

504

HRES

HB

566

-

HB

573

HB

566



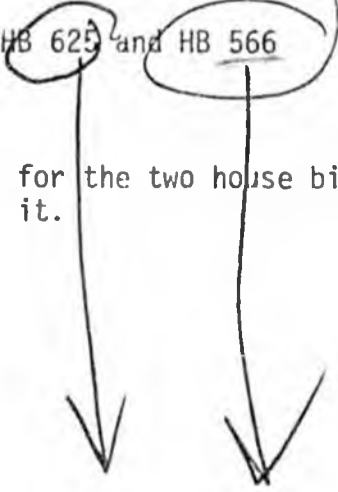
ALASKA  
STATE LEGISLATURE

MEMORANDUM

February 2, 1978

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

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



P.O. Box 91  
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

January 9, 1978

Hi Ron:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and considerations.

Sincerely,

*Leon C. Braswell*

Leon C. Braswell

Division of Game  
L. C. BRASWELL  
CHIEF OF BUREAU

JAN 19

ADM. ASST.  
LIBRARY  
FILE

RECEIVED  
JAN 19 1978

DEPARTMENT OF THE AG AND GAME

✓  
Proposal #1

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

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

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

Proposal #2

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

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

Proposal #3 REQUIRE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION SECTION NOT OPEN

✓  
Sec. 5 AAC 84.270 FUR ANIMAL TRAPPING, Beaver

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

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

✓  
Proposal #4

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

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

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

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX  
SPORT FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by:

Rushagak Advisory  
Committee

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

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

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

Lee C. Braswell  
Representing:

S. W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 & 9

Objective: Add new regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Delete regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

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

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

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

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION                    XXX  
SPORT FISH DIVISION                   
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION          

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory

Committee

Regulation book page No. 68 and 70

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No. :

5 AAC 81.320 (5)

Leon C. Russell  
Representing:

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation         
Delete regulation         
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #: 842-5227

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

Suggested wording (append if lengthy)       

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

Bag limit (3) three caribou

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



REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX  
SPORT FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory Committee

Regulation book page No. 81

Lowell C. Brewster  
Representing:

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No. :

S.W. Alaska

5 AAC 81.320 (9)

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Delete regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #: 842-5227

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

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

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

Dec. 10-31

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

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX  
SPORT FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by:

Nushagak Advisory

Committee

Lem C. Brannell  
Representing:

Regulation book page No. 81

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

5 AAC 81.320(9)

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9

Objective: Add new regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Delete regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

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

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

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

✓

REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Proposal Concerns:

GAME DIVISION XXX  
SPORT FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMERCIAL FISH DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by:

Hushagak Advisory  
Committee.

Regulation book page No. 16

Leon C. Brownell  
Representing:

5-AAC (Alaska Administrative Code) No.:

5 AAC 81.050

S.W. Alaska

G.M.U. 17 and 9 and 19

Objective: Add new regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Delete regulation \_\_\_\_\_  
Amend existing regulation XXX

Phone #.: 842-5227

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

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

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

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

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

HB

569



# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

SUBPORT BUILDING - JUREAU 25001

January 26, 1978

THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME COMMENTS ON  
(HB 569) "Transplant of caribou to Various Locations in the Shumagin  
and Aleutian Islands."

Sponsor: Osterback, Hayes and Snider

### Background on Relevant Department Activities:

The Department supports the concept of developing some unoccupied habitats through the introduction of appropriate wildlife. Such introductions should proceed with care to avoid undue adverse impact upon resident species of plant and animal life. If the proposed introductions meet this criteria, plus the balance of the items mentioned below, we generally support such introductions.

Evaluating the effect of introductions is complex; for example, introductions may have an adverse effect upon indigenous animals or plants. Once established, the transplanted species may not be available for harvest because of difficult terrain, logistics or the lack of available access. The land owners and the State should enter into cooperative agreements to insure appropriate management of the introduced animals. Management costs, traditionally provided for by sport hunters, should be evaluated to insure equity to the various users. These are a few of the items which should be considered prior to making an introduction.

The Department will be transplanting caribou from the Alaska Peninsula to Nagai Island in the Shumagins in early spring 1978 in compliance with a Statute enacted in 1977. We should learn a considerable amount about logistics and the cost of transplant operations in the lower Alaska Peninsula on this operation. This island chosen does have some reasonably good habitat and several beaches are suitable for aircraft landing, which will facilitate the transplant.

### Specific Comments:

Islands under consideration in House Bill 569 are discussed individually as follows:

Big and Little Koniugi Islands - The community of Sand Point is approximately 40 miles to the northwest of these islands. The islands are under consideration for inclusion in the U.S. Federal refuge system as a part of the (d)(2) issue. Topography is steep and favorable habitat may not be present in sufficient volume to support a caribou population of any size. The islands themselves are relatively small.

Ukolnoi Island - Sand Point is approximately 50 miles east of this island. The land ownership is not indicated to change as a result of the Native Claims Settlement Act. The topography is relatively steep and at this time we are not certain that it will support a caribou population

over a long period of time.

Korovin Island - Sand Point is approximately 20 miles to the west. Land ownership status is not indicated as changing as a result of the Native Claims Settlement Act. Some of the island does not appear suitable for caribou habitat, and again, the island may be too small to support a long-term population of caribou.

Tigalda Island - The Village of Akutan is approximately 20 miles to the west; Cape Sarichef Coast Guard Station approximately 20 miles to the north and Cold Bay is 70 miles to the northeast. No indicated land ownership change as a result of the Native Claims Settlement Act. The island is rather small and we are not in a position to evaluate its ability to carry caribou for a long period of time.

Deer Island - This island is located immediately south of Cold Bay. It had an established caribou population prior to the turn of the century with reported migrational movements to the mainland. By 1900 the caribou were no longer present. Obviously the island will support caribou, but there may have been problems because of its size, or other factors that are unknown.

Akutan Island - This island is located west of Unimak Pass; the island has one community of approximately 90 people. The island will probably support a small, carefully managed population of caribou, but the herd should be closely managed to prevent overpopulation and subsequent decline. Transportation to the island is restricted to salt water landings by amphibious aircraft or boat.

Unga - The island is located immediately west of Sand Point and has about 430 people. The island probably can support a population of caribou. Unga was largely selected under A.N.C.S.A.

The foregoing are preliminary comments and not based upon personal experience on these islands. The Department has had considerable experience with island populations of reindeer and caribou with mixed results. It seems probable that many of the proposed locations will support small, carefully managed herds, but some additional evaluation of each site would be beneficial.

#### Fiscal Impact:

We estimate that transplants to all islands stipulated in HB 569 would require funding at approximately \$352,000. With no experience at present in transplanting to these locations, fiscal estimates are, at best, rough estimates. We expect to be able to refine these after conducting the Nagai transplants this spring.

#### Program Impact:

We feel we could conduct this program with relatively little disruption to ongoing programs, using personnel from King Salmon and Anchorage.

Overall Position:

The Department concurs transplants may be beneficial to some of these islands, but we need a great deal more information on each island before we can make definite recommendations. Of the islands listed, Akutan and Unga appear, at this time, to be the best suited for caribou transplant.

# MEMORANDUM

Received by Division of Game  
DIRECTOR  
DEP. DIR.  
CHIEF RES.

DATE: January 25, 1977

JAN 26

TO: Robert A. Rausch  
Director  
Division of Game  
Juneau

TELEPHONE NO.:

ADM. ASS'T.

LIBRARY

FILE NO.:

FILE

OTHER

FROM: Ronald J. Somerville  
Regional Supervisor  
Division of Game  
Anchorage

SUBJECT: Caribou Transplants -  
Aleutian Islands

As directed, this is an update on the feasibility of transplanting caribou to specific islands in the Aleutians, SCSHCR 93.

In a previous memo the islands that had the best possibility of supporting a caribou population were specified. They were: Unalaska, Nagai, and Akutan. This memo will attempt to spell out the procedures that will be followed to capture and move caribou to those specified islands and the cost involved.

Because of the remoteness of Umnak and the high cost of operating that far from supply points, it is suggested that caribou be captured from the Port Heiden area and not Umnak. The number of caribou in the Port Heiden area is at least 10,000 compared to an unknown herd size on Umnak but probably much less than 1,000.

A Jet Ranger 206B helicopter will be used to dart caribou using M-99 and Rompun as the immobilizer. The caribou will be moved to holding facilities at Port Heiden as they are captured until a Goose load is acquired, approximately six animals. Six animals in a day is a realistic number and obtainable weather permitting. Because of the long days, animals could be moved to the islands the same day captured.

From information gathered from past transplants, a three female to one male ratio is desirable and capturing pregnant cows provided a bonus of two animals for one if the transplant can be done in May before calving.

At least three biologists will be needed to capture and handle the animals to be transplanted. No personnel or facilities will be needed at the transplant sites. The animals will simply be released on the islands.

Thirty-five to forty animals should be released at each location the first year. The cost of the operation is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$92,420.

The cost to make only one transplant would be approximately one-third or about \$38,000. It would be easier to make only one transplant in order to evaluate the techniques and watch the progress of the herd for the first year before doing the other two transplants. Because of the proximity of Nagai Island to Port Heiden, it would be easiest to make the first transplant there.

*Salaries are not included in the cost*

January 25, 1977

Sometime between now and the actual transplant a reconnaissance should be made of the island or islands to check on the range and release site.

Because of the time frame and the uncertainties of the first transplant it may not be possible to do all three transplants and the spring photo surveys on the Mulchatna and Peninsula caribou herds. Frankly, considering all manpower and money problems we would much prefer May of 1978.

*Estimated Cost of Aleutian Islands Caribou Transplant*

Helicopter

Ferry Time	12 hours	\$325/hr.	=	\$ 3,900
Day Operation	5 hours	\$325/hr.	=	\$ 1,625
6 caribou/day for a total of 40 caribou/site	7 days		=	\$ 11,375
3 release sites - 21 days flying				\$ 34,125
Fuel 27 gal./hr. - 5 hr./day. = 135 gal./day x 21=2835 gal.				\$ 2,835
Pilot Room & Board	\$55/day, 21 days		=	\$ 1,155
<b>Total Helicopter</b>			=	<b>\$ 42,015</b>

## Goose - \$240/hr. wet

Ferry Time - variable, depends on location		\$ 1,000
Nagi - 300 mi. round trip - 3 hr./trip, 7 trips		\$ 5,040
Akutan - 720 mi. round trip - 7 hr./trip, 7 trips		\$ 11,760
Unalaska - 800 mi. round trip - 8 hr./trip, 7 trips		\$ 13,440
Pilot Room & Board		
<b>Total Goose</b>		<b>\$ 31,240</b>

180 Cessna Reconnaissance of Islands \$ 5,000

## 3 Biologists

21 days room & board @ \$55/day = \$1155/biologist	\$ 3,465
Transportation	\$ 700
Salaries	6,000
Drugs and Equipment	\$ 10,000

TOTAL~~\$ 92,420~~

98,420

# MEMORANDUM

TO:

James W. Brooks  
Commissioner

DATE :

February 7, 1977

FROM:

Robert A. Rausch  
Director  
Division of Game



SUBJECT:

Caribou Transplants  
Aleutian Islands

This is an update on the feasibility of transplanting caribou onto specific islands in the Aleutians as requested in SCSHCR 93.

There are a number of islands that might support caribou, but in the opinion of the field staff those with the best characteristics are Unalaska, Nagai and Akutan. This summary plan provides an overview of the procedures to be followed in the capture and movement of caribou to the specified islands, and the cost involved.

Because of the remoteness of Umnak and the high cost of operating that far from supply points, it is recommended that caribou be captured from the Port Heiden area instead of Umnak. The number of caribou in the Port Heiden area is at least 10,000 compared to herds of unknown size on Umnak.

A jet ranger 206B helicopter will be used to dart caribou using M99 and Rompun as the immobilizer. The caribou will be moved to holding facilities at Port Heiden as they are captured until a load is acquired, approximately six animals if we use a Grumman Goose. Capture of six animals per day, and their movement, weather permitting, is realistic considering the long days and the accessibility of the animals. If at all possible the animals will be moved the same day captured.

Information gathered from past transplants suggests a three female to one male ratio is desirable, and capturing pregnant cows provides a bonus of two for one when the transplants can be accomplished in May or earlier.

At least three biologists will be needed to capture and handle the animals for transplant. No personnel or facilities will be needed at the transplant sites. The animals will simply be released on the islands.

Thirty-five to forty animals should be released at each location the first year. The cost of the operation is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$98,000. The cost to make only one transplant would be approximately one-third or about \$33,000. It would be much easier to make only one transplant the first year in order to evaluate the techniques and watch the progress of the herd for a year before doing the additional work. Because of the proximity of Nagai Island to Port Heiden, it would be easiest to make the first transplant there.

February 7, 1977

Sometime between now and the actual transplant a reconnaissance should be made of the island, or islands, to fully evaluate the range and release site. Because of the time-frame and the uncertainties of the first transplant and the necessity of negotiating management agreements with appropriate native corporations once funds are available, it may not be possible to do all three transplants and the spring photo surveys of the Mulchatna and Alaska Peninsula caribou herds with our existing manpower. Frankly, considering all factors, including money and manpower I would prefer to carry out this activity in late winter and early spring 1978. However, our activities will be directed by the wishes of the legislature.

In an earlier memo I had mentioned that this Division worked closely with the National Marine Fisheries, in developing a plan to move reindeer from St. Paul Island to St. George Island next summer. We have coordinated this effort with Walt Kirkness. In a telephone conversation Thursday, February 3, 1977, he mentioned the possibility that they might use an alternate source of stock. Nevertheless, we will cooperate with this agency by providing species experts and individuals skilled in handling animals.

Estimated Cost of Aleutian Island Caribou Transplant

Helicopter

Ferry Time	12 hours	\$325/hr.	=	\$ 3,900
Day Operation	5 hours	\$325/hr.	=	\$ 1,625
6 caribou/day for a total of 40 caribou/site	7 days		=	\$11,375
3 release sites - 21 days flying				\$34,125
Fuel 27 gal./hr.-5 hr./day = 135 gal/day x 21 = 2835 gal x \$1				\$ 2,835
Pilot Room & Board	21 days	\$55/day	=	1,155
<b>Total Helicopter</b>				<b>\$42,015</b>

Goose - \$240/hr. wet

Ferry Time - variable, depends on location				\$ 1,000
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Unalaska - 800 mi. round trip - 8 hr./trip, 7 trips				\$13,440
Pilot Room & Board				
<b>Total Goose</b>				<b>\$31,240</b>

180 Cessna Reconnaissance of Islands \$ 5,000

3 Biologists

21 days room & Board @ \$55/day = \$1,155/biologist				\$ 3,465
Transportation				\$ 700
Salary				\$ 6,000

Drugs and Equipme \$10,000

TOTAL \$98,420

Sle  
DedTO: John Vania  
Game Division  
Anchorage

DATE: September 7, 1977

FILE NO:

Through: Jim Faro, King Salmon

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM:

Nick Steen  
Game Division  
King SalmonSUBJECT: Caribou transplant to Nagai  
Island

House Bill No. 289, sponsored by A. Osterback of Sand Point, directs the Department of Fish and Game to transplant 40 caribou from Cold Bay to Nagai Island. In anticipation of this transplant, an aerial survey of the island, using a Widgeon aircraft, was flown on August 23, 1977. Participating in the survey were James Faro, Area Game Biologist, Nick Steen, Assistant Area Game Biologist, John Nickels, Fisheries Technician from Sand Point, and Orin Siebert, Pilot.

Nagai Island lies approximately 19 miles east of Sand Point and is about 31 miles long by 11 miles wide at the widest point. Its ragged coastline forms deep cut fiords. Maximum elevation on the island is 1,842 feet, with numerous elevations exceeding 1,500 feet. The north and south quarters consist of rolling hills covered with what appears to be a lichen. These two areas comprise the majority of habitat appearing suitable for caribou. The central portion is mountainous, with the lower approximately 900 feet covered with alder, willow, and dense beach grass that is not believed suitable habitat for caribou. The upper reaches of the mountains, above 900 feet, change into the same type of habitat found on the extremities of the island. This provides a limited amount of additional caribou range, although it is not contiguous to the extremities. Sufficient range is believed to exist at these higher elevations to permit caribou to freely migrate the length of the island.

The beach fringe of Nagai Island consists mainly of rocky inter-tidal areas bordering steep cliffs. There were, however, several areas that appeared suitable for landing wheel equipped aircraft. Most of these were not in areas considered to have good caribou habitat and were therefore ruled out as release sites. Three locations which seemed to have potential as release sites were investigated from the ground.

The first location was inside a gravel spit on the south side of Eagle Harbor. The gravel had sufficient sand to form a hard base. The spit is affected by tides and landing should be considered only on falling or low tides. The nearest available habitat is high on an adjacent mountain. To reach it, the caribou would have to travel through approximately one mile of dense alder and grass. As a release site, it should be considered poor.

The second location was a sandy beach located on the southwest side of Northeast Bight. It is also below high tide and usable only during part of the day. The nearest suitable habitat is approximately one mile north through dense beach grass and short willows. The site is believed to hold a good potential for a successful release of caribou.

The final area investigated is an isthmus in the southern portion of the island known as "Saddlers Mistake". The west side of the isthmus consists of a wide, flat, white sand beach. The majority lies above the mean high tide mark, and would be usable at all but very high tides. It has no obstruction for several miles on either end providing outstanding approaches for landing aircraft. The nearest available caribou range is approximately one mile southwest through dense beach grass. The lack of tidal restrictions and the easy access to suitable habitat make this the best location for potential caribou release.

The August 23 aerial survey of Nagai was brief and intended only to provide a general over-view of the island. The areas believed suitable for caribou were not checked on the ground and were considered suitable only because they compared favorably to known caribou range. Any herd resulting from the released caribou should be restricted in numbers until much more information is available on the quantity and quality of the range. The herd should be restricted in size to 500 caribou. This herd size is arbitrary and assumes the animals will utilize all available habitat on the island. If they restrict their movements to the habitat in the vicinity of the release site, the size should be reduced to 300 caribou. The limited extent of the caribou range observed on the August 23 survey makes it doubtful if the island could indefinitely sustain a population exceeding the recommended levels. The management goal for the island should be for a long term population, not a boom and bust herd such as occurred on St. Matthews Island.

cc: John Nickels, Sand Point

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

ROUTE SLIP

*fill  
down*

TO: Game      LOC: Jamaica  
DIV: Game  
ATTN: Bob Rausch

Received by Division of Game  
DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_  
DEP. DIR. \_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF RES. \_\_\_\_\_  
SEP 19  
ASST. DIR. \_\_\_\_\_  
LIBRARY \_\_\_\_\_  
FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

*Faro and Steen took a look at Nagai Is. for release sites. Looks pretty good. We can probably use wheel aircraft which will save us time and money.*

FROM: Jamaica  
DATE: 9-15-77      LOC: Ande

# STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

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

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

January 13, 1978

### MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Supporting Material for H. B. 569  
TO: The Honorable Alvin Osterback  
FROM: George Utermohle  
Research Analyst *GU*

The sum of \$352,000 is necessary to fund transplants of caribou to eight islands in the Aleutian and Shumagin Islands during Fiscal Year 1979.

The Department of Fish and Game estimates that it will cost about \$700 per animal to transplant caribou to the Shumagin Islands and about \$1,500 per animal to transplant caribou to the Aleutian Islands. It is assumed that a minimum of forty animals must be transplanted to insure that a viable population is established.

The estimated cost of the transplants is determined as follows:

#### Shumagin Islands

Transplants of 40 caribou at \$700  
per caribou to Unga Island,  
Korovin Island, Big Koniuji  
Island, and Little Koniuji Island .....\$112,000

#### Aleutian Islands

Transplants of 40 caribou at \$1500  
per caribou to Ukolnoi Island,  
Deer Island, Akutan Island, and  
Tigalda Island will cost.....\$240,000

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST            \$352,000

Supporting material supplied by the Department of Fish and Game is attached.

Attachments

GU:ftc

# MEMORANDUM

TO: [ George Utermohle  
Research Analyst  
Legislative Affairs Agency

DATE December 27, 1977

FILE NO

TELEPHONE NO

FROM: R.A. Rausch  
Director  
Division of Game  
Department of Fish and Game



SUBJECT: Transplants of Caribou to  
Various Locations in the  
Shumigan and Aleutian  
Islands

Developing a cost estimate for moving reindeer or caribou to various locations in the Shumigan and Aleutian Islands has proven to be frustrating. This occurs because of the many variables introduced by the uncertainties of weather, the cost of logistic support and the availability of animals for transplanting. Nevertheless, I have made several estimates of cost that you may use, but I caution that these estimates are not based upon recent experience in moving animals in this area, nor have we had time to obtain firm costs on air charter for any of these operations. The information for the transplant to Nagai is considered reasonably firm and we'll be attempting that move in early 1978. The estimates for moving animals to the Shumigans should remain as we have projected the cost for that island--approximately \$700.00 per animal. Similar cost projections for the Aleutians are less firm, but if we use caribou from the Alaskan Peninsula, I believe a cost of \$1,500.00 per animal moved is not unreasonable.

There are a host of items that must be solved prior to inauguration of any such move. These items include land ownership patterns on the proposed release sites, the capability of the areas selected to support reindeer or caribou, the relationships of an introduced species to indigenous flora and fauna, provision for harvest in the event of success, provision for access to effect harvest (since the use of public funds are contemplated) and the availability of reindeer for transplant purposes as opposed to caribou from the Alaskan Peninsula (there are reindeer on Umnak and Unalaska, but their availability for use in such an endeavor as has been proposed is unknown at this time). There may be other problems that I have not addressed. To acquaint you with some of the considerations that we entertained when considering the Nagai transplant, I have attached Departmental memoranda dealing with that subject. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call upon me.

Attachments

February 18, 1977

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

Dear Representative Osterback:

My staff has prepared the requested cost estimate for transporting 40 caribou from the Alaska Peninsula to Nagai Island, using Cold Bay as the base of operations. The estimate follows:

Caribou Transplant

40 Caribou to Nagai - from Cold Bay

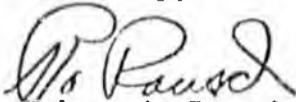
Helicopter @ \$325 X 5 hrs per day = \$1,625/day X 7 days helicopter time =	\$11,375
Goose 3 hr. round trip X 7 trips @\$720 = (perhaps less if we can catch caribou in Stepovak Bay)	5,040
Room and board chopper pilot, \$55 X 10 days =	550
Fuel at Cold Bay, 945 gal. at .48/gal. =	453
Per diem 3 biologists for 10 days =	1,650
Transportation of staff =	700
Drugs & equipment =	5,000
	<u>\$24,768</u>

If helicopters are not available locally,  
ferry time from Anch. to Cold Bay and return =

3,900  
\$28,660

This estimate does not include personnel costs which the division will absorb.

Sincerely,

  
Robert A. Rausch  
Director  
Division of Game



# MEMORANDUM

# State of Alaska

TO: [

John Vania  
Game Division  
Anchorage

DATE : January 22, 1977

FROM:

Jim Faro  
Game Division  
King Salmon

SUBJECT: Thoughts concerning caribou  
transplants from Alaska  
Peninsula to offshore islands

The following are somewhat disorganized thoughts concerning the proposed transplants of caribou during the summer of 1977 to offshore islands in the vicinity of the Alaska Peninsula. Unfortunately, there is not time to more thoroughly prepare this memo, but these should be helpful in synthesizing the program at this stage of its development.

## 1. Sources of Caribou:

- A. Unimak Island: The island has a healthy caribou herd that is virtually unharvested. Little data are available concerning their patterns of movement and location of concentrations during summer months. In general I would expect them to be on the western portion of the island on the slopes of Pogromni Volcano. Logistics would have to be based out of Cold Bay and only one large landing strip (Cape Sarichef) exists on the island. Large lakes and lagoons exist that could facilitate transportation for amphibious aircraft. The island is part of the U.S.F.W.S. Refuge system and restrictive regulations exist concerning the use of aircraft for transportation of hunters. Problems could exist insuring that transplant activities do not conflict with wilderness management programs of the Refuge. Either of the two main segments of the Alaska Peninsula caribou herd on the mainland could probably supply adequate caribou for the transplant at reduced operational cost.
- B. Black Hills-Caribou River: An estimated 3 to 5 thousand caribou occupy the westernmost tip of the Alaska Peninsula. Calving has been documented in these areas the past two years with about 2,500 animals counted from census photographs. Movement patterns after calving are poorly documented and logistics would be best based from Cold Bay. Large strips exist at David River, Cathedral River and Canoe Bay which could facilitate handling of caribou after they have been captured.
- C. Ilnik: This is the primary calving ground of the northern portion of the Alaska Peninsula caribou herd. It is the best documented segment of the herd. Approximately 5 to 6 thousand caribou have concentrated in the area for calving in recent years. Following calving, the animals move northward to the upper Meshik River area before they begin to scatter in late June. Logistics could be based from Port Heiden. No large air strips exist in the immediate area to facilitate transportation of captured animals,

but amphibious landings could be made at Wildman Lake, Black Lake or in the inter-tidal area at Ilnik.

D. Cinder River In the past several years a secondary calving ground has developed near the mouth of the Cinder River. This would be the closest group of animals to Port Heiden if that runway were selected as a logistic center for the transplant (approximately 30-40 miles). The number of caribou to select from would be smaller than from other possible transplant sources (approximately 2-3 thousand). Large pumice patches exist on the upper drainage of Cinder River that could be utilized as a collection point for captured animals prior to actual transplant. In addition, the Department of Public Safety cabin at Pumice Creek could be used as a logistic center.

## 2. Potential Transplant Areas:

Problems in land ownership have been discussed elsewhere. In addition to private ownership and trespass problems, these should include discussions of the impact on lands within the U.S.F.W.S. Refuge system and perhaps the need to file an environmental impact statement before altering the natural ecology of any Aleutian Island. These comments are made without practical field time on the proposed transplant islands.

A. Deer Island: Located immediately south of Cold Bay, this island had an established caribou population prior to the turn of the century with reported migrational movements to the mainland. By 1900 the caribou were no longer present. This indicated that the island is probably too small to support a permanent population without intensive management to restrict caribou numbers at a level compatible with available habitat. No human settlement occurs on the island, and hunters would have to travel to the island by boat, which means the herd would probably not see a high level of use. The Alaska Peninsula caribou population between False Pass and Nelson Lagoon are nearly as accessible to residents of King Cove as would be a Deer Island population. Residents of Cold Bay presently have both the mainland population and the Unimak Island population available for their use. No developments exist on the island to facilitate receipt of transplant. Saltwater landings or boat transportation of captured caribou would be necessary. For these reasons I would give any transplant to this island a low priority.

B. Akutan Island: Located west of Unimak Pass, this island has one community of approximately 90 people. If a transplant occurs, there would be a resident population available to utilize the caribou once they became established, as well as use by commercial fishermen. Presently the closest population of caribou to residents of the island is on Unimak Island, about 30 miles away. There is no reported history of caribou ever being present on Akutan. Because of the island's small size, the herd would have to be closely managed to prevent over-population and subsequent decline. Transportation to the island is restricted to saltwater landings by amphibious aircraft or by boat.

- C. Unalaska Island: The largest island of the proposed transplant sites and located west of Akutan. The island has a human settlement at Dutch Harbor-Unalaska of approximately 250 persons. A transplanted caribou herd could be used by local residents and the commercial fishing fleet. Again no history of caribou existing on the island. A reindeer herd on adjacent Umnak Island is available to hunters with transportation (either boat or aircraft) to that island. Caribou are available on Unimak Island, approximately 80 miles to the east. A large landing strip exists at Dutch Harbor that could facilitate the transplant, otherwise access would have to be by float plane or boat. This island appears to be the most viable of the proposed transplant sites.
- D. Naqai Island: Located immediately southeast of Sand Point, a transplant could provide a herd for residents of that community (approximately 430 persons) and commercial fishermen. No history of caribou existing on the island. Access to the island will have to be saltwater landings by amphibious aircraft or boat. One local Naknek resident with experience in the area states areas for entry onto the island are quite limited. The island's small size will require that herd be regulated to prevent over-population. Because of its close access to Sand Point, hunting might be capable of maintaining the population at a level compatible with available habitat, but this is an opinion that can be proven only if a herd becomes established.
- E. Metrofania Island: Located between Chignik and Perryville, this island has no history of caribou. Presumably, use of a transplanted herd would be by residents of these communities (approximately 275 persons total, and each about 30 air miles away) and commercial fishermen. Chignik residents have access to the main body of the Alaska Peninsula caribou herd, but residents of Perryville need to travel a much greater distance to take animals for meat. No developments exist on the island that could facilitate the transplant effort. Because of the island's small size, it is doubtful that suitable habitat exists to maintain a viable transplant without intensive management. Logistics are such that hunters would probably not exercise adequate control of the population.
- F. St. George Island: One of the Pribilof Islands located well out in the Bering Sea. It has a human population of approximately 160 persons who could make use of a caribou herd. The island once had a reindeer herd transplanted that grew in numbers then crashed. For this reason, it would be inadvisable to transplant caribou without sufficient knowledge to insure a re-occurrence of this pattern did not occur. In addition, it is the most remote of the proposed transplant sites and would have the most expensive logistics. *IN spite of developments on the island that could facilitate the transplant.*
3. Logistic Centers for Transplant:
- A. Port Heiden: Located in the central portion of the Alaska Peninsula. This area would be the closest to Anchorage from which many of the materials, supplies and equipment items would have to

be transported. Its primary asset is the close association with the largest numbers of caribou from which to select transplant animals. The movements of the group of caribou calving at Ilnik are the best documented and the secondary calving area exists at Cinder River which could provide animals. Transplant personnel could be housed at the Reeves station if prior arrangements were made. Fuel for helicopters and amphibious aircraft could be delivered to the runway by Reeves Aleutian Airlines.

Disadvantages are:

- (1) The lack of fuel for helicopters and perhaps fixed wing aircraft would necessitate additional transport cost.
- (2) The area is furthest from most of the proposed transplant sites.
- (3) No air charter service exists at Port Heiden that could facilitate or support transplants.
- (4) Housing may not be available as the terminal is often fully booked by oil companies.
- (5) Few additional landing sites are available for amphibious aircraft except Black Lake, Wildman Lake, or saltwater landings. *Particularly if transplant occurs in July after caribou have moved into the Meshik River area.*

B. Cold Bay: Located near the southwestern tip of the Alaska Peninsula. At this time I am inclined to prefer this location over Port Heiden, even though the Department has less adequate data concerning the availability of caribou.

Advantages are:

- (1) An abundant supply of jet fuel and av-gas is available at the Cold Bay Airport, so it would not be necessary to transport fuel to the area.
- (2) Housing facilities are available at both the Reeves station and the Flying Tigers terminal.
- (3) A large, all-weather airport could be an asset for the operation during periods of inclement weather.
- (4) Large strips exist at David River, Cathedral River, and Canoe Bay which could serve as a staging station for collection of captured animals. These strips are in the immediate area of the calving grounds.
- (5) Both Winship Air Service and Peninsula Airways should have Gruman Gooses stationed in the area. These air services could be an asset to the transplant program, although aircraft might not be available on call.
- (6) Closer to transplant sites of Unalaska and Akutan than Port Heiden. About equal distance to Nagai Island or St. Paul, but a significantly greater distance to Metrofania Island.

- (7) The availability of a Department office in the area or the U.S.F.W.S. Refuge office to facilitate logistics.

Disadvantages are:

- (1) Additional distances from Anchorage would increase cost of transportation of materials, helicopter, and personnel. Savings in fuel cost would probably compensate for that.
- (2) Less data available on location and movements of caribou from which to obtain transplant animals. Smaller numbers of caribou to select from.
- (3) Area frequently has inclement weather, however, for two of the proposed transplant sites, the same weather factor would be a factor even if working from Port Heiden.

Additional Justification for Selection of Cold Bay area for Logistic Center:

Data for all big game species in the south tip of the Alaska Peninsula is extremely limited. Associated with the capture work, it might be possible to conduct ground composition counts on caribou following calving. Tentatively, we hope to do some photo censusing work this spring.

Also, the area immediately north of the calving grounds has an embryonic moose population of undetermined size. Additional funds could be expended to gather data on its status. Present observations are on a "target of opportunity" basis only.

All personnel associated with the program could be required to fill out observation forms on all big game species except bears. For bears only the locations of dens should be noted. In addition, the skulls of beach dead otter could be collected for Karl Schneider. Skulls from this area closely resemble those of the California or southern sea otter sub-species and are of taxonomic importance. These activities could be accomplished without additional cost to the program.

4. Timing of Transplant:

Calving occurs earliest on the northern portion of the Alaska Peninsula. In general calving occurs about June 1 at Cinder River and Ilnik and about June 15 on Unimak Islands. The Black Hills-Caribou River calving segment falls between these dates. This timing of calving is a factor to be considered in programming the transplant once the logistic center and source of animals has been determined.

May: If animals can be captured prior to calving, then it might be possible to augment the transplant with natural reproduction the first year. This should be attempted only if there is a reasonable certainty that drugs or handling would not result in a high mortality among the cows or their fetus.

Without a spring bear season, both Nick and I would be available to assist the transplant and it would not be necessary to pull as many

personnel from Anchorage or other areas. Weather is normally fair to good during this period, but sub-freezing temperatures and snow storms can occur.

June: At this time it would probably be inadvisable to capture pregnant cows. This would restrict capture efforts to bulls and yearlings. With yearlings, more animals could probably be carried aboard the transplant aircraft. Caribou would still be bunched in large post calving concentrations.

Major activities that the King Salmon office would be associated with would be moose calving surveys, monitoring the moose collaring research done in April, preparing for the McNeil River field season, and perhaps getting the Walrus Island program started. Additional personnel would have to be pulled from other areas, as it is doubtful that both Nick and I could be available for the full program.

Weather is normally excellent with warmer temperatures. Bad storms are not common, but fog could <sup>hamp</sup> ~~hamp~~ work.

July: Again, capture would be limited to bulls and yearlings as it would probably not be possible to capture both the cow and her calf. In addition, I seem to recall reading there is an initial high mortality in calves immediately following capture (Adak transplant). Caribou would be starting to scatter and it might require additional helicopter time to capture animals. In addition, capture activities could cause abandonment of new born calves.

The King Salmon office should not have major field activities pending. McNeil River (and Round Island?) should be established and on "auto-pilot". Monitoring of collared moose should be completed or require only minimal time. Both Nick and I could probably be associated with the full program.

Weather normally remains good, but it can deteriorate with abundant southeastern rain storms in the later portion of the month, so work would best be done early.

##### 5. Methods of Logistics for Transplant Animals:

A. State Geoses: I have been informed that State aircraft cannot transport "freight" that could be carried by private sector. Transplanting caribou could fall into that definition. Also, during June and July these aircraft may be committed to the commercial fish enforcement program and unavailable. The availability of these planes should be determined well in advance or other arrangements made.

B. Peninsula Airways: Penn Air has recently purchased two Geoses from Reeves Aleutian Airways. One of these planes will be stationed in King Salmon and the other at Cold Bay. The King Salmon Goose should be available in May, but in June and July, it will be committed to hauling passengers for Kulik Lodge and Brooks Camp. The Goose stationed at Cold Bay will be committed to mail runs on three days a week and unavailable on those days. Widgeons could also be available, but with a greatly reduced payload.

January 22, 1977

C. Winship Air Service: This air charter service has stationed a Goose at Cold Bay in the past. I have no knowledge of its availability this summer, but it has worked for the RCA station on the Aleutians and for the commercial fishing fleet at Dutch Harbor.

6. Personnel:

Chuck Irvine - experienced with capture work on caribou and field conditions on the Alaska Peninsula.

Lee Miller - extensive experience on Alaska Peninsula under field conditions.

Al Franzmann - extensive experience with capture work on moose (caribou?). Should have some experience on Alaska Peninsula following moose work this spring.

Jerry Sexton - very thorough in preparation of equipment and materials, competent under field conditions. Has worked on Alaska Peninsula.

Jim Davis - has his work given him expertise in handling caribou with drugs?

Larry Jennings - has experience with transplant of large game animals (bison and musk ox). His expertise could facilitate handling of animals.

Egbert, Hardy, Modafferi, or Palmer - could fill manpower needs and work could broaden their background knowledge of both work technique and different areas of the State.

For lack of time, I'll leave it at this. My sincerest condolences to whoever has to put it all together - stop looking at me like that!.

HB

522



3/14/78

CS

Introduced: 1/9/78  
Referred: Resources and Finance

~~adapted~~

IN THE HOUSE

BY OSTERBACK AND SNIDER

HOUSE BILL NO. 572

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game for travel and per diem for the Board of Fisheries to meet with advisory committees; and providing for an effective date."

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

\* Section 1. The sum of ~~\$200,000~~ <sup>\$100,000</sup> is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Fish and Game for the purpose of providing funds for travel and per diem to the ~~Commissioner and some members of the Board of Fisheries~~ <sup>Commissioner and Board of Game</sup> for joint meetings with local advisory committees ~~at Kodiak, Sand Point, Unalaska, Naknek, and other rural communities~~ <sup>in the Aleutian and</sup> of the state.

\* Sec. 2. The unexpended and unobligated portion of this appropriation lapses into the general fund on June 30, 1979.

\* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-070(c).

Amend Board of Game

Board of Fisheries  
Board of Game

Handwritten scribbles and initials at the bottom left.

Nunam Kitlutsisti  
Box 267  
Bethel, Ak 99559  
April 4, 1978

Commissioner Ron Skoog  
Department of Fish and Game  
Support Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

HB 572  
copy  
K/6/78

hello Ron,

Thank you very much for your prompt response to my March 14 letter on advisory board travel. We were quite surprised that the travel of the chairman was approved for the spring round of Fish and Game boards hearings. As a matter of fact, two of the Chairmen did not receive their State TR's in time, so we had to buy their ticket. Please ask your staff to send us a complimentary copy in the future to facilitate travel.

First, we feel that the Fiscal 79' budget request for Advisory Board travel within the Boards of Fish and Game is inadequate. Your staff is well aware that a majority of the 27 rural boards that require travel have not met or used the funds this year. We all hope that the revitalization of the entire regulatory process through Hammond Administration and d-2 for fish and game will soon have these boards functioning like the three boards in the Delta. If this occurs, the travel funds allocated will be inadequate to handle the basic costs of 4 meetings a year. The travel cost of our three boards, representing 45 villages,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of all the subsistence villages in the State, will equal \$8-10,000 for their four regulatory meetings, not including travel to the master board meetings. You know that AVCP through Nunam Kitlutsisti is handling the the additional costs in order to make the system work. Our Board is committed to this effort, but its funding has a time limit. We would suggest that the Department approach the Governor with a supplemental request of \$90,000 for basic travel.

Second, we would like to be alerted of when the Legislature would discuss this issue so that an AVCP representative could inform the legislators of the complete costs from a rural perspective of this worthwhile system.

in peace,

Harold Sparck, director

cc: Senators Hohman, Sackett, Ferguson  
Representatives Anderson, Osterback, Guy, Akers, Nakak, Schaeffer  
Keith Specking, Office of the Governor  
George Allan, RuralCap

HB  
572

Subject: Proposals to improve public input to the existing fish and game regulatory process.

Sorry for the delay in getting this information on the results of the recent workshop to you earlier, but we had some problems in assembling some of the information. The enclosed material represents a summary of the many excellent thoughts which were expressed and will be given every consideration in determining how best to improve the public participation process. As identified at the workshop, basically there are three options which were examined by the three working groups: 1) The "Regional Council" concept; 2) The present system modified; and 3) The Regional Regulatory Authority concept.

In addition to the three proposals and working group comments, we have included a copy of the proposed criteria for issuance of subsistence permits which was discussed at the Anchorage meeting. Included also in the material are the comments relative to the Administration proposal raised at the Governor's meeting on December 13 in Juneau. You may recall there was a request made at the meeting in Anchorage for opinions on constitutional and legal constraints that may be applicable to the proposals under consideration. Due to previous travel commitments, Assistant Attorney General Jeff Haynes, our Advisor in the Department of Law, has not been able to comply with this request; however, these will be available by the time of the Fairbanks meeting.

These proposals will be examined more thoroughly at future public meetings. The next meeting will be at Fairbanks on February 9-10, at Bethel on February 27 through March 2, and at Petersburg, tentatively on February 16.

Thank you for your participation in the workshop. In the Department's view, the workshop was constructive and worthwhile and your views were much appreciated. We are looking forward to additional comments in the forthcoming public meetings.

Sincerely,

Ronald O. Skoog  
Commissioner

REGISTER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Farmer	Box 29, Galena, AK 99741	Koyukon Dev. Corp.	656-1238
Kissinger	Anchorage	Fish & Game	344-0541
ter Charley	Glennallen	C.R.N.A.	
Riffe	813 D St., Anchorage	U.S.F.W.S.	265-4864
Bergstrand	733 W. 4th Ave, Anchorage	F/SLUPC	
k Jensen	Box 2220, Juneau, AK	Guide Board	789-7853
man C. Emberg	Dillingham	Bristol Bay Fishery	842-5592
mas N. Scarborough	Box 80858, College, AK		479-3412
e Bondurant	St Rt Box 846, Chugiak, AK		688-2692 & 863-4291
DeLeonardis	555 Cordova, Anch.	BLM	277-1561
k Eaton	Box 1423, Kodiak	Koniag, Inc.	486-4147
old Stephan	St. Rt. A, Box 182, Palmer, AK		745-3974
k Bishop	1300 College Rd, Fairbanks	ADF&G	
ald Long	Box 496	Arctic Slope Regional	852-3000
g Hickok	707 A St	AEIDC	279-4523
n Malone	Bethel	AVCP Fish Dev. Corp.	272-8104
ter Newman	Fairbanks	Tanana Chiefs	452-8251
k Conner	21-352B Orange, Elmendorf	Ak Bowhunters Assoc.	753-5363
inis Wilt	Box 1957, Anchorage	Action Agency	265-5324
ith Mortensen	Box 1957, Anchorage	Anch. F&G Advisory Com.	265-5324
bert Belous	540 W. 5th, Anchorage	Nat'l Park Serv.	276-8166
nie Leask	550 W. 8th Ave., Anch.	AFN	274-3611
ve Cline	2 Marine Way, Rm.#11, JMO	Nat'l. Audubon Soc.	586-1167
ck Gregory	Egegik, AK	Bristol Bay Native Assoc.	
Samuelson	Box 18, Dillingham	BBNC	842-5625
ohn Shively	Box 4-U, Anchorage	NANA	276 6030
arold C. Ostrosky	2808 W. 30th, Anch.	Self	274-2414
.C. Hawly	Box 78-D, SRA	CMAL	344-6114

## REGISTER (cont'd)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
m McDowell	3685 Arctic Blvd., Anchorage	Izaak Walton League	279-1923
g Jaeger	C-3 Bldg., Fish Terminal, Seattle, Wa 98119		(206)285-3383
ck Gunlogson	Box 4-1062	APHA	344-5674
ncy Harvey	515 D. St., Anch.	Alaska Native Found.	274-5638
ve Case	2101 Forest Park Dr., Anch.	Self	279-0090
n Wetzel	Box 80224, College	IWA	479-4383
naid O. Skoog	Juneau	ADF&G	465-4100
ck Szabo	Kodiak	Bd. of Fisheries	486-3853
ll Arvey	Anch.	ADF&G	344-0541
n Fanning	Box 80929, College	Interior AK Trap. Assoc.	479-4383
ris R. Branham	Box 6184, Anch.	Safari Club APHA	277-9403
li Fredrickson	P.O. Box 4-1932, Anch.	APHA	279-7837
y McNutt	Box 10, Sterling	APHA	279-7837
llas Cross	4706 Harding Dr., Anch.		276-6030
b Paulus	Box 196 Eagle River	ADF&G	344-0341
len E. Wilson	P.O. Box 732, Eagle River	Izaak Walton Sport Game Press Asso.	333-7401
lie Mohr	Box 10-113, Anch.	ADF&G	344-5191
ul Gaskin	P.O. Box 1315, Anch.	Nunam Kitlutsisti	543-2956
as Ricci	3010 Lois Dr., Anch.	Izaak Walton Sport Game press Assoc.	279-1269
y Massey	Star Rte. Box 209, Eagle River	ADF&G	694-9101
ke Holloway	Rainbow Valley, Indian, AK	Sierra Club	None
ed Forsi	107 W. 6th, Suite #25, Anch.	Anch. Adv. Comm. Chair.	274-9517
ari Gross	Box 1352, Juneau	UFA	586-2820
arl L. Rosier	Subport Bldg. Juneau	ADF&G	465-4210
Jeff David	Box 174, Haines	Sealaska Corp.	766-2364
Whitehead	Juneau	Governor's Office	

REGISTER (cont'd)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
S. Haanpaa	333 Raspberry Rd., Anch	ADF&G	344-0541
ry Jablonski	Subport Bldg. Juneau	ADF&G	465-4100
pe Andrews	Subport Bldg., Juneau	"	465-4180
lores Moulton	" " "	"	465-4113
nora Dunazan	Comm Fish, Anch.	"	
hn Burns	Fairbanks	"	452-153i
lt Parker	733 W. 4th, ANch.	F/S LUPC	279-9565
orge Allen	Box 3-3908, Anch.	RURALCAP	279-2441
arrell Farmen	Anch.	Game Bd.	344-3202
enn Collius	1233-11th Ave., Anch.	Kvichak Club	279-7988
ohn Moore	3840 Robin St., Anch.	Bristol Bay Native Corp.	278-3602
ick Lauber	120 W. 1st St., Juneau	Assoc. Pacific Fisheries	586-6366
hny Harris	3945 Balchew Dr., Anch.	Sierra Club	
erry Gilliland	Box 120, Anch.	Dept. of Interior	

Meeting with Governor Hammond concerning Regional Councils Proposal- 12/13/77

December 13, 1977 - Governor's Conference Room (Continuing later that day in the auditorium of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game).

The following people were in attendance: Messrs, Anderson, Cross, Ohlsen, Allen, Smith, Eaton, Jones, Jensen, Kellutt, Fanning, Holloway, Bergstrand, Whitehead, Palmer, Specking, Boddy, Jensen, Frost, Newman Kall, Haynes, Huizer, Lane, Paddock, Dinnerline, Belous, Skoog, Demientieff, Reumann, See; Ms. Lease, Lobaugh, Moulton, Jablonski, and others.

Introduction by Governor Hammond

GENERAL COMMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO DRAFT PROPOSAL OF 11/18/77

Statewide Boards should be comprised of Regional Council Chairmen.

10-year residency is unrealistic.

Regional Council membership is not clear to individuals.

Many problems are foreseen trying to get area people together to solve problems.

Burden of proof must rest with the Master Boards.

We should convince the public how serious threat is from Federal level. Keep in mind what Congress is doing.

Only a particular issue brings people to advisory committee meetings. This proposal will not do it.

Proposal avoids issue of subsistence. We should come up with a definition of subsistence. Broad guidelines on subsistence should be set to apply to all Alaskans.

We should take into consideration other boundaries rather than Game Management Units.

Consider more thoroughly the makeup of regional and local groups. They will be vulnerable to Federal Advisory Procedures Act. The members must actively participate--if not, the statute applies.

Chairman and Vice Chairman of Advisory Committees should sit on regional Council. May be desirable to go one step further and have someone from local community sit on the Master Boards.

Provide forum for groups that are concerned with Title 7 to come together within context of State proposed plan.

Contact D2 Associated agencies - get input on establishment of new statewide schemes.

Straw vote taken on going with our proposal:

Board System as it stands now: 4

Regional Council Proposal with changes: 19

Proposal as it now stands: 2

### QUESTIONS

Should the power now given to the advisory committees re emergency closures be given to Regional Councils?

Will there be any accompanying changes within the Department?

To what extent is this approach an effort to really decentralize authority and to really get grass roots input and to what extent is it to derail action Congress takes?

Are 52 committees representative of all people?

How much is the State willing to spend? Legislature has been reluctant to give what is needed as far as funding. Could this money be used better on management and research within the Department?

What is the definition of subsistence user?

How well does the proposed Department of Fish and Game reorganization mesh with the proposal?

Should we have different boundaries for regions?

How membership of Boards, Advisory Committees and Regional Councils is established?

Selection of members when term expires?

Should we give more authority to Regional Councils?

SUGGESTED AGENDA  
ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING WORKSHOP

1. Level of Authority
  - a. Centralized i.e. Governor, Commissioner, Boards.
  - b. Regional or local.
2. Expansion of Present System
  - a. Expansion of advisory system.
  - b. How to get broad representation.
3. Composition of Statewide Boards
  - a. How chosen
  - b. Adequate distribution throughout State.
  - c. Change in statutes.
4. Composition of Regional Councils
  - a. How chosen.
  - b. Adequate distribution throughout State.
  - c. Residency requirements.
  - d. Representation from advisory committees.
5. Regional Boundaries
  - a. Game management units
  - b. Resource distribution
  - c. Election districts
  - d. Population Centers (1 man/1 vote concept)
  - e. Choosing areas which force people to review other people's problems and consider resource conflicts
6. Implementation
  - a. Legislative authority (change in statute) or by existing authority (regulatory)
  - b. Funding
  - c. Staffing

Working Group Comments

Proposal: 3  
Regional APA Authority

This working group felt that since this would be a totally new system they were at a disadvantage due to time constraints. They were primarily concerned with local use of the resources. Consensus was not reached on some points.

Pros

- 1. Decentralized authority would maximize participation.
- 2. The need for regions to better recognize regional differences.
- 3. Regional authority provides adequate representation to better satisfy local resource needs.
- 4. Regions are better able to implement the State's policies on priority of resource use.
- 5. Regional authority would promote the development of wildlife management plans for each region.
- 6. Regional rulemaking groups have a better opportunity to get close to their constituents.

Cons

- 1. There are potential problems in completely delegating responsibility to the region.
- 2. Additional cost in splitting up staff of the Department.
- 3. Need for overriding view of responsibility for wildlife conservation and management within the state.
- 4. Possible need for changes in the Administrative Procedures Act.

Conclusion

The group suggested statutory establishment of a two-tier system of authority.

They suggested that the number of regions be based on a study and public hearing process.

The group felt that rather than subsistence management plans being developed, the aim should be for regional wildlife management plans.

Board members should be selected from Regions.

Every region should have its own staff which would be separate from the centralized State staff.

Advisory Committees and Regional  
Councils with A.P.A. Authority

A. Elements

1. Retain present Advisory Committees.
  - a. Committees advisory to one Regional Board only.
  - b. Committees advisory on all species: Big and small game, finfish, shellfish, furbearers, etc.
    - (1) Option: The Regional Board to specify which Advisory Committee(s) have authority for which species groups.
  - c. Appropriate Regional Board administers Advisory Committee system in its Region: appointments, organization and rules, correspondence with Board, notification of deadlines, etc.
    - (1) Regional Board to determine where a specific number of Advisory Committees will be located.
    - (2) Option: Office of the Commissioner take over (retain) the coordination/administration function regarding Advisory Committees.
2. Create Regional Boards with specifically assigned geographical areas of jurisdiction.
  - a. Membership.
    - (1) Appointed by the Governor, staggered terms.
    - (2) Five (5) to seven (7) members.
    - (3) To represent all major user groups.
    - (4) Not members of Advisory Committees.
  - b. Authority:
    - (1) In compliance with APA, has rule-making authority.
      - (a) on all sections of the regulation
      - (b) Option: on season and bag limits only, with general provisions, methods and means, etc., promulgated by the Commissioner, acting on recommendations from the Boards.
3. Proposals for regulatory change submitted by public, Advisory Committees and staff to Regional Boards, who compile, publish, hold hearings and promulgate.

continued ...

4. Regulations adopted by Regional Boards sent to Commissioner, who reviews for uniformity.
  - a. Commissioner may veto regulatory changes in the broad public interest.
    - (1) Would require changes in Titles 44 and 16.
  - b. Appeals Board to review and approve all proposed Commissioner vetoes.
    - (1) Action of the Appeals must be exempted from APA with regard to 30 day notice.
  - c. Regulations revert to existing form in case of veto.
  - d. Commissioner retains authority for promulgation of emergency regulations.
5. Each Regional Board provided legal counsel by Department of Law.
6. Each Regional Board provided with administrative assistance, e.g., a permanent secretary, with office and support.
7. Appeals Board appointed by Governor, with one member from each of the five (5) Regional Boards.

## PROPOSED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - SUBSISTENCE PERMITS

Although subsistence fishing permits for salmon have been distributed for many years, no general set of eligibility standards have been established. This is desirable if the Board determines that subsistence fishing should be permitted on the basis of need or hardship or other criteria.

A number of options were developed which could be imposed as regulations within the General Provisions framework of the regulations. Then on an area by area, regional, subarea, district or other geographical unit basis the various criteria deemed applicable within each area could be imposed.

The proposed eligibility criteria include:

1. Age
  - a) 60 years - same as free sport fishing and hunting license (but without 30-year longevity)
2. Residency
  - a) Twelve (12) months - same as sport fishing and hunting licensing
3. Physical Disability
  - a) Add a proxy to permit if necessary
  - b) Need affidavit of disability or proof of injury
4. Past participation in subsistence fishery
  - a) Number of years can vary by area
5. Demonstrable abnormal difficulty in obtaining protein food supply
6. Income
  - a) Scaled by region or area
  - b) Minimum set at welfare eligibility standard
  - c) Sliding scale based on family or household size
7. Longevity within the area
  - a) Fifteen (15) years - suggested
8. Severe Hardship
  - a) Natural disaster temporarily and unavoidably affecting the applicant's ability to provide essential food supplies

continued....

9. Availability of food resource that could be kept for personal use from a commercial taking
10. Availability of alternate subsistence permits or resources
11. Willingness of applicant to combine with another family unit to share one household limit
12. Opportunity to take an equivalent amount by recreational use
13. Past history of fish and game violations
14. Lottery
15. Allocation based on aboriginal title

ANCHORAGE WORKSHOP  
December 28-29, 1977

Working Group Comments

Proposal: 2  
Retention of Present  
Board System

The working group examined the question of retaining the present regulatory system of advisory committees and two Boards - Fisheries and Game, who have the final authority to promulgate regulatory proposals. It was the consensus of this study group that the present system should be retained but should be improved in a number of ways to expand the effectiveness of the local advisory committees and provide for a different way to select the members of the local advisory committees and of the Boards of Fisheries and Game.

Pros

1. Provides for consistent statewide management policies,
2. Minimizes regional resource ownership concept.
3. Provides opportunity for consideration of resource needs of game and fish by specialized boards.
4. Provides for continuation of present Board system as regulatory and management entity for interface with North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.
5. Cost of administration is moderate.

Cons

1. At present, local committees are self-perpetuating within the membership restricting new members and/or user group representation.
2. Does not allow equal participation by all user groups.
3. Does not allow for accurate representation of user groups in a particular area.
4. Political method of selection is undesirable.
5. Boards do not reflect a geographically representative cross-section of significant user groups.

## Conclusion

A strong recommendation was made to provide financial support to local advisory committees and to provide an annual salary for Board of Fisheries and Game members.

The group felt that members should be elected by popular election at a meeting of the local advisory committee called for that purpose with nominations from the public and a nominating committee. To accomplish selection of Board members, the State should establish a mechanism for popular elections within each of not more than 7 regions; the total number of members on each board.

**Proposal: 2**  
**Present System - Boards of**  
**Fisheries and Game**

**I. Elements**

**A. Fifty two advisory committees statewide representing varied resource user groups within all geographic areas**

**B. Statewide Boards of Fisheries and Game**

**1. Fisheries Board**

**a. Seven members appointed by Governor**

**b. Required by statute to hold 5 meetings or hearings per year in designated areas of the state**

**(1) Upper Yukon-Kuskokwim-Arctic**

**(2) Western Alaska (including Kodiak)**

**(3) Southcentral**

**(4) Prince William Sound (including Yakutat)**

**(5) Southeast**

**c. Statewide rule making authority for all resident species of fish**

**2. Game Board**

**a. Seven members appointed by Governor**

**b. Required by statute to hold 1 meeting per year and others as necessary**

**c. Statewide rule making authority for all resident game species**

**C. Proposals emanate from advisory committees, public, agencies, Board members and department staff**

**D. Both Boards required to adopt regulations in conformance with A.P.A.**

# alaska department of fish & game

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Jay S. Hammond  
Governor

Ronald O. Skoog  
Commissioner

## NEWS

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 9, 1975

### STATE EXAMINES FISH AND GAME OPTIONS

JUNEAU---Alaska's fish and game regulatory system may be in for some major changes. The State is studying a number of proposals which could substantially alter the present system.

In a workshop session in Anchorage Dec. 28-29, the Department of Fish and Game presented a proposal which would add five regional councils to the present system of local advisory committees and the Boards of Fisheries and Game. Representatives of a broad cross-section of user groups were invited to the workshop to critique the proposal.

During the workshop members of the public developed the State's proposal further, and began work on two more. One of the latter would consist simply of modifications to the present system, while the other would place all regulation-making authority in local hands.

The State plans to hold another public participation meeting in Fairbanks Feb. 9-10, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Fairbanks Traveler's Inn, during which all three proposals will be examined in greater detail. That will be followed by a third session scheduled for Feb. 27 - March 2 in Bethel. The joint Boards of Fisheries and Game will be present in Bethel to meet with interested members of the public.

###

ANCHORAGE WORKSHOP  
December 28-29, 1977

Working Group Comments

Proposal: 1  
Advisory Committees/  
Regional Council/  
Master Boards

Discussion on the proposal centered around:

1. Regional Boundaries
2. Number of regions
3. Authorities of Regional councils
4. Authority mechanisms for establishing Regional councils
5. Protection of subsistence user under HR-39. Identification of subsistence
6. Concerns over specific individual sections of the proposal as drafted
7. Qualifications for serving on councils

Consensus was not reached within the group on most points. While the committee could not reach consensus there was general support for the regional concept with modifications.

Pros

1. Most committee members supported a minimal number of regions.
2. General agreement that Councils should not have regulatory authority.
3. Committee members supported establishment of Regional Councils by existing authority rather than legislation.

Cons

1. Proposed regional boundaries were generally unacceptable.
2. Committee identified need for definition of subsistence.
3. Guiding industry does not seem protected or considered.
4. Ten (10) year residency requirement is excessive.

Conclusion

In general, the goals of the Regional Council concept seem desirable; public input and dialogue is certainly to be sought.



STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND GAME  
JUNEAU

November 18, 1977  
DRAFT PROPOSAL

A REVISED SYSTEM FOR

- 1) THE ADOPTION OF FISH AND GAME REGULATIONS BY THE ALASKA BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME, AND
- 2) THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUBSISTENCE AND MANAGEMENT PLANS

BY MEANS OF INCREASED LOCAL AND REGIONAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BACKGROUND

In recent years, the inadequacy of public participation in the present system of fish and game regulatory procedures has become increasingly apparent. Although the system in use by the Boards of Fisheries and Game since statehood has provided more public participation than exists in most states, the size of Alaska, widely dispersed communities, changing land use and ownership patterns, and the increasing complexity and competition of consumptive and nonconsumptive uses makes it necessary to modernize substantially the system. With these factors in mind, the Governor and the Department of Fish and Game have developed the attached proposal.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSAL

The proposal is now being reviewed with Congressional and Legislative leaders, Boards of Fisheries and Game members, appropriate user-group representatives and individuals. The proposal will be modified in accord with the recommendations developed during this review phase. The modified draft proposal will be presented to the Boards of Fisheries and Game for their consideration and final action in accordance with public notice and hearing provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. The timetable calls for the implementation of the plan by July 1, 1978, so that the new system will be operational for the Board meetings in the Fall of 1978.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS OF PROPOSAL

- A. THERE IS AN OVERRIDING NEED TO HAVE GREATER LOCAL AND REGIONAL PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISH AND GAME REGULATIONS.

The proposal addresses this need by retaining the existing local advisory committee system and establishing a new system of "Regional Councils."

Five Regional Councils are proposed representing logical geographic and resource areas of the State. Each Regional Council will have seven members, consisting of the chairmen of Local Committees within the region. Provisions are made for those situations where either more or less than seven Local Committees exist in a region. All regulatory proposals affecting the regions and all proposals of a Statewide nature will be processed by the Boards and sent to the appropriate Local Committees and Regional Councils for their review. Regional Councils will consider Local Committee recommendations together with public and agency comments in the development of the recommendations they submit to the Boards. These recommendations and all other regulatory proposals will be considered by the Boards prior to final action and adoption of regulations. It is the stated intent that the Boards will follow the recommendations of the Regional Councils except for specific reasons listed in the proposal. The proposal also requires reconsideration by the Boards if a majority of the five Regional Council members in attendance at a Board meeting oppose any decision of the Boards.

- B. THERE IS A NEED TO SUPPORT LOCAL, REGIONAL AND STATEWIDE BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE BY MEANS OF A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE STATE TO REIMBURSE TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR LOCAL COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS.

In recognition of this need, the proposal specifies that travel expenses for the following activities will be reimbursed by the State: (1) participation of Local Committee members at Local Committee meetings; (2) participation of Local Committee chairmen (and vice chairmen in some cases) at Regional Council meetings; and (3) participation of Regional Council chairmen at meetings of the Boards of Fisheries and Game.

- C. THERE IS A NEED FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEADERSHIP IN THE PREPARATION OF PROPOSED SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION BY THE BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME.

In recognition of this need, the proposal specifies that Local Committees will cooperate with Regional Councils in the preparation of a proposed Subsistence Management Plan, together with implementing regulations, for the region. The elements of the plan and the framework for the adoption of the Subsistence Management Plans and implementing regulations by the Boards are described in the proposal. Subsistence use will continue to be the top priority use of our fish and wildlife resources.

- D. THERE IS A NEED FOR INCREASED STATE AGENCY STAFF SUPPORT FOR LOCAL COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES.

In recognition of this need, the Administration supports the appropriation of funding for five regional staff coordinators in the Department of Fish and Game. The coordinators will work closely with Local Committees and Regional Councils regarding; (1) the preparation and review of regulatory proposals and the transmittal of recommendations to the Boards; (2) the preparation of subsistence plan proposals for the Boards; and (3) the review of fish and game management plans in conjunction with appropriate Department of Fish and Game biologists. The Departments of Fish and Game and Public Safety will provide technical and scientific

expertise as requested. The Department of law will provide legal assistance to Local Committees and Regional Councils regarding the regulatory process. In addition, the increased staff support now being provided to the Boards of Fisheries and Game will enable them to work more closely with and provide better support to the Local Committees and Regional Councils.

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 5.

FISH AND GAME

PART 7.

FISH AND GAME COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS  
BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

CHAPTER 96.

LOCAL FISH AND GAME COMMITTEES AND  
REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCILS

ARTICLE 1.

LOCAL FISH AND GAME COMMITTEES

5 AAC 96.001. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE SYSTEM. Under authority of AS 16.05.260, there is established a system of local fish and game committees (hereafter local committees) to provide a forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to fish and game resources.

5 AAC 96.002. CREATION OF LOCAL COMMITTEES. Three or more interested persons in the State may petition the Boards of Fisheries and Game for creation of a local committee. A local committee must be approved by the boards before commencing its operations. The boards will designate the locus of the committee.

5 AAC 96.003. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES. Each local committee shall be comprised of a membership which, to the extent possible, is representative of the full range of user groups of the general area. The number of committee members shall be not less than five nor more than fifteen, with the exact number to be determined in accordance with procedures set forth in sec. 006 of this chapter.

5 AAC 96.004. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERS. To qualify for membership on a local committee, a candidate must be a resident of the state and the area served by the committee, informed and experienced with regard to the fish and game resources of the area, and be of a reputation within the community consistent with the responsibility of committee membership.

5 AAC 96.005. FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES. Local committees shall be responsible for:

- (1) developing regulatory proposals for submission to the boards;
- (2) advising the appropriate regional fish and game council on needed measures for the conservation and utilization of fish and game resources;
- (3) evaluating regulatory proposals submitted to it and making recommendations to the appropriate regional council;
- (4) providing a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations by persons interested in any phase of fish and game conservation and utilization;
- (5) cooperating with the appropriate regional council in the development of subsistence management plans; and
- (6) cooperating and consulting with interested persons and organizations (including government agencies) in order to accomplish the foregoing.

5 AAC 96.006. UNIFORM RULES OF OPERATION. All actions undertaken in conjunction with the formation or operation of a local committee shall comply with the uniform rules of operation, which are as follows:

- (1) Organization. The committee shall be organized under authority of AS 16.05.280 and shall be administered by the Boards of Fisheries and Game.
- (2) Responsibilities. The committee shall be responsible for performing the functions described in sec. 005 of this chapter in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 96 and 97 of this title.
- (3) Title. The committee shall have a title.
- (4) Membership. The committee is composed of not less than five nor more than fifteen persons who have been appointed by or confirmed by the boards. The boards shall approve the first five members of the committee. Thereafter, nominations for additional members may be submitted by committee members or by local citizens. The committee shall vote on all nominations at regular public meetings. A majority of the members of the committee is necessary to elect a new member. Newly elected members have full voting and office holding rights until confirming action is taken by the boards. Any proposed member refused confirmation by the boards loses membership status when his nomination is refused. The committee may commence its operations as soon as the first five members are appointed by the boards.

(5) Terms of Members. Terms shall be set by the boards so that not more than one third of the committee members terms expire in one calendar year. Terms shall commence on January 1 and expire on December 31 of the year designated, or until a successor has been duly elected at the next meeting scheduled.

(6) Vacancies. Vacancies shall be filled through nomination and election by the committee as set forth in (4) above. However, if a vacancy causes the number of committee members to fall below five, the boards shall fill the vacancy, or dissolve the committee. Terms for members filling vacancies shall be set in accordance with (5) above. A vacancy in the committee shall be declared by the chairman on the happening of any of the following events:

(A) the death of, the resignation, of or the refusal to accept election by, any member;

(B) the recurring absence of a member from regularly advertised meetings without reasonable justification, as determined by a majority vote of the committee; or

(C) removal of a member by the boards for cause.

(7) Nominations. A nomination for committee membership may be submitted to the committee by a member or by a local citizen at any regular meeting or in writing to the chairman. The committee shall vote on all nominations at the next regular meeting.

(8) Officers. The officers of the committee shall consist of a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary.

(9) Terms of Officers. The term of office for officers is two years commencing January 1 and ending December 31 of the following year, or until the next meeting that new officers can be elected, or ending at the end of the term of the member, when such term is for less than two years.

(10) Chairman. The chairman shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee and shall be the presiding officer; the chairman may call meetings of the committee.

(11) Vice Chairman. The vice chairman shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee and shall assist the chairman and assume his duties when the chairman is absent.

(12) Secretary. The secretary shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee and may, but need not, be a member of the committee. The secretary shall carry out the usual duties associated with this office. If the secretary is not a committee member, he shall have no vote in committee business.

(13) Resignation of Officers. If an officer withdraws before his term expires a special election shall be held to fill the office for the unexpired term.

(14) Meetings. The committee shall meet at such times as are necessary to participate in the process described in 5 AAC 97.081, and at such other times as considered desirable to formulate regulatory proposals and consider other appropriate matters including subsistence management policies.

(15) Public Meetings. Public meetings at which any interested persons may submit statements to the committee may be held from time to time on any matter relating to the purposes for which the committee is formed.

(16) Public Proceedings. Meetings and hearings of the committee shall be open to the public and advertised in the locality where the committee is organized.

(17) Quorum. A majority of the members serving on the committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the members present at a meeting of the committee duly held, at which a quorum is present, is the act of the committee.

(18) Rules of Meetings. The meetings of the committee shall be conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

5 AAC 96.007. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES. The chairman of each local committee shall annually, no later than December 31, furnish the boards with a current list of the names and addresses of those members of the committee and the expiration date of term for each member of the committee. Written reports of committee activities for the calendar year shall be made to the Boards during the ensuing January. This provision shall be satisfied if minutes of each meeting and all changes in membership status are submitted to the boards on a regular basis after each meeting throughout the year.

5 AAC 96.008. INTERACTION WITH REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCIL. Local committees shall, to the fullest extent possible, coordinate their activities with those of the applicable regional council so that their respective functions and actions are complimentary. In selecting a chairman, local committees shall insure that the individual elected meets the qualifications of sec. 054 of this chapter.

5 AAC 96.009. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS. If funding is approved in conformance with 5 AAC 97.033 (b), the chairman (or his designee) of each local committee not selected under sec. 053 (c) of this chapter shall attend meetings of the applicable regional council. Each local committee shall cooperate with other local committees on matters of mutual interest and concern, and may hold joint meetings to effectuate this purpose.

## ARTICLE 2.

### REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCILS

5 AAC 96.050. ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCIL SYSTEM. Under authority of AS 16.05.260, there is established a system of regional fish and game councils (hereafter regional councils) to provide a regional forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to fish and game resources.

5 AAC 96.051. CREATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS. (a) There are created five regional councils, each of which shall operate in and be responsible for the following areas:

- (1) Region I - Game Management Units 1 - 5 and that portion of Unit 6A from Cape Suckling to the boundary of Unit 6 with Unit 5;
- (2) Region II - Game Management Units 6 (exclusive of the area described above as part of Region I), 7, 9A, 13, 14, 15, and 16;
- (3) Region III - Game Management Units 8, 9B, 9C, 9E, 17, and 19;
- (4) Region IV - Game Management Units 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, and 25;
- (5) Region V - Game Management Units 22, 23, and 26.

(b) Each of the above regions include any adjacent marine waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state.

5 AAC 96.053. COMPOSITION. (a) Each regional council shall be composed of seven members.

(b) In regions containing seven local committees, the membership of the regional council shall be comprised of the chairmen of the local committees in the region.

(c) In regions containing more than seven local committees, the members of the regional council shall be selected by lottery from among the chairmen of the local committees of the region, except that the lottery shall be conducted so that the members of the regional council are distributed to represent all game management units or subunits of the region.

(d) In regions containing fewer than seven local committees, the members in addition to the local chairmen shall be selected by lottery from a list of local committee vice chairmen.

(e) All lotteries shall be conducted in accordance with procedures promulgated by the Boards of Fisheries and Game.

5 AAC 96.054. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP To qualify for membership on a regional council, a candidate must meet the following qualifications:

- (1) resident of the region for at least ten years;
- (2) informed and experienced with regard to fish and game resources of the region; and
- (3) free of fish and game violations (including disciplinary action) for the previous five years.

5 AAC 96.055. NONVOTING MEMBERS. In addition to the seven voting members on each regional council, a regional council at its discretion may appoint up to a total of three nonvoting members from among the federal and state natural resource management and enforcement agencies active in the region.

5 AAC 98.056. FUNCTIONS OF REGIONAL COUNCILS. (a) Each regional council shall be responsible for:

- (1) reviewing, developing, and making recommendations to the Boards of Fisheries and Game on proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters relating to the conservation and utilization of fish and game resources in accordance with the procedure set forth in 5 AAC 97.061 (see page 11);

- (2) providing a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations by persons interested in any phase of fish and game conservation and utilization;

- (3) maximizing local and regional participation in the fish and game decision-making process; and

- (4) cooperating and consulting with local committees and with other interested persons and organizations (including government agencies) in order to accomplish the foregoing.

(b) In addition, each regional council shall prepare a proposed "Subsistence Management Plan" for the region. The plan shall contain the following elements:

- (1) identification of current and anticipated subsistence uses;

- (2) evaluation and definition of subsistence needs;

- (3) identification of users, zones, and other elements and concepts which must be recognized in any plan;

- (4) proposed subsistence management strategy for the region; and

(5) proposals for policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations necessary to implement the subsistence management plan.

(c) The Subsistence Management Plan described in (b) shall be prepared in consultation with the local committees, affected users, interested individuals and organizations, and state and federal fish and wildlife management agencies. The plans shall be submitted so as to be considered and approved by the boards at a meeting designated by the boards, and shall be updated annually by the regional council.

5 AAC 96.057. INTERACTION WITH LOCAL COMMITTEES. (a) Regional councils shall provide direction to and assist local committees in obtaining the opinions and recommendations of interested persons on fish and game matters in a manner which maximizes local participation in the fish and game decision-making process. Where differences of opinion exist between local committees, the regional council shall attempt to explore areas of compromise before taking its own position on the matter.

(b) Regional councils may make recommendations to the boards on the creation, consolidation, distribution, or other matters pertaining to the operation of the local committee system.

5 AAC 96.058. UNIFORM RULES OF OPERATION. All actions undertaken by a regional council shall comply with the uniform rules of operation contained in sec. 006, of this chapter, except that the rules set forth in the remainder of this section shall supplant the corresponding rule in sec. 006.

(2) Responsibilities. The council shall be responsible for performing the functions described in sec. 056 of this chapter in accordance with the provisions of chapters 96 and 97 of this title.

(4) Membership. Membership is governed by sec. 053 of this chapter.

(6) Vacancies. Vacancies are declared by the chairman as described in local committee rule (6), sec. 006 of this chapter. Vacancies are filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(7) Nominations. Nominations are made in accordance with sec. 053 of this chapter.

5 AAC 96.059. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES. The requirements of sec. 006 of this chapter apply to regional councils.

5 AAC 96.060. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS. The chairman (or his designee) of each regional council shall attend meetings of the Boards of Fisheries and Game. Each regional council shall cooperate with other regional councils on matters of mutual interest and concern, and may hold joint meetings to effectuate this purpose.

Chapter 97.

OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE  
BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

Article 1.

ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL FISH  
AND GAME COMMITTEES

5 AAC 97.001. OPERATION OF LOCAL FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE SYSTEM. The boards will endeavor to provide the necessary assistance to local committees and to maintain the local committee system in a manner which will obtain maximum public input on local fish and game resources in the decision making process and which will permit the boards to be fully aware of local opinions and conditions in conjunction with their proceedings.

5 AAC 97.002. DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL COMMITTEES. The boards will, to the extent possible, provide for a local committee system and a distribution of local committees which allows a reasonable opportunity for all citizens to take advantage of the system.

5 AAC 97.003. REVIEW OF PETITIONS FOR LOCAL COMMITTEES. The boards will review petitions for the creation of local committees at the meeting following receipt of the petition. Factors which will be evaluated by the boards include, but are not limited to,

- (1) existing committees in the area;
- (2) representation of user groups in the area on existing committees;
- (3) the likelihood of active participation on the proposed committee by residents of the area;
- (4) the likelihood of a sufficient number of qualified persons being interested in serving on the proposed committee;
- (5) logistical problems in providing assistance to the proposed committee;
- (6) the probability that the committee will enhance participation in the decision-making process by persons dependent on fish and game resources; and
- (7) recommendations of the appropriate regional council.

5 AAC 97.004. REVIEW OF NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON LOCAL COMMITTEES. (a) The boards will review nominations for membership on local committees at the meeting following receipt of such nominations. Factors which will be evaluated by the Boards include, but are not limited to:

(1) whether the candidate meets the qualifications of 5 AAC 96.004;

(2) whether confirmation of the candidate will enhance the purposes of the local committee as described in 5 AAC 96.001 and 5 AAC 96.005; and

(3) whether confirmation of the candidate would result in broader or more balanced representation of user groups in the area.

(b) The commissioner of public safety will provide the boards with information concerning violations of the fish and game laws (including pending charges) and disciplinary proceedings involving any candidate for committee membership prior to consideration of the candidacy by the boards. The determination of the boards on any candidacy is final.

5 AAC 97.005. REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS. The boards will provide direction to local committees so that their meetings may be timed in a manner which will maximize their participation in fish and game deliberations. In addition, the boards may request any local committee to meet and to formulate recommendations on a subject or issue identified by the boards.

5 AAC 97.006. DISSOLUTION OF LOCAL COMMITTEES. A local committee may be dissolved by the boards if the committee becomes inactive, or if membership falls below the minimum number required, or for failure to act in accordance with the provisions of chapters 96 and 97 of this title.

Article 2.

ADMINISTRATION OF REGIONAL  
FISH AND GAME COUNCILS

5 AAC 97.030. OPERATION OF REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCIL SYSTEM. The boards will endeavor to provide the necessary assistance to regional councils and to maintain the regional council system in a manner which will enable the councils to realize their purposes and functions as described in 5 AAC 96.050 and 056. Special emphasis will be placed on the preparation of proposed Subsistence Management Plans for each region.

5 AAC 97.031. STAFF ASSISTANCE. Provided that adequate funding exists and that such action is in compliance with applicable law, the boards will assign the necessary staff to each regional council so that their interaction with local committees and with the boards is maximized. Staff persons assigned to regional councils will be under the supervision of the executive director to the boards.

5 AAC 97.032. REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS. The boards will provide direction to regional councils so that their meetings may be timed in a manner which will maximize their participation in fish and game deliberations. In addition, the boards may request any regional council to meet and to formulate recommendations on a subject or issue identified by the boards. The boards may remand any recommendation received from a regional council for further action, or may require that a regional council act in concert with another regional council on matters of mutual concern.

5 AAC 97.033. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS. (a) Provided that adequate funding exists and that such action is in compliance with applicable law, the boards will reimburse regional council members for travel and expenses incurred in attending regional council meetings required or requested by the boards, and will reimburse each regional council chairman or his designee for travel and expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Boards of Fisheries and Game where approved by the boards.

(b) Provided that adequate funding exists and that such action is in compliance with applicable law, the boards will provide funds to regional councils to be used by the council to reimburse local committee members for travel and expenses incurred in attending local committee meetings and to reimburse each local committee chairman or his designee for travel and expenses incurred in attending regional council meetings. Distribution of funds shall be at the discretion of the regional council except to the extent limitations are imposed by the boards.

(c) At least one member of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game shall attend each meeting of a regional council to the extent practicable.

5 AAC 97.034. DIRECTION FROM THE BOARDS. The boards may give direction to the regional councils on the nature and format of their actions to enhance the usefulness of the work of the regional councils in conjunction with the deliberations of the boards.

### Article 3.

#### ADOPTION OF FISH AND GAME REGULATIONS

5 AAC 97.060. MEETINGS. The Board of Fisheries will hold at least two regular meetings annually. The Board of Game will hold at least one regular meeting annually. The joint boards will hold at least one meeting annually to consider matters of mutual concern including matters relating to the local committee and regional council system.

5 AAC 97.081. PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPING, CONSIDERING, AND IMPLEMENTING FISH AND GAME REGULATIONS. (a) For the purpose of developing, considering, and implementing fish and game regulations, the boards will observe the procedure set forth in this section. The dates constituting deadlines for each phase will be set by the boards for each meeting and will be announced to the local committees and regional councils and to the public.

(b) The procedure governing the regulatory process is as follows:

(1) Phase 1. The boards will solicit proposed regulations. The boards may limit, after receiving concurrence from the regional councils, those sections or portions of the existing regulations which will be open for change in conjunction with each meeting to facilitate their deliberations. The boards may provide forms to be used in preparing proposals. Notices soliciting proposals will be distributed statewide. In order to be considered the proposals must be received by the boards before the designated deadline.

(2) Phase 2. After the deadline for receiving proposals, those proposals received (including all proposals from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff and other government agencies) will be compiled by the board staff and distributed to the public through departmental offices. Proposals also will be sent to local committees for review, except that local committees will review only those proposals affecting their region together with proposals regarding general provisions. However proposals affecting more than one region will be reviewed by the local committees of all regions affected.

(3) Phase 3. Local committees will review at a public meeting all proposals received, and shall forward their recommendations to their appropriate regional council.

(4) Phase 4. Regional councils shall review at a public meeting all of the proposals sent to the local committees for that region in the context of recommendations made by the local committees and the public. The regional councils may accept written and oral testimony as they desire. After consideration, regional councils shall forward their recommendations to the boards together with all of the proposals.

(A) regional councils shall, to the extent possible within time limitations, consult with user groups, local committees, and other interested organizations and individuals.

(B) regional councils can request technical and scientific support data and/or prepared testimony from the department's staff as desired.

(C) regional councils shall explore areas of compromise where there are conflicting points of view and shall attempt to reach a consensus before making a recommendation to the boards.

(D) in forwarding their recommendations to the boards, regional councils shall provide a justification or explanation for their action.

(E) regional councils, in addition to recommending for or against particular proposals, may recommend a package of proposals for implementation, a management plan, policy for implementation, administration, or enforcement of any proposal.

(5) Phase 5. The boards will legally notice all the proposals, or the subject matter to be considered, after the recommendations have been received from the regional councils. In accordance with procedures required by the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.82), the boards will hold a public hearing and will consider and vote on each proposal, or develop alternatives on the subject matter legally noticed, after reviewing the recommendations of regional councils and local committees. While the final determination on all proposals is the province of the boards, it is the general intent of the boards that the recommendation of a regional council will be followed unless one of the following circumstances is present:

(A) the regional council recommendation is not supported by the evidence;

(B) there are conflicting recommendations from regional councils on the same matter;

(C) there is a need for statewide uniformity on a particular matter, which would not be achieved if the regional council recommendation was followed;

(D) the action recommended by the regional council would be inconsistent with the Constitution or the laws of the State of Alaska or the United States;

(E) the action recommended by the regional council, if followed by the boards, would be contrary to the public interest, conservation of the resources, or would be inconsistent with the duties and obligations of the boards as trustees for the fish and wildlife resources of Alaska.

(F) A majority vote of the five chairmen (or their designees) of the regional councils in attendance at a board meeting that opposes any decision of the boards will serve to have that decision reconsidered by the boards in conference with the regional council representatives. The second decision by the boards after reconsideration will be final.

(6) Phase 6. After completion of procedures required by the Administrative Procedure Act, the boards will notify the regional councils and local committees of the actions taken and the reasons therefore.

5 AAC 97.062. SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS AND ACTIONS. The boards may adopt other regulations take other action necessary to implement, administer, or enforce the regulations adopted in conjunction with the procedure set forth in sec. 061 of this chapter.

5 AAC 97.063. SPECIAL MEETINGS. In conjunction with any special meeting, the boards will follow the procedure set forth in sec. 061 of this chapter to the extent time permits. However, the boards may use a modified or different procedure if it would be more suitable for any particular special meeting.

5 AAC 97.064. MODIFICATION. The boards may modify or make exceptions to the procedure set forth in sec. 061 of this chapter in conjunction with any regular meeting if to do so would enhance public, committee, or council participation in the deliberations of the boards.

5 AAC 97.065. STAFF ASSISTANCE. The boards, through their executive director and the staff assigned to the executive director, will provide assistance to regional councils and local committees and to the public in conjunction with the procedures and proceedings of the boards.

Article 4.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

5 AAC 97.081. REMOVAL FOR CAUSE. The boards may remove any member of a local committee or a regional council for cause. As used in this section, "cause" includes:

- (1) repeated unjustifiable absence from meetings;
- (2) malfeasance or misfeasance in office;
- (3) conviction of a crime or administrative disciplinary action for behavior inconsistent with the responsibility of committee or council membership;
- (4) disregard for or disobedience of the provisions of chapters 96 and 97 of this title governing the committee and council system and the intent behind such provisions; or
- (5) failure, at any time, to meet the qualifications for committee or council membership.

5 AAC 97.082. CONSTRUCTION OF TERMS. As used in chapters 96 and 97 of this title, the term "boards" means:

- (1) the Boards of Fisheries and Game, acting jointly, on matters relating to the administration of the local committee and regional council system and on procedures for board meetings; or
- (2) the Boards of Fisheries and Game, acting individually, on substantive matters relating to fish or game.

5 AAC 97.083. SUPPLEMENTAL ACTION. The boards may take any action necessary and proper for the administration, enforcement, or implementation of chapters 96 and 97 of this title regardless of whether it is expressly mentioned herein.

Article 5.

EMERGENCY CLOSURES BY LOCAL COMMITTEES

[Incorporate existing regulations on emergency closures by advisory committees and change "advisory committees" to "local committees". Jurisdictional changes may be in order to correspond to the newly created regions.]

[REPEAL EXISTING REGULATIONS ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES]

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE:

By: Inider

To: \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSE BILL No. 572

SENATE BILL No. \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE: 1

LINE: ~~13~~ 14 & 15

To read:

And per diem to the Commissioner  
and members of the Board  
of Fisheries for joint  
meetings with local Advisory  
Committees in rural  
communities of the State

Motion passed

HB

573





## STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH D - JUNEAU 99811

January 25, 1978

The Honorable Alvin Osterback  
Chairman  
House Resources Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

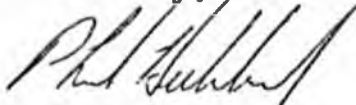
Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of January 19 requesting our position on several bills which will be considered by your committee.

At this time, we will confine our comments to HB 581 (commercial fishing loans), as the other bills mentioned do not fall within our jurisdiction as presently written.

House Bill 581 will enable this department to make loans on limited entry permits and accept the permit as collateral. At the present time, we are receiving loan applications for permits. However, most fishermen do not have the collateral required to secure the loan. The proposed legislation will simplify this process. As evidenced by the fiscal note accompanying this bill at the time of introduction, we expect any fiscal impact to be minimal.

Yours truly,



H. Phillip Hubbard  
Commissioner

cc: Pete Jeans, Director  
Division of Business Loans

*Put in  
files*

## STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

## COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION

POUCH KB - JUNEAU 99801

January 26, 1978

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

Dear Representative Osterback:

Re: Committee Substitute for HB 573

Sections 4 through 7 of CS for HB 573 were originally drafted with the concurrence of the Department of Commerce and the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission as HB 581. As the substantive portions of 581 have been incorporated verbatim in CS for HB 573 sections 4 through 7, the Commission concurs with the Department of Commerce as to those specified sections of CS for HB 573 and endorses passage of these sections.

Sincerely,

  
John N Garner  
Commissioner