas are receiving so much of this unprofessional wanton waste of resource from unguided moose hunters that the Board of Game sees no choice but to close it to nonresident hunting. This is a terrible loss to Alaska's professional licensed Registered and Master Guides, real Alaskans that hire other Alaskans and provide a VALUE ADDED product to our State's economy as well as deliver edible meat to our rural villages.

Sincerely,

Gary "Butch" King, Jr.
Master Guide #97



Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance
P.O. Box 123
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 262-9249 tel. (907) 262-8867 fax

MAR 27 2001

March 21, 2001

Subject: House Bill 144, Problems with Unsupervised Nonresident Moose Hunters

Dear Representative Lancaster,

AWWA represents people concerned with the problems created by allowing unsupervised nonresidents to hunt moose in Alaska. We feel HB144 is vitally necessary to assure that nonresident moose hunters are given the assistance needed for legal hunting and proper game care during their time in the field.

We feel a guide/second degree of kindred requirement for nonresident moose hunters will address this exploding problem and urge you to support this important effort by scheduling, or helping to schedule, HB144 as soon as possible for a hearing in House Resources Committee.

We are including those letters of support which have been forwarded to us from Pedro Bay Native Corporation, Igiugig Village Council, Tanana Tribal Council, Nondalton Tribal Council, Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee, Ekwok Village Council, and Kokhanok Village Council for your consideration.

I would also very much like to talk to you about HB144 at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

David S. Haeg
Director, Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

CC:

All members of the Alaska State Senate and House of Representatives.



Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance
P.O. Box 123
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 262-9249 tel. (907) 262-8867 fax c-mail: haeg@alaska.net

Representative Beverly Masek

April 6, 2001

R.E: House Bill 144 and House Resource Committee Substitute for HB 144, your proposed amendment to HB144; "An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose"

Representative Masek,

Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance represents hunters and guides concerned with preserving hunting opportunities in Alaska. We, along with the Alaska Professional Hunters Association, were instrumental in helping Representative Lancaster, Scalzi, Chenault, James, Kapsner, and Moses introduce HB 144. AWWA and APHA continue to stand behind HB 144 100%.

Both AWWA and APHA have concerns with any amendment to the original Bill. The first proposed amendment of allowing a resident of Alaska to bring 3 nonresident "buddies" to hunt moose in Alaska each year was adamantly opposed by both AWWA and APHA. There is already a provision to allow an Alaskan resident to bring nonresident family within the second degree of kindred on a moose hunt. We feel that to allow a resident to bring 3 "buddies" a year to hunt moose will encourage illegal guiding and not address the original problem. We would like to point out that the Yukon Territory only allows a resident to take one nonresident moose hunter out every four years.

AWWA is willing to compromise on the "buddy" hunt and will support each resident being able to bring a maximum of one nonresident moose hunter out each year. We would prefer to hold this to one nonresident every two years however. AWWA will also support any modifications APHA wishes to make to the "buddy" hunt amendment.

It is imperative to many family businesses that this legislation move forward this session. Any help you may be in accomplishing this is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

David S. Haeg
Director, Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

CC: House Resource Members and various other interested Legislators.



Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

P.O. Box 123

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

(907) 262-9249 tel. (907) 262-8867 fax e-mail: haeg@alaska.net

Representative Beverly Masek
Attn. Eddie Grasser

March 21, 2001

CS for House Bill No. 144(RES), your proposed amendment to HB144; "An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose"

Eddie,

Thank you for keeping me informed on these issues, which so directly affect my family's future and the future of all the people I represent.

At this time I am sure you are aware of the drawing permit system and the outright closures of nonresident and resident moose hunting the Board of Game passed recently. I would also like to let you know that during a 2 hour phone conversation with Greg Roczicka (Chairman, Board of Game) that these measures are "a wake-up call" to the State and that if nothing is done soon by the Legislature and Administration we will very likely see nonresident moose hunting shut down entirely in the near future. Mr. Roczicka also stated resident moose hunting will also continue to be threatened if something doesn't change quickly.

In light of this I feel that to allow a resident to accompany up to three nonresident "buddy" moose hunters a year is unreasonable and will continue our descent into total closure. The Yukon Territory has a guide requirement for nonresident moose hunters but allows a resident to hunt with one nonresident every four years. This is a 1200% difference in the allowed effort between their system and the one you propose.

I agree that a "buddy hunt" provision is of concern. I also know that if it is too liberal it will encourage illegal guiding and not even address the original problem. How many nonresident hunters will a resident be willing to take out for moose with no compensation? Probably 1 or 2 in a lifetime. As you are a former guide I would hope you agree with me.

Hopefully we can come to a compromise that will still allow an effective solution to the original problem.

Board of Game Chairman Roczicka outlined 3 steps he feels is necessary to save Alaska's moose resource and those that depend on it from ruin:

- #1 The Legislature adds moose to the guide required list. HB 144 effectively does this.
- #2 The Legislature forms a Big Game Commercial Services Board that could effectively control activities and numbers of both transporters and guides of big game hunters.
- #3 The Legislature and the Administration work together for some effective way to manage predators.

I realize this is a pretty big task but AWWA and myself are already working toward this goal. I sincerely hope you will join us in this endeavor. If you know of any Legislators interested in the above legislation contact me as soon as possible.

David S. Haeg
Director, Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

CC: Alaska State Legislature

APR 4 - 2001

Henry D. Tiffany IV
P.O. Box 329 Ester, Alaska 99725
907-456-4868 or 907-223-3226
Fax: 907-456-3412

March 30, 2001

Representative Ken Lancaster
State Capitol, Room 421
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Legislation regarding requiring guides for nonresident moose hunters

Dear Representative Lancaster,

Born and raised in Alaska, I have been a lifelong Alaskan outdoor enthusiast, sportsman and conservationist. My family and I have always valued our State's natural resources and animals and the experiences they offer. Besides being an avid hunter personally, I am also a licensed, professional big game guide and I support my family through our guiding business, which I have spent the last twelve years working very hard to create and maintain. That way of life, which we are very passionate about and the means by which we support our family, is now being threatened.

I would like to voice my strong support for legislation requiring non-resident moose hunters to be accompanied by a licensed, registered big game guide.

According to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony, non-guided, non-resident, "drop-off" moose hunters' account for the majority of all cases involving illegal or sub-legal takes and wanton waste. Over the last few years I have been witness to the evidence of "wanton-waste" by non-guided, non-resident, "drop off" hunters and have heard of many more such incidences. I am appalled by these type of cases, the actions of these "drop off" hunters and their often times total disregard for the natural resources, animals and laws.

It appears as though the Alaska Board of Game understands and appreciates that "Registered guides are held accountable for assuring that their clients take a legal animal and the meat is properly cared for; outfitters and air taxis bear no similar responsibility." Nor do the non-resident, non-guided "drop off" hunters themselves, in many cases, bear or share this same type of responsibility for the animals and resources. Air taxi or air charter companies who provide transportation, gear and advice to non-guided, non-resident moose hunters are not held accountable for any violations committed by their

"drop off" hunters. Conversely, guides are held at a very high level of accountability to both State and Federal agencies and are responsible for any violations by hunters in their care.

It would appear that the core issue seems to be trying to support and maintain a viable and healthy statewide moose population for both subsistence hunters and sport hunters as well as decreasing the incidences of illegal and sub-legal takes and wanton waste. Requiring all non-resident moose hunters to be guided by a registered guide will help to significantly reduce the overall number of moose harvested each year as well as significantly reduce the number of moose related violations that occur each year by non-guided, non-resident moose hunters.

With the substantially increased number of "drop off" hunters over the last few years, it has put an increased amount of pressure on all moose hunting areas. Unlike guides, who are regulated and limited in the number of hunters and the locations that hunters can be guided, air taxi operators and "drop off" outfitters are not limited to the number of moose hunters they can and do transport or, in many cases, where they can take them. Often, these air taxi and air charter companies have little regard for the animals, the type of experiences they offer their "drop off" customers or the other people utilizing those areas and resources.

By requiring non-resident moose hunters to be guided will not have as significant an economic effect on the air taxi and air charter companies as many might think or would like to believe. Not only do these air taxi companies spend most of the spring, summer and fall flying tourists, hikers, fisherman and hunters (for non-guide required animals, such as caribou) but they also do a very significant portion, if not all, of the flying for many of the different registered guiding operations statewide. Thus, requiring non-resident moose hunters to be guided by a registered guide will not eliminate the revenue from the non-resident moose hunters to the air taxi and air charter companies. These same hunters, though perhaps not quite as many which will be of benefit to the moose populations, will still be flying and with many of these same air taxi and charter companies, but under the supervision and direction of a registered guide.

Requiring all non-resident moose hunters to be guided by a registered guide will not prevent residents of Alaska from taking their relatives moose hunting, if they so wish, as the second-degree of kindred law will not, as I understand it, be effected.

I would also like to voice my strong opposition to Proposal #114, Alaska Board of Game Spring 2001 Proposal Book. This proposal would require a permit system for all non-resident moose hunters, either guided or "drop off" hunters. Unfortunately, Proposal #114 will not help to solve the real problems and issues the Alaska Board of Game is trying to address, which is the explosion in recent years of non-resident, non-guided, "drop off" moose hunters and the declining number of moose in many areas, as well as the increased number of illegal or sub-legal takes, violations of wanton waste and subsistence related conflicts which occur in far greater proportion with non-guided, non-resident moose hunters than guided moose hunters.

Adopting Proposal #114, or creating a permit system similar to Proposal #114, will simply temporarily reduce the hunting pressure on moose in a specific area and transfer that same, or more, pressure to adjacent or different areas that are not under such a permit system. Likely though, with that additional pressure, these other areas would soon also have to adopt a permit system to handle the increased hunting pressure caused by the permit systems in the original areas. Also, such a proposal will not help to reduce the incidences of illegal or sub-legal take and wanton waste, which requiring a guide for non-resident moose hunters would most definitely help to reduce.

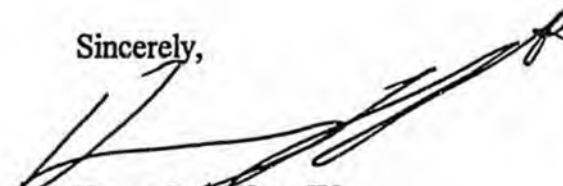
Not only will Proposal #114, or a proposal similar to it, not address and solve the problems that need to be corrected but it will have a very negative impact on the State and local economies and communities. Such a proposal will force many guides, such as myself, out of business and force us to abandon the way of life we love, as well as eliminate the means by which we support ourselves and help to support other Alaskans and local and State economies.

I am requesting your help and assistance in this matter. According to Greg Roczicka, Vice-Chairman, Alaska Board of Game, a guide requirement for all nonresident moose hunters is the very best solution to this problem. As you may be aware, there is already a guide requirement for non-resident hunters of brown bear, grizzly bear, Dall sheep and mountain goat and it will require legislative and administrative action to add moose to that guide required list. Adding moose to the guide required list will most assuredly help the moose population, both from a subsistence and sport hunting perspective, the residents of Alaska and their families and help to reduce the number of moose violations that occur each year by non-guided, non-resident moose hunters.

Please help to solve this very serious issue, which will affect one of Alaska's many wonderful wild animals, the moose, many long time Alaskan residents, businesses and their very livelihoods. I am proud to be an honest, hard working professional big game guide and am equally proud to be able to support my family, if even though only modestly, from our guiding business and feel that very existence, and my profession, are in great jeopardy.

In advance, I thank you for your time, consideration, efforts and help in regards to this important issue. If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Henry D. Tiffany IV

Ekwok Village Council
P.O. Box 70
Ekwok, Alaska 99580
Phone (907)464-3336 fax (907)464-3378

RESOLUTION 01-08

A Resolution to support Guided Requirement for Non-Resident Moose Hunter

WHEREAS, the Ekwok Village Council is a federally recognized Indian tribe and,

WHEREAS, the residents of the Native Village of Ekwok have seen more wanton waste with non-residents and/or non-guided hunters in Unit 17, in the most recent years and,

WHEREAS, this conflict with non-resident and/or non-guided hunters affect the residents of Ekwok by interfering in the subsistence moose hunt and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ekwok Village propose to the State Legislature to support this important matter regarding guided requirement for Non-Resident moose hunters.

This resolution is passed on this 15th day of February, 2001 by a constituted quorum of the Ekwok Village Council 7 In favor, _____ opposed.

Peter Walcott Sr.
Peter Walcott Sr.
Ekwok Village Council President

2-15-01
Date

Carol J. Nicoli
Carol J. Nicoli
Ekwok Village Council Secretary

2-15-01
Date

LAKE ILIAMNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
REPRESENTED BY JIM TILLY

Hello Board of Game members, and Staff. My name is Jim Tilly, the Lake Iliamna Fish and Game Advisory Committee representative. I appreciate the opportunity to present our communities position and views on these proposals affecting us.

At our February 22, 2001 meeting in Nondalton we discussed and supported proposal # 7, which pertains to Beaver trapping in unit 9. This aligns our season with unit 17, and their general trapping season opening. This allows for additional opportunity to harvest beaver, as our population is overly abundant right now. This also covers proposals 2, and 3, which we support, but did not comment on.

Our committee opposes Proposal # 21, as it shortens the Brown Bear season. Bear populations are extremely high, and we'd like to see a more liberal season. We support proposal #s. 22 and 23, for the same reasons as for #21.

We support proposal # 24, and can't see any conflict in this area between Katmai and McNeil bears.

We discussed proposal # 25, but declined to comment on it, as it could possibly be controversial area.

We oppose proposal # 39. This addresses the same day airbourn season for Caribou in unit 9B. We realize that the herd is numbered at 170,000, but our local herd is diminishing. When people fly through Lake Clark pass, they land and shoot the first caribou they see. They don't head west where the hulk of the herd is. There is conflict between people landing and shooting within sight of the villiages. We don't oppose land and shoot, but don't want it for unit 9B, as it is a heavy subsistence area. Proposal #40 as does #39 points out how sparse caribou are in unit 9B, and does not need anymore pressure.

Dick Sellers, ADF and G from King Salmon, cites the expense and effort of proposal #s 138, and 139. No action was taken on these two proposals.

We discussed proposal # 73, but noted that it does not apply to area 9B residents.

ADF and G entered proposal # 74, and we support it. Its a very low harvest for antlerless moose, intended for local residents in that area.

The people in the Lake Iliamna area would like to be included in on Proposal # 162, which pertains to wolf control. Everyone who lives in the bush has seen a drastic jump in the wolf population. We have packs of up to 40 wolves roaming around in 9B. Our moose calf recruitment has been very low in the last few years. With this winters warm weather, there has been hardly any trapping or hunting of wolves, and that will surely increase the amount of wolves in the area for next year.

The committee opposes Federal proposal #49, which comes up for review. The Kenai Tribe has asked for units 9A, and 9B for customary and traditional use. While we realize that the coast of Cook Inlet has been used traditionally for their subsistence, flying over the mountain range is not customary, or traditional.

The Iliamna Advisory Committee is opposed to proposal #114, which would put moose on a permit system for non-residents. Air Taxies and Outfitters take a substantial higher amount of moosehunters than guides. On an average year, unguided non-resident hunters outnumber guided hunters 4-1. Air Taxies and Outfitters aren't held accountable for the hunters they have in the field, unlike guides. Their drop-off hunters have a high percentage of wanton waste violations, due to the amount of work it takes to care for 1000 lbs. of meat.

Representative Ken Lancaster has introduced housebill #144, which would require a guide for nonresident moose hunters. This bill would effectively regulate the excess amount of non-resident moose hunters, and cut down on the high number of wanton waste violations.

The seven communities on Lake Iliamna are in support of housebill #144, and have drafted letters to their legislators to take action on this matter. With the increasing number of wolves, and bear predation on calves, the moose population will start dwindling. Having non-resident moose hunters require a guide will help decrease the pressure on the moose, and insure that the villages will have a stable moose population in the future.

Nondalton Tribal Council
P.O. Box 49
Nondalton Alaska, 99640
(907) 294-2220 Fax# 294-2234

February 27, 2001

Dear Representative Carl Moses:

Subject: Nonresident Moose Hunters

Nondalton Tribal Council held a special meeting February 23, 2001. At this meeting the council all agreed in support of House Bill # 144 , with this bill the guided moose hunt may diminish the take of moose and the wanton waste problems that is occurring now.

Non-guided moose hunt is a serious problem and a threat to all native and non-native subsistence users because moose is a major part of our diet. The decline of moose and the taking of moose just for horns or trophy head is not acceptable and this needs to be taken into serious consideration on having control of these hunts.

The hunters traveling with Air taxi and lodges do just about anything they want and there are really no restrictions that they follow and are not responsible for what goes on in the field once the hunters are dropped off. The guided moose hunts are very serious on what their hunters take, the location, and they have to make sure that their guides are all legal in every aspect.

With guided hunts this would be helpful for the hunters to learn how to take care of the meat out in the field and see that there is no reason to waste and there are many ways to use all parts of a moose, and not only for food, but also for clothing, rawhide, boots, gloves, just to name a few of the natural resources that we use.

Sincerely,

The Nondalton Tribal Council

William W. Johnson Sr.

cc: Senator Lyman Hoffman
State Capitol , Rm 7
Juneau, Ak 99801

Senator Rick Halford
State Capitol, Rm 107
Juneau, Ak 99801

Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm 500
Juneau, Ak 99801

Senator Georgiana Lincoln
State Capitol, Rm 11
Juneau, Ak 99801

Representative Carl Morgan Jr.
State Capitol, Rm 434
Juneau, Ak 99801

Tanana Tribal Council
PO Box 130
Tanana, AK 99777
Phone: (907) 366-7170
Fax: (907) 366-7195

March 1, 2001

Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance
David S. Haeg, Director
PO Box 123
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-0123

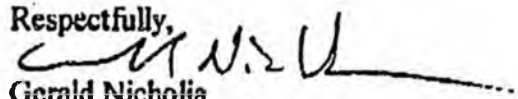
Re: Support for requiring non-resident hunters to have full time guided moose hunts

Dear Mr. Haeg

The Tanana Tribal Council and the tribal membership supports your efforts to take care of the wasteful practices of guide outfits who leave unsupervised hunters in Alaska. For too long the unsupervised hunters have been leaving wounded animals in the field causing needless wastefulness of Alaska's depleting wild resources, which is very disrespectful to the resource. Another thing that is happening in rural areas is trespassing on private property. No matter if the property or land is corporation land, homestead or native allotments it is all private property. Now is the time to have fair and just legislation introduced to the legislature for dealing with this kind of problems rural Alaska is faced with.

A resolution would be introduced to the Tanana Chiefs Conference Annual conference to this effect and the proper letters and/or resolutions from this Tribal council will go to the legislatures. Any more concerns or questions call or fax. Thank you for the information.

Respectfully,


Gerald Nicholia
Realty/Fish & Game/Subsistence

Igiugig Village Council
Resolution #01-10

Subject: Big Game Designation for Moose as a guided hunt specie

WHEREAS, the Igiugig Village Council is the duly authorized federally recognized governing body of the Alaska Native Village of Igiugig, Alaska, and

WHEREAS, the Igiugig Tribal Council has the inherent responsibility to provide for the well-being and continued traditional lifestyle of it's residents, and

WHEREAS, the declining numbers of moose statewide and the poor production/survival rate of moose calves reported by Alaska Department of Fish & Game personnel in our region, present a potentially serious impact to a major traditional food source of the residents of our community, and

WHEREAS, predation by wolves and bear in our area further impact the survival rate of the moose calf population, and

WHEREAS, reports of wanton waste citations related to moose is largely due to non-resident hunters who are unable to clean, prepare and transport such a large catch in a timely enough manner to avoid spoilage.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Igiugig Village Council recommends that moose be added to the list of big game animals that require non-resident hunters to have a guide;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Igiugig Village Council encourages the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to take whatever measures possible to address predation issues.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above resolution was approved by the Igiugig Village Council at a meeting, held on February 21, 2001, at which a quorum was present.

by: Michael Andrew Jr.
Michael Andrew Jr., President

2/21/01
Date

attest: Randall Mary

**PEDRO BAY CORPORATION
PO BOX 47015
PEDRO BAY, AK 99647
688-4929**

February 8, 2001

**Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm. 500
Juneau, AK 99801**

Dear Representative Carl Moses:

Subject: Guided Hunting for Non-resident Moose Hunters

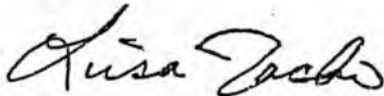
Pedro Bay Corporation would like to see Alaska change the moose hunting regulations to require a guide for all non-resident moose hunters. Non-guided, non-resident moose hunters account for almost all cases of illegal or sub-legal take and wanton waste according to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony. Fish and Wildlife Protection also testified guided moose hunters in the same area have had virtually no violations.

As the moose population declines there is more and more competition between subsistence and non-resident moose hunters. Since non-guided or "drop off" hunters have increased sharply, we can see that it is disastrous to the people of Pedro Bay who depend on moose meat for their subsistent way of life.

Air charter companies, outfitters, and transporters who provide travel, gear, and advice to non-guided hunters are not held accountable for any violations committed by those hunters. This does nothing to encourage the companies supplying these services to make sure their hunters salvage all edible meat, shoot legal moose, respect land ownership conditions, not leave a garbage dump, and not hunt the same day they were airborne. Guides, however, are held to a very high level of accountability and they are responsible for any violations by hunters in their care.

Big game guiding is one of the best industries in Alaska for generating a ver large amount of money from a very small part of a renewable resource. This powerhouse of Alaska's economy is in danger of being wiped out because of unregulated and unsupervised use of our resource by people who do not even live in Alaska.

Sincerely,



**Lisa Jacko
Assistant Office Manager**

**cc: Senator Lyman Hoffman Senator Rick Halford Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm. 7 State Capitol, Rm. 107 State Capitol, Rm. 500
Juneau, AK 99801 Juneau, AK 99801 Juneau, AK 99801**

Kokhanok Village Council
P.O. Box 1007
Kokhanok, Alaska 99606

February 22, 2001

Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm. 500
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Carl Moses:

Subject: Guided Hunting for Non-resident Moose Hunters

Kokhanok Village Council would like to see Alaska change the Moose hunting regulations to require a guide for all non-resident Moose hunters. Non-guided, non-resident moose hunters account for almost all cases of illegal or sub-legal take and wanton waste according to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony. Fish and Wildlife Protection also testified guided moose hunters in the same area have had virtually no violations.

As the Moose population declines there is more and more competition between subsistence and non-resident moose hunters. Since non-guided or "drop off hunters have increased sharply, we can see that it is disastrous to the people of Kokhanok Alaska who depend on moose meat for their subsistent way of life.

Air charter companies, outfitters, and transporters who provide travel, gear, and advice to non-guided hunters are not held accountable for any violations committed by those hunters. This does nothing to encourage the companies supplying these services to make sure their hunters salvage all edible meat, shoot legal moose, respect land ownership conditions, not leave a garbage dump, and not hunt the same day they were airborne. Guides, however, are held to a very high level of accountability and they are responsible for any violations by hunters in their care.

Big game guiding is one of the best industries in Alaska for generating a very large amount of money from a very small part of a renewable resource. This powerhouse of Alaska's economy is in danger of being wiped out because of unregulated and unsupervised use of our resource by people who do not even live in Alaska.

Sincerely,



Garith J. Nielsen
Kokhanok Village Council President

cc: Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm. 500
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Senator Lyman Hoffman
State Capitol, Rm. 7
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Senator Rick Halford
State Capitol, Rm. 107
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Kokhanok Village Council
P.O. Box 1007
Kokhanok, Alaska 99606
Phone (907) 282-2202
Fax (907) 282-2264

Resolution # 00-
A Resolution to Support Guided Requirement for non-resident moose hunters.

WHEREAS, The Kokhanok Village Council is a federally recognized Indian Tribe;
and

WHEREAS, The Kokhanok Village Council is recognized as a Native Village Tribe

WHEREAS, The Residents of Kokhanok Village have seen more wanton waste with
non-residents, non-guided hunters in Unit 17 in the most recent years.

WHEREAS, This conflict with non-residents, non-guided hunters effects residents of
Kokhanok, in participating in their subsistence moose hunt.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly adopted at a Kokhanok Village Council regular council meeting
held on this 23 day of February _____, 2001.

SIGNED:


PRESIDENT

ATTEST:


SECRETARY

11

John Mike P.O. Box 1011 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Willy Mike P.O. Box 1036 Kokhanok AK 99606
 John Jacobson P.O. Box 1066 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Natalia Wasillie P.O. Box 1066 Kokhanok, AK - 99606
 Guy Andrew S. " " 1012 " " " " " "
 Samuel Mike P.O. Box 106 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Harold Tucker Box 1103 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Francine Andrew Box 1012 Kokhanok 99606
 Karen Walker Box 1052 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Charles Rose Box 1029 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Daniel Racht Box 1049 " " " " " "
 Nellie Racht Box 1049 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Cliff Rose Box 1029 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Raymond Madry Box 1029 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Samuel Madry Box 1088 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Lila Madry Box 1104 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Sandra & Hobson Box 1106 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Sheila M. Nelson Box 1021 Kokhanok AK 99606
 John Nelson Jr. P.O. Box 1068 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Simon Ekvatj Box 1054 Kokhanok Alaska 99606
 Ivan Nelson Box 1065 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Jackie Nelson Box 1028 Alaska 99606
 William G Wasillie Box 1005 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Stephen Nelson Nowotak Box 1026
 ANNIE ZWA GILLIE Box 1005
 Annie A. Mike P.O. Box 1009 Kokhanok
 Pete Mike Box #1069 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Matrona Ekvatj Box 1065 Kokhanok Re., AK 99606

Alice B. Ekmaly Box 1053 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Olga Zaekar Box 1053 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Myrtle Johnson Box 1093 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Agnes Mike P.O. Box 1014 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Martha Kernak P.O. B 1082 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Song Wang P.O. B 1082 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Marlene Dultz Box 1089 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Sally Geyon Box 1011 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Nicholas Mestryak Box 1067 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Marsha Ruckhoff P.O. B. 1047 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Shirley Newyaka P.O. Box 1067 Kokhanok, AK. 99606
 Nick M. Newyaka P.O. Box 1067 Kokhanok, AK. 99606
 Nick M. Newyaka P.O. Box 1069 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Molly Nowatuk P.O. Box 1003 Kokhanok AK 99606
 David Gatzhe P.O. Box 1003 Leek AK 99606
 Irene Wilson P.O. Box 1032 Kokhanok, AK. 99606
 Nancy Wanzell PO Box 1107 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Katherine Newyaka PO Box 1067 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Metrona Wanzell P.O. Box 1071 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Mary D. Andrew P.O. Box 1106 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Gary A. Miller Box 1084 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Catherine Mike Box 1084 Kokhanok AK 99606
 Eula Vint PO Box 1086 Kokhanok AK 99606
 John B. Nielsen Box 1108 Kokhanok AK. 99606
 Patricia Andrews Box 1108 Kokhanok, AK 99606
 Albert Andrew 1025 " " " "
 Nathan Wanzell P.O. 1107 Kokhanok, AK. 99606
 Roy Andrew Box 1085

.. Mike Ruskoff P.O. Box 1047 Ketchikan AK 99901



March 1, 2001

Representative Carl Moses
State Capitol, Rm. 500
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Guided Hunting for Non-resident Moose Hunters

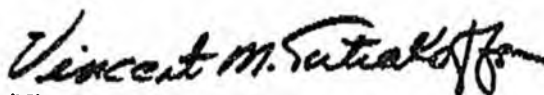
Dear Representative Carl Moses:

The Aleut Corporation (TAC) is in support of guided hunting for non-resident moose hunters. TAC would like to see Alaska change the hunting regulations to require a guide for all non-resident moose hunters. Non-guided, non-resident moose hunters account for almost all cases of illegal or sub-legal take and wanton waste according to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony. Fish and Wildlife Protection also testified guided moose hunters in the same area have had virtually no violations.

As the moose population declines there is more and more competition between subsistence and non-resident moose hunters. Since non-guided hunters have increased sharply, we can see that it could be disastrous for the people of the Alaska Peninsula who depend on moose meat for their subsistence way of life.

Thank you for your consideration on this most important issue.

Sincerely,
THE ALEUT CORPORATION



Vincent Tutiakoff, Sr.
President/CEO

Cc: Senator Lyman Hoffman
State Capitol, Rm. 7
Juneau, AK 99801

Native Village of Port Graham

PORT GRAHAM VILLAGE COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 5510 • PORT GRAHAM • ALASKA 99603-5510
907-284-2227 FAX 907-284-2222

March 30, 2001

Senator John Toregerson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
(MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Toregerson,

Our letter is to ask your support to fund a very needed power project in the South Kachemak Bay region. There is an urgent need to replace an aging submarine cable that is the sole source of electric power to the communities of Seldovia, Port Graham and Nanwalek, as well, as to replace four 50+ year-old diesel generators used to restore service during power outages. We fully endorse Homer Electric's replacement plan.

The Village of Port Graham is highly dependent upon the electric service Homer Electric provides to light and heat our community centers, school, homes and businesses. Life would be dramatically changed if we were to experience a significant decline in service, or a large rate increase. Unless funding is obtained to assist with the cost of this project, living conditions in our community will be severely impaired.

This project is essential to our community's growth and welfare. We urge you to support Homer Electric's request for funding the Seldovia, Port Graham, Nanwalek Regional Power Project.

We know we can count on your support.

Sincerely,



Elenore McMullen,
First Chief

City of Saxman

2706 South Tongass
Rt. 2, Box 1 — Saxman
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 225-6450 Fax
(907) 225-4166

March 22, 2001

Alaska Western Wildlife Alliance
P.O. Box 123
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

RE: LETTER SUPPORTING GUIDED HUNTING FOR NON-RESIDENT MOOSE HUNTERS

Dear Director David Haeg,

The City of Saxman would like to see Alaska change the moose hunting regulations to require a guide for all non-resident moose hunters. Non-guided, non-resident moose hunters account for almost all cases of illegal or sub-legal take and wanton waste according to Fish and Wildlife Protection testimony. It has also been mentioned that guided moose hunters in the same area have had virtually no violations.

As the moose population declines there is more of a need to ensure protection of the subsistence use of moose. The people in these areas affected depend on moose for their subsistence way of life and it is essential them.

When guides are used for hunting they are held to a very high level of accountability and are responsible for violations by hunters in their care. The charter companies, and those who transport hunters, provide gear, and advice to non-guided hunters are not held accountable for any violations committed by these hunters. This does nothing to encourage the companies supplying these services to make sure their hunters salvage all edible meat, shoot legal moose, respect land ownership conditions, not leave a garbage dump, and do not hunt the same day they are airborne. We must all work together to ensure that there is moose for our future and they are handled in a responsible manner.

We call on you our leaders to ensure that the moose is not wiped out and handled in a regulated supervised manner to ensure this resource will be here for our future.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Mayor Daniel E. Williams

Mailing List:

Representative Carl Moses, Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senator Rick Halford, Senator Robin Taylor,
Representative Bill Williams
Alaska's Western Wildlife Alliance

adn.com

Anchorage Daily News

Hunters, trappers protest CONSTITUTION: Dyson offers shield for 'part of our heritage.'

By Martha Bellisle
Anchorage Daily News

(Published March 8, 2001)

Juneau -- Hunters, fishermen and trappers are a vulnerable minority under siege by increasingly strong and wealthy anti-hunting groups, a House panel heard Wednesday, and deserve the strongest legal armor the state can give: constitutional protection.

"Hunting, fishing and trapping are part of our heritage," said Rep. Fred Dyson, R-Eagle River and sponsor of a constitutional amendment that states that these activities "shall be forever preserved for the people and shall be managed by law for the public good."

"We've seen a constant threat to those uses," Jesse VanderZanden, executive director of the Alaska Outdoor Council, told the House Resources Committee.

Rod Arno, a big-game guide and hunter from Palmer, added: "It's evident that we have an organized group, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, that is advocating for our demise. As hunters, fishermen and trappers, we need the support and protection that other minorities are afforded."

Paul Joslin, director of the wildlife alliance, did not participate in the hearing. He said afterward his group is not pushing to eliminate hunting.

"Our position is that, according to our constitution, the wildlife is for all of us. We need to protect wildlife for all uses, including viewing, photography," he said.

The attorney general's office warned that adding such broad new language to the constitution could cause unanticipated problems with wildlife management.

"One person's public good may be another person's public ill," said Steve White, an assistant attorney general.

White quoted from a report by a legal committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, assigned to review similar constitutional changes made or proposed in other states. That group concluded that wildlife should be managed and regulated for everyone's good.

"From the perspective of both the resource management agency as well as the hunter, making hunting a constitutional right may fundamentally alter and drastically interfere with wildlife management as currently practiced," the report said.

Wayne Regelin, director of the Department of Fish and Game's wildlife division, said making hunting a constitutional right may open the door to those claiming they have the right to hunt and that the department has no legal right to close a season.

Sue Schrader, spokeswoman for Alaska Conservation Voters, didn't testify but said in an interview later that her group's greatest concerns with House Joint Resolution 12 are implications and potential legal problems no one has thought of yet.

"We don't know what types of legal challenges could be brought," she said. "Do we really want to put our constitution at risk?"

Hunters, fishermen and trappers are a minority in Alaska and appear to be on the decline.

For instance: the state sold 23,156 resident hunting licenses in 1991, but only 20,623 in 2000. Resident combination sport fishing/hunting licenses dropped from 44,711 to 41,382. Resident fishing/hunting/trapping licenses declined from 6,230 to 5,331.

During the same period, nonresident hunting licenses jumped from 5,758 to 11,184 in 2000.

Rep. Beth Kerttula, D-JunEAU, a committee member, questioned how the measure would affect another part of the constitution that requires wildlife be managed for the maximum "sustained yield." Kerttula offered a change, which was approved, to say that hunting, fishing and trapping be managed "in accordance with the sustained yield principle."

The committee then passed the measure on to the House Judiciary Committee.

Reporter Martha Bellisle can be reached at mbellisle@adn.com and 907-586-1531.

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File
w/ moose bill

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Anchorage Daily News

Moose-hunting rules tightened

WRAPPED UP: Board also says no to hunting magpies, McNeil River bears.

By S.J. Komarnitsky
Anchorage Daily News

(Published March 13, 2001)

Magpies are safe and so are bears around McNeil River, thanks to the Alaska Board of Game, which this week kept both off-limits to hunting.

But beavers in Cordova are fair game. And while moose in the Mat-Su area and Nelchina will get more protection from human predators, they won't necessarily be any safer from wolves and bears.

Those were the results from some of the Game Board's decisions during a 10-day meeting that wrapped up Monday in Anchorage.

The seven-member board, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Legislature, sets statewide wildlife management policy. It considered nearly 200 proposals on bears, wolves, sheep, goats and even walrus in places as diverse as Homer, Palmer and McGrath.

Among the most closely watched proposals was one dealing with the road-accessible Nelchina Basin northeast of Anchorage. The area attracts thousands of hunters a year. But dwindling numbers of moose and caribou have led to more hunters than the game can support, which has led to battles over who gets to hunt.

The board rejected proposals to change how hunting permits are doled out or to limit families to one Nelchina caribou per household.

Both measures, board members argued, could violate the state's subsistence laws. Permits to hunt the caribou are awarded on a point system based on how long people have hunted in the area and, in effect, where they live.

The board also rejected implementing a wolf-control program to help increase the moose population, noting that a similar plan it authorized last year for caribou has yet to be implemented. The board also voted against restricting the use of all-terrain vehicles in the area despite signs that the cross-country vehicles may stress moose and caribou.

Greg Streveler, a board member from Gustavus, said there was no clear agreement on whether ATVs hurt game populations as a whole or disturb just a few individual animals.

The board made it tougher to shoot moose, limiting hunters to only bulls with four brow tines or more on

their antlers instead of three. That's aimed at maintaining enough moose to hunt.

Another closely watched area was Mat-Su, where biologists reported a drastic decline in the moose population in the Susitna Valley around Skwentna and south to Tyonek. The moose population has fallen from a high of about 12,000 in the 1980s to an estimated 4,500 last year.

The board voted to limit hunting to subsistence only, eliminating a general season hunt in fall that had typically attracted about 900 hunters. But it stopped short of approving a wolf-control program, asking state biologists instead to come back with a report on options for boosting moose numbers.

In other areas of Mat-Su, where moose are faring better, the board eliminated a winter hunt that biologists said led to a high number of illegal moose being shot. In exchange, it lengthened a fall hunt and added an archery-only hunt in the area around Petersville.

Among the measures that did not pass this week were proposals to:

Open hunting of magpies because of concerns that they are pushing out local songbirds.

Eliminate a ban on ATVs in the lower Kenai River area.

Prohibit trapping along roads and trails north of Anchorage.

The board not only rejected a proposal to allow brown bear hunting on state lands around the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary but also declared a moratorium on such proposals for the next five years.

Hunting is prohibited in the sanctuary, and attempts to open up hunting around the edges have met with opposition from conservationists and others who argue the area is one of the few places where people can observe bears not preyed on by humans.

Board member Chip Dennerlein also noted the state is negotiating possible land trades in the area with the federal government.

While the board touched on a wide range of proposals, some board members said broader problems are facing state management of game.

Streveler noted that many of the requests reflected a lack of public consensus on how to manage wildlife populations and whether that should include predator control, in particular wolf control.

"These (proposals) are just the little phenomena on top of the undercurrent," he said.

Reporter S.J. Komarnitsky can be reached at skomarnitsky@adn.com or 352-6711.

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STATE OF ALASKA SPORT FISH & GAME LICENSE AND BIG GAME TAG RECEIPTS (GROSS)
 Does not include Commercial Crewmember Licenses
 10 YEAR RECAP
 Prepared January 10, 2000
 Division of Administration
 License Accounting

6,995,510 - Non-Res. Hunters
 Hunting 2.7 million 1/3 of
 Trapping
 GROSS
 Receipts

TYPE OF LICENSE	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Collector Waterfowl Conservation Stamp					\$8,170	\$7,050	\$10,495	\$9,500	\$8,785	\$8,845
Collector King Salmon Exempt Fee Stamp	\$80	\$32	\$28	\$14	\$2	\$22	\$3	\$1	\$40	\$22
Aquatic Farming	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Resident Fur Dealer	\$2,700	\$2,250	\$3,900	\$2,250	\$3,150	\$1,800	\$3,300	\$1,800	\$2,850	\$1,950
Nonresident Fur Dealer	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$1,500
Resident Taxidermy	\$7,600	\$7,400	\$11,000	\$7,000	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$10,200	\$8,000	\$11,200	\$10,000
Nonresident Taxidermy	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$0
Fish/Fur/Game Farm						\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Game Mammal & Reptile Farm		\$250	\$250	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$500
Game Bird Farm	\$50	\$50	\$100		\$50	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collector Fish Stamp	\$11	\$905	\$125	\$75	\$155	\$30	\$10	\$20	\$50	\$155
Resident Sport Fishing	\$1,211,120	\$1,188,925	\$1,863,920	\$1,911,035	\$1,813,770	\$1,812,165	\$1,719,105	\$1,675,410	\$1,612,215	\$1,674,750
Resident Hunting	\$277,872	\$262,512	\$603,291	\$662,673	\$624,925	\$673,050	\$659,050	\$576,075	\$504,850	\$515,575
Resident Sport Fishing/Hunting	\$983,642	\$988,020	\$1,462,076	\$1,480,712	\$1,376,920	\$1,445,080	\$1,625,199	\$1,532,314	\$1,640,018	\$1,613,898
Resident Fishing/Hunting/Trapping	\$199,360	\$194,400	\$256,010	\$267,112	\$262,405	\$270,600	\$272,030	\$252,816	\$274,440	\$282,543
Nonresident Sport Fishing	\$974,474	\$1,043,102	\$1,045,472	\$1,111,650	\$1,135,900	\$1,140,450	\$1,087,500	\$1,156,050	\$1,121,700	\$1,118,850
Nonresident Hunting	\$482,505	\$515,010	\$579,795	\$689,860	\$577,235	\$551,565	\$639,540	\$943,415	\$872,355	\$950,640
Nonresident Hunting/Sport Fishing	\$137,352	\$128,655	\$151,740	\$128,345	\$148,770	\$128,385	\$146,745	\$71,280	\$97,595	\$109,890
Nonresident Hunting/Trapping	\$7,150	\$3,819	\$2,000	\$4,750	\$7,250	\$8,500	\$4,250	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$6,750
Nonresident Military Sport Fishing	\$63,920	\$82,720	\$95,780	\$75,460	\$72,945	\$82,455	\$61,770	\$70,545	\$61,515	\$58,395
Nonresident Military Small Game Hunting	\$7,668	\$6,528	\$10,195	\$7,100	\$7,900	\$7,375	\$6,750	\$9,750	\$7,425	\$7,550
Nonresident Military Fishing/Small Game Hunt	\$17,710	\$21,978	\$17,094	\$13,880	\$11,520	\$10,680	\$10,520	\$9,560	\$10,144	\$11,388
Nonresident Alien Hunting	\$108,000	\$88,500	\$96,900	\$80,100	\$99,000	\$112,800	\$109,500	\$95,400	\$98,400	\$91,200
Duplicate License	\$20,827	\$23,198	\$31,507	\$33,510	\$30,065	\$31,335	\$29,620	\$29,080	\$28,865	\$31,805
Resident Blind Sport Fishing	\$19	\$13	\$14	\$17	\$16	\$12	\$15	\$19	\$15	\$19
Resident Blind Hunting					\$1,450	\$2,750	\$275	\$1,350	\$1,375	\$2,450
Resident Hunting/Trapping	\$23,100	\$22,924	\$30,268	\$30,640	\$58,080	\$71,000	\$75,920	\$40,451	\$23,049	\$33,657
Resident Trapping	\$8,550	\$7,980	\$9,125	\$11,935	\$12,360	\$12,375	\$14,115	\$10,965	\$12,660	\$10,845
Resident Low Income Hunting/Fishing/Trapping	\$51,895	\$50,941	\$62,217	\$69,885	\$66,925	\$72,605	\$74,690	\$71,070	\$71,455	\$74,090
Duplicate Resident Low Income Hunt/Fish/Trap			\$1,468	\$1,412	\$1,190	\$1,078	\$964	\$774	\$770	\$976
Nonresident 14 Day Sport Fishing	\$1,954,270	\$2,280,610	\$2,782,820	\$2,426,550	\$2,487,900	\$2,308,780	\$2,604,390	\$1,301,900	\$1,252,450	\$1,252,820
Nonresident 3 Day Sport Fishing	\$677,855	\$768,710	\$765,395	\$847,410	\$893,820	\$903,450	\$924,900	\$956,565	\$1,000,415	\$1,018,355
Nonresident 1 Day Sport Fishing	\$399,600	\$482,210	\$501,610	\$613,710	\$629,460	\$682,350	\$733,980	\$869,810	\$970,810	\$1,036,040
Nonresident 7 Day Sport Fishing								\$2,234,460	\$2,382,960	\$2,517,630
Nonresident Small Game Hunting	\$24,580	\$24,740	\$31,840	\$28,060	\$32,160	\$30,460	\$32,600	\$31,340	\$32,640	\$35,220
Nonresident Hunting/ 14 Day Sport Fishing					\$194,465	\$243,340	\$319,240	\$48,185	\$2,875	
Nonresident Hunting/ 7 Day Sport Fishing									\$157,090	\$168,245
Permanent Identification Cards	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Military Veteran Hunting/ Sport Fishing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Waterfowl Conservation Stamp	\$145,515	\$94,505	\$76,520	\$69,510	\$59,775	\$62,380	\$53,595	\$51,920	\$48,975	\$55,375
Nonresident 1 Day King Salmon Stamp			\$91,080	\$276,570	\$320,770	\$314,710	\$354,290	\$369,580	\$470,480	\$457,140
Nonresident 3 Day King Salmon Stamp			\$135,120	\$403,605	\$419,070	\$458,835	\$527,175	\$472,775	\$510,465	\$510,980
Nonresident 7 Day King Salmon Stamp								\$751,080	\$805,470	\$856,440
Nonresident 14 Day King Salmon Stamp								\$255,300	\$264,850	\$269,900
Resident King Salmon Stamp			\$721,140	\$841,750	\$815,010	\$829,770	\$833,720	\$768,390	\$777,090	\$813,880
Nonresident Military King Salmon Stamp			\$11,340	\$39,920	\$38,740	\$47,120	\$38,140	\$36,320	\$41,660	\$33,060
Pre-July 93 Nonresident King Salmon Stamp			\$769,680	\$24,300	\$40	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nonresident Annual King Salmon Stamp			\$254,485	\$1,085,910	\$1,184,190	\$1,177,505	\$1,209,320	\$283,755	\$243,615	\$245,500
Duplicate King Salmon Stamp				\$335	\$5,220	\$7,185	\$6,305	\$4,910	\$5,645	\$6,015
SUBTOTAL	\$7,789,425	\$8,271,447	\$11,876,305	\$13,290,295	\$13,411,773	\$13,720,697	\$14,202,271	\$15,010,885	\$15,436,761	\$15,894,843
Resident Big Game Tags	\$191,125	\$185,175	\$182,075	\$179,275	\$147,150	\$148,775	\$164,050	\$144,250	\$443,175	\$198,450
Nonresident Big Game Tags	\$3,237,788	\$3,254,657	\$3,791,264	\$4,339,825	\$4,621,093	\$4,587,463	\$5,339,738	\$5,429,208	\$5,398,995	\$5,843,780
TOTAL	\$11,218,338	\$11,711,279	\$15,849,644	\$17,809,395	\$18,180,015	\$18,456,935	\$19,706,059	\$20,584,342	\$21,278,931	\$21,937,073

* License was not applicable in this year
 Collector Waterfowl Stamp rules previous to 1995 combined with Hunter Waterfowl Stamp
 Division of Wildlife Conservation Permit Drawing fees deleted from License System 1995 Drawing Fee statistics for 1986-1994 deleted from report to clarify statistical comparison

ALASKA
SPORT FISH
RESTORATION (DJ/WB)
DINGELL/JOHNSON
WALLOP/BREAUX

ALASKA
WILDLIFE
RESTORATION (PR)
PITTMAN ROBERTSON

YEAR	APPORTIONMENT	WILDLIFE RESTORATION APPORTIONMENT	HUNTER SAFETY APPORTIONMENT	TOTAL
1960	263,500	790,000		1,053,500
1961	272,750	735,100		1,007,850
1962	288,500	698,500		987,000
1963	276,200	695,100		971,300
1964	306,255	781,394		1,087,649
1965	349,757	835,250		1,185,000
1966	339,000	960,300		1,299,300
1967	375,250	1,175,150		1,550,400
1968	466,500	1,316,000		1,782,500
1969	440,750	1,514,500		1,955,250
1970	565,000	1,582,250		2,147,250
1971	653,750	1,538,500		2,192,250
1972	671,750	1,542,245	36,101	2,250,096
1973	605,000	1,900,990	37,865	2,543,855
1974	731,500	2,160,950	41,660	2,934,110
1975	842,500	2,446,000	45,500	3,334,000
1976	1,010,000	2,633,500	59,300	3,702,800
1977	1,242,500	3,695,000	105,000	5,042,500
1978	1,215,000	2,705,000	88,000	4,008,000
1979	1,355,000	3,551,200	111,760	5,017,960
1980	1,400,000	3,885,600	112,880	5,398,480
1981	1,547,500	3,459,700	142,000	5,149,200
1982	1,498,500	4,999,000	169,800	6,667,300
1983	1,639,000	4,412,000	188,200	6,239,200
1984	1,569,000	3,650,000	154,500	5,373,500
1985	1,753,000	3,387,400	141,900	5,282,300
1986	5,497,965	4,617,045	151,302	10,266,312
1987	7,005,035	4,429,455	194,398	11,628,888
1988	7,785,000	4,815,000	170,000	12,770,000
1989	8,975,000	4,920,000	206,000	14,101,000
1990	8,990,000	4,825,000	207,000	14,022,000
1991	9,825,500	6,235,000	327,000	16,387,500
1992	10,140,000	6,135,000	279,000	16,554,000
1993	9,745,000	6,235,000	322,000	16,302,000
1994	8,731,436	7,234,635	373,884	16,339,955
1995	9,996,650	8,569,933	396,014	18,962,597
1996	9,856,845	8,003,939	422,987	18,283,771
1997	13,661,447	6,847,483	288,406	20,797,336
1998	13,601,422	6,358,014	276,481	20,235,917
1999	10,621,457	6,921,653	269,204	17,812,314
2000	12,046,916	8,198,344	292,014	20,537,274
2001	12,042,643	8,386,595	364,525*	20,793,763
	180,199,771	159,782,725	5,974,681	345,957,177

*Includes \$75,000 in new Hunter Education Funds allocated from the Wildlife Restoration Funds when the Federal Aid Improvement Act was passed.

Nonresident and Nonresident Alien Licenses and Tags

Anyone who is not a resident of Alaska is a nonresident.

Citizens of a foreign country who are not residents of the United States are nonresident aliens.

All nonresidents regardless of age must have appropriate license and tags.

Nonresident Licenses

Small game hunting (grouse, hare, ptarmigan, waterfowl, cranes and snipe) .	\$ 20
Hunting (all game)	\$ 85
Hunting and trapping	\$250
Alien hunting (all game)	\$300

Guide Information

A nonresident (U.S. citizen) who hunts brown/grizzly bear, Dall sheep or mountain goat must hire and be accompanied in the field by an Alaska licensed guide or be accompanied in the field by an Alaska resident 19 years or older who is within the second degree of kindred. This means he or she, if not a registered guide, must be your: father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, brother- or sister-in-law, son- or daughter-in-law, father- or mother-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepsister, stepbrother, stepson, or stepdaughter.

Nonresident alien hunters (not U.S. citizens) must be accompanied in the field by an Alaska licensed guide to hunt any big game animal.

A current list of licensed guides and general information on guiding are available for \$5 from:

Dept. of Community
& Economic Development
Division of Occupational Licensing
P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, AK 99811-0806
Telephone (907) 465-2543

Nonresident Tags

Nonresident and nonresident alien hunters must buy the appropriate locking tag before hunting a big game animal. The tag must be locked on the animal immediately after the kill and must remain there until the animal is prepared for storage, consumed or exported. Bear tags must be locked on the hide.

Nonresident Tag Fees:

Black bear	each \$ 225
* Brown/grizzly bear	each \$ 500
Bison	each \$ 450
Caribou	each \$ 325
* Dall sheep	each \$ 425
Deer	each \$ 150
Elk	each \$ 300
Moose	each \$ 400
* Mountain goat	each \$ 300
Muskox	each \$ 1,100
Wolf'	each \$ 30
Wolverine	each \$ 175

*Guide required.

'A tag is not required for wolves in Units 13, 19, and 20, however a guide is still required for nonresident aliens.

A big game tag may be used for another species of equal or lower value, but a tag may not be used more than once nor can two or more tags be put on one animal. The harvest report for the original species which was not harvested should still be returned to report both the unsuccessful hunt information and the successful hunt and harvest information of the other species. Vendors may issue harvest tickets regardless of whether a locking tag has been purchased for a particular species.

Nonresident Alien Tag Fees:

*Black bear	each \$ 300
*Brown/grizzly bear	each \$ 650
*Bison	each \$ 650
*Caribou	each \$ 425
*Dall sheep	each \$ 550
*Deer	each \$ 200
*Elk	each \$ 400
*Moose	each \$ 500
*Mountain goat	each \$ 400
*Muskox	each \$ 1,500
*Wolf'	each \$ 50
*Wolverine	each \$ 250

HUNTER EDUCATION IN ALASKA

Beginning Aug. 1, 2002, hunter education certification will be required for people born after Jan. 1, 1986, hunting in Units 7, 13-15, and 20.

Hunter Education certification is also required for hunting in most of the other 49 states and Canadian Provinces.

Hunter Education Courses including General Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education (IBEP), and Muzzleloading Education are taught by volunteer instructors in many areas of the state.

Classes are popular, do not wait till the last minute to sign up for a class. Call the nearest ADF&G office for information.

New changes being implemented in the Hunter Education program will soon make it easier to take classes in remote areas of the state.