

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2007-2008 RES 12684

equivalent to many black bears. Not all bears are equal, however, and some bears seem to become specialists at killing both adult and calf moose.

Black bears have been found to be the most important predator of moose calves in some areas of Alaska where grizzly bears are uncommon. In these areas, black bears killed about 40% of all moose calves that were born. Most predation was by adult males.

Biologists expect that significant reductions in bear numbers (either black or grizzly or both) will also lead to higher numbers of moose for harvest. For example, in areas of Canada and the northern states where moose coexist only with wolves, moose are often found at high densities that fluctuate with weather and habitat (e.g. Isle Royale).

Numbers of grizzly bears have probably increased in Interior Alaska since the 1950s. We base this on incidental observations by older hunters, local residents, cabin owners, and Native elders, who all indicate that grizzly bear numbers have increased. This is corroborated to some degree by modern studies. For example, grizzly bears were recently found to be significant predators of moose calves on the Yukon Flats and are commonly seen by local residents, whereas 20-30 years ago, observations of grizzly bears were rare.

In the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas, where wolves and bears are not common, moose are abundant.

Grizzly bear populations appear to be much more resilient to harvest than previously believed. During the last 10 years, the Alaska Board of Game has made a deliberate effort to reduce numbers of grizzly bears in a few important hunting areas (e.g. Game Management Unit 13-the Nelchina Basin) by increasing the bag limit and extending hunting seasons. So far, these new regulations have had no noticeable affect on grizzly bear populations even though hunters have taken an increased number of bears.

Wolves have been found to be very adaptable and they recover from low numbers within a few years. Despite relatively heavy hunting and trapping over the last century in Alaska, wolves occur on nearly all of their traditional habitat throughout mainland Alaska. Historically, wolf numbers were greatly depressed. Specifically, wolves were rare in Interior Alaska between about 1910 and 1925, and during the 1950s. During 1910-1925 wolves may have succumbed to diseases brought in by sled dogs or to widespread poisoning. During the 1950s, federal predator control agents reduced wolves by poisoning and aerial shooting. Wolves have been abundant and have occurred in all of their historic ranges in Alaska since state management began in about 1960 (except for the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas, and the western Seward Peninsula).

Wolves are social animals that live in large family groups. Usually, only a single female per pack successfully raises pups, but depending upon the relationship of adult males and females in a wolf pack, multiple litters may occur in a single pack in a single year. Most pups born into a pack stay in the pack for at least one year, but virtually all have dispersed away from their natal pack by the age of 3. Large packs of 20 or more wolves may occur in areas where food is abundant and pup survival is high. Wolf populations in North America commonly sustain annual harvests or natural mortality rates of 20-40% without experiencing a year-to year decline in numbers. High reproductive rates, high mortality rates and long distance dispersal behavior results in extensive gene flow within wolf populations and between wolf packs.

In Alaska and other areas, if wolves are not hunted or trapped, most mortality is from intraspecific aggression (fighting with other wolves). In trapped wolf populations, natural mortality rates are often lower than in untrapped populations.

In coastal areas of Alaska, where fox rabies is endemic, wolves are periodically reduced to low levels by rabies.

#### **Practical Aspects of managing moose in areas where the LDDE exists**

Usually, without predator control, hunters can take about 5% of a low-density moose population each year – almost all of the harvest must be bulls or the population will decline.

LDDE does not present a biological problem – moose are not likely to become threatened, endangered or extinct due to predation.

The fact that the LDDE prevails in large areas does not usually present a management problem either. Interior Alaska is sparsely populated and access to moose populations is often poor. This means that hunting pressure is relatively light in many areas anyway.

The LDDE can cause a management problem around villages, or in areas that have become important hunting areas for Alaskans near the road system. In these areas, people need or want to harvest more moose than the system can support. In Alaska, moose are valuable to people as a source of food and income (i.e. guiding and transporting hunters), particularly in rural areas. This is why people often express the desire for predator control.

In some areas, where there is a demand to increase moose harvests, it might be possible to harvest more moose by reducing bear predation. Although this idea is reasonable, it is a relatively new idea, has not been adequately tested in Alaska, and programs of this nature need to be viewed as experiments.

#### **References:**

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# Performance

State of Alaska > Governor > OMB > Performance > Agency List > Wildlife Conservation

Department of Fish and Game

## Wildlife Conservation

Results Summary | Details, Questions/Comments

### Mission

- The mission of the Division of Wildlife Conservation is to conserve and enhance Alaska's wildlife and habitats and provide for a wide range of public uses and benefits.

### Desired Results

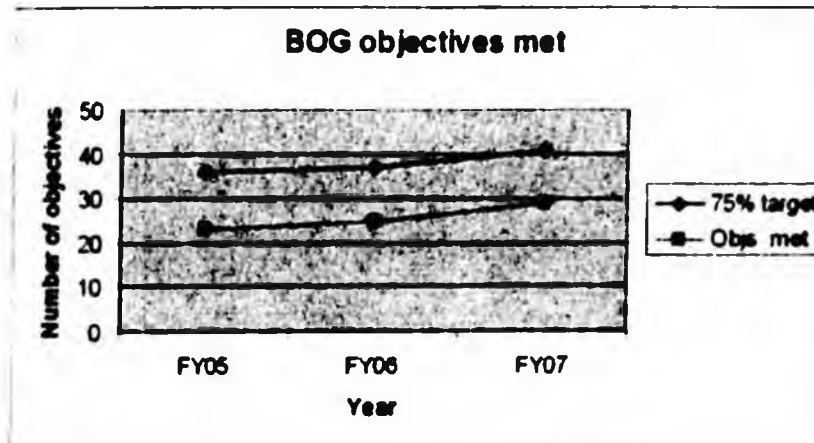
- A: Healthy and sustainable wildlife populations in Alaska that provide a diversity of opportunities for public use and enjoyment.

### Performance Measure Detail

**A: Result - Healthy and sustainable wildlife populations in Alaska that provide a diversity of opportunities for public use and enjoyment.**

**Target #1:** Achieve population targets for at least 75% of big game populations for which the Board of Game (BOG) has set targets (i.e., objectives).

**Measure #1:** Percentage of BOG population targets attained.

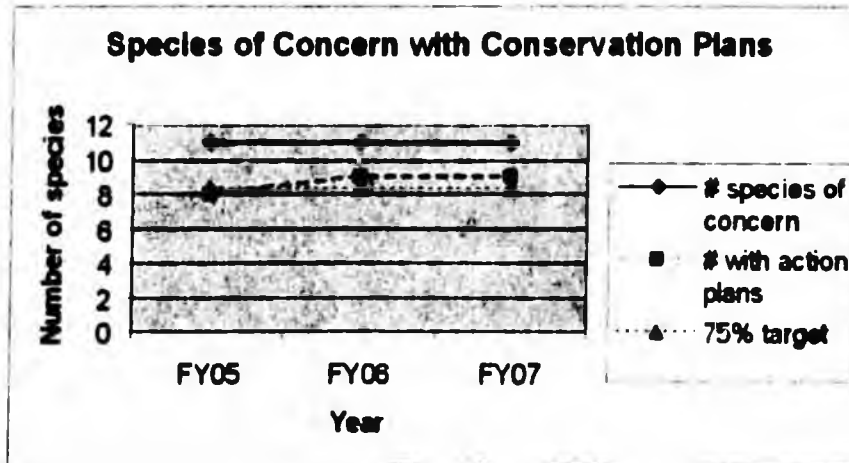


**Analysis of results and challenges:** The Board of Game (BOG) has set population objectives for selected ungulate populations that it has determined are important for providing high levels of harvest for human consumptive use. To meet BOG management objectives, sufficient animals must exist in a game management unit in order to meet the highest levels of hunter demand. For FY07, 29 of the population objectives set for deer, caribou and moose were met; out of a total of 54 objectives set by the BOG. Four more game management units (GMU) met management objectives in FY07 than in FY06. The division's target is 75% of the number of GMU objectives. Some big game surveys were not conducted due to poor weather conditions or a lack of funding. Some of the population objectives may not be possible to meet given the habitat capacity that can be achieved in some areas. Population objectives for those areas should be reviewed by the BOG and possibly revised.

**Target #2:** Develop and implement recovery strategies for 75% of those "species of concern" under primary division management.

**Measure #2:** Percentage of species for which recovery strategies are being implemented.

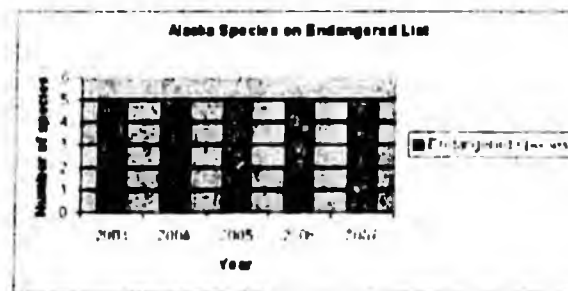
# Wildlife Conservation - Results Summary



**Analysis of results and challenges:** There are 11 wildlife species of special concern under primary or shared division management. Conservation action plans are in place for 10 (91%) of these species, including blackpoll warbler, Townsend's warbler, olive-sided flycatcher, Steller's eider, spectacled eider, northern goshawk, Arctic peregrine falcon, American peregrine falcon, Aleutian Canada goose and Kenai brown bear. In 1999 the Pacific Flyway Council adopted a management plan for Aleutian Canada goose (updated in 2006) to resume "normal" management after delisting. A plan has not been prepared for the Gray-cheeked thrush. In the state Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS), completed during FY06, both species are on the nominee list for species of special concern. The State of Alaska Species of Special Concern list was last revised in 1998; therefore, when the list is formally revised Aleutian Canada goose can be removed. Revision of that list is expected to occur within the next year.

**Target #3:** No increase in the number of species under state management designated as threatened or endangered in Alaska from the 2003 level.

**Measure #3:** Number of new threatened or endangered species designations



**Analysis of results and challenges:** The state endangered species list includes the Eskimo curlew, short-tailed albatross, humpback whale, right whale, and blue whale. There has been no change in the state endangered species list since 1993 and no new species were added to federal lists in FY07.

**Findings for the Alaska Board of Game  
2006-165-BOG**

**Unit 12 and 20E Intensive Management Supplemental Findings  
May 14, 2006**

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by department staff and residents and users of moose in Units 12 and 20E. These findings are supplemental to the findings set forth in 5AAC 92.108, in the Units 12 and 20E predation control implementation plan in 5 AAC 92.125 and in Board of Game Findings 2006-164-BOG.

1. The Fortymile Caribou Herd population size, currently estimated to be 40,000-42,000 caribou, is less than the population objective of 50,000-100,000 caribou. The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last 30 years.
2. The Fortymile Caribou Herd harvestable surplus, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), currently estimated at 840-880 bulls, is less than the harvest objective of 1,000-15,000 caribou. The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 30 years.
3. The moose population size in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E, currently estimated to be 4,300-5,200 moose, is less than the population objective of 8,744-11,116 moose (derived from the combined Units 12 and 20E objectives based on proportionate area). The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last 20 years.
4. The harvestable surplus of moose in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), currently estimated at 135-201 bulls, is less than the harvest objective of 547-1,084 moose (derived from the combined Units 12 and 20E objectives based on proportionate area). The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 20 years.
5. The Fortymile Caribou Herd and the moose population in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E are, thus, depleted and reduced in productivity, which has already resulted in a significant reduction in the allowable human harvest of the population.
6. Enhancement of abundance or productivity of both moose and caribou in this area is feasibly achievable utilizing the recognized and prudent active management technique of predator control.
7. The Board has repeatedly, since 1976, been required to significantly reduce the taking of Fortymile caribou by restricting harvest, seasons and bag limits as compared to the level and timing of hunting opportunity that was previously allowed when the population was not depleted and reduced in productivity.

8. The Board has, since 2000, been required to limit the taking of moose in Unit 12 north of the Alaska Highway and Unit 20E by restricting harvest, seasons and bag limits as compared to the level and timing of hunting opportunity that was allowed when the population was not depleted and reduced in productivity.

9. The population and harvest objectives for both moose and caribou in this area have not been achieved, at least in part, because wolf and brown bear predation have been important causes of mortality in the populations, to the extent that the populations are unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved, in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.

10. Reducing predation can reasonably be expected to aid in achievement of the caribou and moose population and harvest objectives.

11. A person who has been airborne may on the same day take a brown bear with the use of bait or scent lure as authorized under a permit provided by the Department, providing the permittee is at least 300 feet from the airplane at the time of taking.

Vote: 6-0-1

May 14, 2006

Anchorage, Alaska



Mike Fleagle, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Game

## Moose

The moose (*Alces alces*) is the world's largest member of the deer family. The Alaska race (*Alces alces gigas*) is the largest of all the moose. Moose are generally associated with northern forests in North America, Europe, and Russia. In Europe they are called "elk." In Alaska, they occur in suitable habitat from the Stikine River in the Panhandle to the Colville River on the Arctic Slope. They are most abundant in recently burned areas that contain willow and birch shrubs, on timberline plateaus, and along the major rivers of Southcentral and Interior Alaska.

© Ashley Dean

**General description:** Moose are long-legged and heavy bodied with a drooping nose, a "bell" or dewlap under the chin, and a small tail. Their color ranges from golden brown to almost black, depending upon the season and the age of the animal. The hair of newborn calves is generally red-brown fading to a lighter rust color within a few weeks. Newborn calves weigh 28 to 35 pounds (13-16 kg) and within five months grow to over 300 pounds (136 kg). Males in prime

condition weigh from 1,200 to 1,600 pounds (542-725 kg). Adult females weigh 800 to 1,300 pounds (364-591 kg). Only the bulls have antlers. The largest moose antlers in North America come from Alaska, the Yukon Territory, and the Northwest Territories of Canada. Trophy class bulls are found throughout Alaska, but the largest come from the western portion of the state. Moose occasionally produce trophy-size antlers when they are 6 or 7 years old, with the largest antlers grown at approximately 10 to 12 years of age. In the wild, moose rarely live more than 16 years.

**Life history:** Cow moose generally breed at 28 months, though some may breed as young as 16 months. Calves are born any time from mid-May to early June after a gestation period of about 230 days. Cows give birth to twins 15 to 75 percent of the time, and triplets may occur once in every 1,000 births. The incidence of twinning is directly related to range conditions. A cow moose defends her newborn calf vigorously.

Calves begin taking solid food a few days after birth. They are weaned in the fall at the time the mother is breeding again. The maternal bond is generally maintained until calves are 12 months old at which time the mother aggressively chases her offspring from the immediate area just before she gives birth.

Moose breed in the fall with the peak of the "rut" activities coming in late September and early October. Adult males joust during the rut by bringing their antlers together and pushing. Serious battles are rare. Bulls may receive a few punctures or other damage and occasionally die from their wounds. The winner usually mates with the female.

By late October, adult males have exhausted their summer accumulation of fat and their desire for female company. Once again they begin feeding. Antlers are shed as early as November, but mostly in December and January.

**Food habits:** During fall and winter, moose consume large quantities of willow, birch, and aspen twigs. In some areas, moose actually establish a "hedge" or browse line 6 to 8 feet above the ground by clipping most of the terminal shoots of favored food species. Spring is the time of grazing as well as browsing. Moose eat a variety of foods, particularly sedges, equisetum (horsetail), pond weeds, and grasses. During summer, moose feed on vegetation in shallow ponds, forbs, and the leaves of birch, willow, and aspen.

**Movements:** Most moose make seasonal movements for calving, rutting, and wintering areas. They travel anywhere from only a few miles to as many as 60 miles during these transitions.



**Population dynamics:** Moose have a high reproductive potential and can quickly fill a range to capacity if not limited by predation, hunting, and severe weather. Deep crusted snow can lead to malnutrition and subsequent death of hundreds of moose and decrease the survival of the succeeding year's calves.

Moose are killed by wolves and black and brown bears. Black bears take moose calves in May and June. Brown bears kill calves and adults the entire time the bears are out of their winter dens. Wolves kill moose throughout the year. Predation limits the growth of many moose populations in Alaska.

**Hunting:** More people hunt moose than any other of Alaska's big game species.

**Economic and future status:** Because moose range over so much of Alaska, they have played an important role in the development of the state. At one time professional hunters supplied moose meat to mining camps. Historically, moose were an important source of food, clothing, and implements to Athapaskan Indians dwelling along the major rivers. Today, Alaskans and nonresidents annually harvest approximately 6,000 to 8,000 moose—some 3.5 million pounds of meat. Moose are an important part of the Alaskan landscape, and tourists photograph those animals that feed along the highway.

Man's developments in Alaska include many alterations upon the face of the land. These activities create conflicts between man and moose as moose eat crops, stand on airfields, eat young trees, wander the city streets, and collide with cars and trains.

Man's removal of mature timber through logging and careless use of fire has, in general, benefited moose as new stands of young timber have created vast areas of high-quality moose food. The future for moose is reasonably bright because man is learning how to manipulate habitat with wildfire and is becoming more skilled at managing factors that limit moose populations, such as predation and hunting.

**Text: Robert A Rausch & Bill Gasaway**

**Illustration: Ashley A. Dean**

**Revised by Charles C. Schwartz and reprinted 1994**

## Caribou



Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) live in the arctic tundra, mountain tundra, and northern forests of North America, Russia, and Scandinavia. The world population is about 5 million. Caribou in Alaska are distributed in 32 herds (or populations). A herd uses a calving area that is separate from the calving areas of other herds, but different herds may mix together on winter ranges.

In Europe, caribou are called reindeer, but in Alaska and Canada only the domestic forms are called reindeer. All caribou and reindeer throughout the world are considered to be the same species, but there are 7 subspecies: barren-ground (*Rangifer tarandus granti*), Svalbard (*R. t. platyrhynchus*), European (*R. t. tarandus*), Finnish forest reindeer (*R. t. fennicus*), Greenland (*R. t. groenlandicus*), woodland (*R. t. caribou*) and Peary (*R. t. pearyi*). Alaska has only the barren-ground subspecies, but in Canada the barren-ground, woodland, and Peary subspecies are found.

**General description:** Caribou have large, concave hoofs that spread widely to support the animal in snow and soft tundra. The feet also function as paddles when caribou swim. Caribou are the only member of the deer family (Cervidae) in which both sexes grow antlers. Antlers of adult bulls are large and massive; those of adult cows are much shorter and are usually more slender and irregular. In late fall, caribou are clove-brown with a white neck, rump, and feet and often have a white flank stripe. The hair of newborn calves is generally reddish-brown. Newborn calves weigh an average of 13 pounds (6 kg) and grow very quickly. They may double their weight in 10-15 days. Weights of adult bulls average 350-400 pounds (159-182 kg). However, weights of 700 pounds (316 kg) have been recorded. Mature females average 175-225 pounds (80-120 kg). Caribou in northern and southwestern Alaska are generally smaller than caribou in the interior and in southern parts of the state.

**Life history:** Calving occurs in mid-late May in interior Alaska and in early June in northern and southwestern Alaska. If females are in very good condition they can breed when they are 16 months old, but in most herds they do not breed until they are 28 months old. Most adult cows are pregnant every year and give birth to one calf — twins are very rare. Wolves, grizzly bears, and golden eagles kill large numbers of newborn calves. After calving, caribou collect in large "postcalving aggregations" to avoid predators and escape mosquitoes and warble flies. These large groups of caribou stay together in the high mountains and along seacoasts where wind and cool temperatures protect them from summer heat and insects. After insect numbers decline in August, caribou scatter out and feed heavily on willow leaves and mushrooms to regain body weight.

The shedding of velvet (the fur covering on antlers) in late August and early September by large bulls marks the approach of the rutting (breeding) season and the start of fall migration. Mature bulls frequently have more than three inches of fat on the back and rump, which is used to provide energy needed during the rut. The necks of adult bull caribou swell enormously in September due to the natural production of steroid hormones like testosterone. Fighting begins in early September and becomes more frequent as the rut approaches at the end of the month. Most fights between bulls are brief bouts, but violent fights occur, and many bulls are seriously injured or killed during the rut. Many injured or exhausted bulls are killed by wolves and bears after the rut. Unlike many other members of the deer family, bull caribou do not control a harem of cows. Instead, they control a space around themselves, and prevent other bulls from breeding females within their space. The largest bulls shed their antlers in late October, but small bulls and non-pregnant cows do not shed their antlers until April. Pregnant females usually retain their antlers until calves are born in late May or early June.

**Food habits:** Like most herd animals, the caribou must keep moving to find adequate food. Large herds often migrate long distances (up to 400 miles/640 km) between summer and winter ranges. Smaller herds may not migrate at all. In summer (May-September), caribou eat the leaves of willows, sedges, flowering tundra plants, and mushrooms. They switch to lichens (reindeer moss), dried sedges (grasslike plants), and small shrubs (like blueberry) in September.

**Movements:** In Alaska, caribou prefer treeless tundra and mountains during all seasons, but many herds winter in the boreal forest (taiga). Calving areas are usually located in mountains or on open, coastal tundra. Caribou tend to calve in the same general areas year after year, but migration routes used for many years may suddenly be abandoned in favor of movements to new areas with more food. Changing movements can create problems for the Native people in Alaska and Canada who depend upon caribou for food.

Caribou movements are probably triggered by changing weather conditions, such as the onset of cold weather or snowstorms. Once they decide to migrate, caribou can travel up to 50 miles a day. Caribou apparently have a built in compass, like migratory birds, and can travel through areas that are unfamiliar to them to reach their calving grounds.

**Hunting:** Alaskan hunters shoot about 22,000 caribou each year for food. A few thousand other hunters, primarily from the lower 48 states, Europe, and Mexico, travel to Alaska to experience caribou hunting each fall. These hunters contribute significantly to the economy of the state, particularly in rural areas. Meat from caribou taken by these nonresident hunters is also required to be used for food. Alaska's great caribou herds have also become increasingly treasured as a natural wonder of state, national, and international importance.

**Population dynamics:** There are approximately 950,000 wild caribou in Alaska (including some herds that are shared by Alaska and Canada's Yukon Territory). Caribou are somewhat cyclic in number, but the timing of declines and increases, and the size to which herds grow is not very predictable. Although overhunting caused some herds to remain low in the past, today, varying weather patterns (climate), overpopulation, predation by wolves and grizzly bears, and disease outbreaks determine whether most herds increase or decrease.

In the 1970s people were concerned about the effect of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline, expanding oil development, and increased disturbance from use of aircraft and snowmobiles on caribou. Although there was some displacement of caribou calving in the Prudhoe Bay oilfield, in general, caribou have not been adversely affected by human activities in Alaska. Pipelines and most other developments are built to allow for caribou movements, and caribou have shown us that they can adapt to the presence of people and machines. As human activities expand in Alaska, the great challenge for caribou management is for man to consider the needs of our caribou herds and ensure that they remain a visible, healthy part of our landscape.

**Text: Patrick Valkenburg**  
**Illustration: ADF&G Staff**  
**Revised and reprinted 1999**

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**From:** com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 10:34 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* HB 348

Representative Wes Keller, Myself and my family are behind you in your efforts. We are all outdoorsmen and Women and have started seeing the results of the Predator control program in unit 13. We have seen more Caribou and Moose calfs and although we have not been succesfull in our big game hunts the last two years in unit 13 we are seeing more animals, and know it is just a matter of time untill we see more Leagle animals. Now if we could use our aircraft for caribou hunting in unit 13 we would have a fair chance to harvest an animal just as the atv's and boaters do. I am not shure how it came to pass that how I chose to spend my hard earned money on an aircraft instead of a boat or fleet of atv's, that it would elimanate us from participating in this hunt. My family has hunted this area with aircraft since 1965.

Thank you for your time.

Good luck!  
Randy Apling  
Sharon Apling  
Tyler Apling  
Trisha Apling  
Floyd Apling  
Ardith Apling

Anchorage, AK 99501  
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**From:** patti barber [mailto:patti.barber@alaska.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 9:53 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HJR 31 and HB348

I support these bills as written. This will enhance the value of the wild food source.

Kenny Barber

Palmer, AK 99645

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**From:** O'Connor

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 9:58 AM

**To:** Rep. Wes Keller

**Dear Representative Keller,**  
I support HB 348.

**Patrick O'Connor**

74. 1-1  
**Palmer, AK 99645**

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**From:** Dane Crowley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 9:42 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 and HJR 31

Dear Representative Wes Keller,

Thank you first for your service to the State of Alaska and for bringing the HB 348 and HJR 31 to the attention of our government body. Both of these speak to issues plaguing Alaska and must be addressed.

I whole-heartedly support HB 348 and would like to offer the following comments;

- 1) It puts Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game back into the correct role of managing Alaska's fish and game resources for ABUNDANCE and not managing people through archaic seasons, bag limits and poorly designed experiments like the proposed "any ram" hunt in 14A and 13D.
- 2) It gives Alaskans preferential use of game resources. I would like to again bring up the proposal #158 to take 13D and 14 A and eliminate an open sheep hunt for Alaskans, turn it into a draw and reduce opportunity for Alaskans by 2/3 AND allocate 10% permits for non-residents. If there are not enough sheep to have an open hunt there can be no opportunity for non-residents. I say ADF&G must manage for more sheep not limit opportunity, this bill sets it straight.
- 3) Puts into code (Pullen v Ulmer) that game is an asset much like it defined fish.
- 4) This is backed by independent tourist industry business people, backed by hunter groups, subsistence hunters, guides and native organizations because it manages for abundance and reduces in-fighting amongst Alaskans.
- 5) Allows Alaska to manage game without meddling from outside special interest with single-minded objectives not compatible with the Alaskan way of life or constitution.
- 6) Last but not least this does not change any law, law on initiatives, it simply clears the air and helps everyone see the job at hand and give them a base to work off of to do that job.

HJR 31 put another tool in our wildlife manager's tool box and we must be willing to try. If we can take nothing else from the aerial wolf control of Alaska's pre-statehood days, it's that 30 years of intense wolf eradication efforts failed to kill all of or even place Alaska's wolves into a threatened or endangered category. We simply need to put things back into balance. Like it or not People are part of the ecosystem and we are obligated to manage, let manage for healthy moose, caribou, sheep AND bear and wolves.

Thank you for your efforts and I would be more than willing to speak or lend my voice anytime. Keep up the good fight.

Dane Crowley  
Life Member FNAWS and current board member  
Life member SFW/SFH and current board member SFH.  
Palmer Alaska

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**From:** jason kottsick [mailto:jason.kottsick@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 8:51 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** I support you!!!!

Mr. Keller,

I just received an email from Scott [redacted] of the SFW. As a member of SFW, and new Alaska resident, I support what you are standing for. We NEED to have more scientific data to prove that killing predators will in-turn produce more big game and possibly more predators in the future. We must keep aerial predator hunting as a tool to control predators. This is the most humane and effective method that we have. Most importantly though, we need to educate all the people opposed to managing OUR wildlife. They need to understand that what they hear or see on some stupid commercial or from some radical is not always true. People need to learn to rely on sound data that has been produced by our biologists, not rely on what some novel gives them.

I understand that what we are fighting for is very difficult when the folks we are dealing with have a lot of support and money to fight against us. Most of those that oppose this aren't even from Alaska and don't understand subsistence and wildlife management. I respect what you are doing.

Thank you,  
Jason Kottsick

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Climb to the top of the charts! Play the word scramble challenge with star power. [Play now!](#)

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**From:** Steve Colligan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008 10:29 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 Board of Game Regulations and HJR 31 Oppose Federal Law Re; Aerial Hunting

Dear Representative Keller:

I just wanted to take this opportunity to express my support for HB348 and HJR 31. I fully believe that Alaskans should manage their own resources and follow the process and procedures that are on the books already, that support abundance management. HB348 clarifies the existing relationship between the Department, Board of Game and the Legislature. This will save untold amount of department resources from frivolous challenges from outside interest. I believe that the people nearest the resources have the clearest insight and historical knowledge of game resources in their own back yard. There is an existing process that allows open access between all parties involved, unfortunately outsiders have manipulated this process at the expense of the same people they are claiming to help.

Thank you for this bill to clarify what to many already exists.

**HJR 31:**

I am in full support of a statement of opposition to Miller of California who is touring his hand brushed show wolf. He is purposely misleading the general public with his Hollywood pet .vs the what really exist in the wild. I am offended that we as Alaskans are his fundraising poster child.

Thank you for bringing these forward for sportsman and subsistence alike.

-Steve Colligan, Wasilla, AK

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**From:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 8:37 AM  
**To:** Jim Pound  
**Subject:** FW: HB 348-HJR 31

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**From:** Dickey, Martin L [mailto:Martin.L.Dickey@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 8:33 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348-HJR 31

Good morning Wes Martin Dickey here I am a life long Alaskan of 51+ yrs and have enjoyed many years as an active fisherman and hunter the Bill HB 348 is a good start as to getting this state my home back on track and managing our own resources **all resources**.

Which brings us to the next topic Bill HJR 31. This bill is also very important in the management of our resources as wolves/predators are very necessary in nature aerial wolf hunting or fly and shoot same day for predator control based on all the available data is a very valuable tool at our disposal and should not be given away this State my State where I choose to live year round and have raised four children who all live and work here also 4 grandchildren who love the outdoors camping, hunting and fishing so lets choose to manage our resources to the best of our ability so there is always enough for all to enjoy.

Sincerely:  
Martin Dickey  
Wasilla AK. 99654

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**From:** Corey Rossi  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008 10:13 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 and HJR 31

Dear Representative Keller

I am firmly in favor of HB 348 Board of Game Regulations and HJR 31 Oppose Federal Law Re;  
Aerial Hunting.

Please keep these important bills moving forward for the good of our beloved game  
resources.

Thank you!

Corey Rossi

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**From:** Andrew Zajac ,  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008 9:50 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 & HJR 31

Dear Representative Keller,

It has just come to my attention that there will be hearings on HB 348 Board of Game . . . . and HJR 31 Oppose Federal Law . . . . . tomorrow. Please be assured that you have my support. I urge you to protect our fish and game from the encroachment of outside interests who wish to dictate how we Alaskans regulate our wildlife. I have hunted in Alaska since 1970 and have seen the decline in our game populations. Bears and wolves are nice to have around, but as predators, they need to be drastically reduced. The needs of humans come first!!

Thank you for you efforts.

Sincerely,  
Andy Zajac

2/13/2008

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**From:** Linda Frey  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008 7:29 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 and HJR 31

Dear Rep. Keller,

I am writing to encourage you in your efforts to pass HB 348 and HJR 31. We are 24 year Alaskans who now have 2 younger generations of hunters in the family. We would like to be able to take our 1 year old twins grandsons hunting and fishing as they get older. We are proud to be Alaskans and recognize that Alaskans do know what is best for our state, not outside anti-hunter groups who wouldn't know what to do with a fresh side of moose if it was handed to them.

Thanks for your work on these bills.

Linda and Dana Frey

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**From:** Dane Crowley [  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2008 11:21 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348

**To Esteemed Alaska Legislator and Public Servant:**

**Please continue to support Alaska and Alaskans, our right to manage, our right to vote and our constitutional right to the fish and game assets of Alaska.**

**Please continue to support Alaskans by supporting HB348. This bill strengthens our rights and our right to vote not some outside interest as some would lead you to believe. The bill makes no mention of any change to the initiative process and has no effect on how the initiative process is conducted. This bill also serves as the stop to the unethical and morally incomprehensible divide created by outsiders to pit Alaskans against Alaskans, rural vs. urban, sport vs. subsistence and worse yet, non-native vs. native.**

**Clarification will end this manufactured debate and allow Alaskans to manage our game. I urge you to take a stand as an elected official to support the Constitution of Alaska and do right by Alaskans. Thanks again for taking the lead on this issue; you are an asset to Alaska.**

**Sincerely,**

**Dane Crowley  
Palmer Alaska  
PO Box 99645**

**Jim Pound**

---

**From:** Wayne Heimer  
**Sent:** Monday, February 18, 2008 11:50 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller; Representative\_Jay\_Ramrus@legis.state.ak.us;  
 Representative\_Dave\_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep. Scott Kawasaki  
**Cc:** sheaphom@gci.net; kgordon@mosquitonet.com; cmmgen@mtaonline.net; grizzlybear@mosquitonet.com;  
 dcrowley@npiialaska.com; rlee@fnaws.org  
**Subject:** HB 348

Dear Representative Keller, et al.,

I and ( the 200 members of) the Alaska Chapter of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep strongly support HB 348. It is an approach to protecting Alaskans from exploitation via the ballot initiative process which has been needed for a long time. We are thrilled to see it moving legislatively.

Personally, I first saw the need for this legislation when I served as plaintiff in Heimer v. Leman, an attempt to keep the "bear baiting" initiative off the ballot. We were unsuccessful in that attempt, but Alaskans raised enough money to defeat the measure at the ballot box...about \$650K. Now, we're trying to raise three quarters of a million dollars to defeat the latest wolf protection initiative driven by established, traditional anti-management interests. These continuing election campaigns are wasteful and divisive on issues that should never have been allowed as subjects of the initiative process. The legislature will serve Alaska well to clarify the status of wild resources as assets of the state and "methods and means" as allocative in nature. This is jjust constitutional common sense.

As a member of the National Board of Directors for the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, I can assure you that this organization (representing 6,000 sheep-interested conservationists) also strongly supports this bill, even though support has been by positional consensus and not through formal action.

I understand that commercial fishing interests are opposed to this bill. Please understand that this special interest group fails to understand that it needs this protection because of its traditional political influence and the narrow ruling in Pullen v. Ulmer. These folks think they are immune from assault via ballot initiative: they aren't. About all it will take is a citizen's initiative mandating larger net mesh size to allow more fish to escape upstream (as a matter of "methods and means"), and there will be a horrible fisheries mess. I know of dissatisfied subsistence and personal use fishers who are currently agitating for such an initiative. It's time to act in the best interests of Alaskan fish and wildlife conservation, even if the "fishermen's union" doesn't think it is necessary.

Similarly, the present anti-mining initiatives represent attempts to codify *highly technical regulatory functions* (analogous to fish and wildlife "methods and means" regarding levels of discharge from mining operations) *as law* via the initiative process. This masquerades as "citizen democracy," but is really the tool of a moneyed special interest group bent on frightening the public into codifying its special interest position. We consider this very serious, and reason that HB 348 is the best approach to protecting Alaskans from special interests bent on stifeling use of Alaska's resources by cleverly allocating them to themselves for their special "non-uses." Now may not be the time to deal with the mining issue, but it is certainly the time to address the problem with fish and wildlife.

Thank you for carrying this issue forward.

Sincerely,

Wayne E. Heimer  
 President, Alaska FNAWS

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HB 348 defines Alaska's game resources as an asset of the State and expressly empowers the Board of Game to allocate these assets. This change will bring Alaska's Board of Game statutes in compliance with recent Alaska Supreme Court case law which recently ruled that fish are an asset of the State.

2/22/2008

**Jim Pound**

---

**From:** Rick and Paris Kinmon  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2008 10:59 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** Support of HB348 and HJR31

Dear Representative Keller:

I just wanted to take this opportunity to express my support for HB348 and HJR 31. I fully believe that Alaskans should manage their own resources and follow the process and procedures that are on the books already, that support abundance management. HB348 clarifies the existing relationship between the Department, Board of Game and the Legislature. This will save untold amount of department resources from frivolous challenges from outside interest. I believe that the people nearest the resources have the clearest insight and historical knowledge of game resources in their own back yard. There is an existing process that allows open access between all parties involved, unfortunately outsiders have manipulated this process at the expense of the same people they are claiming to help.

Thank you for this bill to clarify what to many already exists.

**HJR 31:**

I am in full support of a statement of opposition to Miller of California who is touring his hand brushed show wolf. He is purposely misleading the general public with his Hollywood pet .vs the what really exist in the wild. I am offended that we as Alaskans are his fundraising poster child.

Thank you for bringing these forward for sportsman and subsistence alike.

Respectfully,  
Rick Kinmon  
Wasilla, AK

**Jim Pound**

---

**From:** Matt & Jacelyn Mahoney ,  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2008 8:04 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** Complete support of HB 348; thank you for supporting us.  
**Attachments:** Matt's Moose 2006.JPG

Dear sir,

As part of a larger group of scientifically educated, politically active, sportsman I would like to thank you for sponsoring this bills. Currently there are some glaring problems with the way we ( Alaskans) are "allowed" to manage our fish and wildlife resources. Politics and emotion have replaced science as the primary management tool regarding our predator / prey relationship, and managers have become so hamstringed all they can do is provide a "opportunity" to harvest an animal. I don't want an "opportunity" that includes restricted bag limits and shorten seasons, I want more animals. Thank you for sponsoring this bill and know there is a growing group of us sportsman who stay politically active and will throw our votes behind those who support us.

Matt Mahoney

2/22/2008

**Jim Pound**

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**From:** Kathryn Folsom [  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2008 6:48 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348 & HJR31

**LONG OVER DUE FOR THIS LEGISLATION - BILL FOLSOM PALMER**

2/22/2008

**Jim Pound**

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**From:** Terry/Lucy Thisius ,  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 2:18 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB348

Re: HB348

Wes:

I am a 27 year resident of the state and an avid outdoors man. I am writing to urge your support along with your colleagues to pass this bill. I have been getting more and more aggravated by the special interest groups and their deep pockets meddling in our board of game decisions. The game and fish in this state is defined by our constitution as ours (residents of the state), and if this bill is the answer to keep the decisions at the discretion of the boards of fish and game I couldn't be more supportive and urge our legislatures to vote the same.

Thank you,  
Terry Thisius  
Palmer, AK

## Jim Pound

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**From:** K.M. Gordon  
**Sent:** Monday, February 18, 2008 10:51 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller; Rep. Jay Ramras; Representative\_Dave\_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us;  
Rep. Scott Kawasaki  
**Cc:** Wayne Heimer; sheephorn@gci.net; cmmgen@mtaonline.net; grizzlybear@mosquitonet.com;  
dcrowley@npialaska.com; rlee@fnaws.org; Sue Stancliff  
**Subject:** Please support HB 348

Dear Representatives Keller, Ramras, Guttenberg, and Kawaski:

I live in Fairbanks and encourage you to strongly support HB 348. Alaska's initiative process has become the emotional battleground for extremist environmentalists who continue to attempt to change our game laws according to their philosophical whims. Rather than using the process set forth through the Advisory Committees and the Board of Game, these folks misuse the initiative process and use it to circumvent the legitimate process already in place to effect changes in fish and game laws. This chronic use of the ballot box to make resource allocations has to stop NOW.

The Constitution states that the initiative process cannot be used to allocate the State's resources, and yet these folks, heavily funded by environmental groups from outside of Alaska, use the initiative process as their convenient tool to circumvent the current regulation system.

HB 348 would keep the allocation of natural resources safely protected under the Constitutional mandate as originally intended by its framers rather than at the whim of anti-hunting groups backed by large sums of money who would control our Alaskan lifestyle using our ballot box to accomplish their agenda.

Please support HB 348 and do the right thing to put an end to this backdoor method of allocating our natural resources. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Karen Gordon  
PO Box 61414  
Fairbanks, AK  
457-7189

## Support of HB 348

The Governor, in her inauguration speech, told Alaskans that the Department of Fish and Game had a new directive – to manage wildlife for abundance. Many of my friends and I were elated at the prospect of a new day when science rather than politics would rule, and our game populations would return to their previous high numbers. This will not happen without active predator management in some areas. While I hope and pray the Governor's commitment to abundance management does not waver, we have enemies at the door who would undermine the Governor's own priorities.

Under the guise of saving wolves, radical environmentalists have become predators themselves, warring against the people of Alaska to, in essence, take the food right off our plates by not allowing the Department of Fish and Game to manage for abundance as the Governor has said it will. If HB 348 doesn't pass, extremists will continue to abuse the initiative process to steal away the rights of Alaskans to manage our own wildlife and thus feed our people.

The war of extremists is based on emotion, not science. They reject data from the professionals at Fish and Game as inconclusive and inadequate, and cry for more studies simply to delay the demise of predators. And while we are left to haggle over who gets the last moose, the extremists will long ago have had their victory party.

Let's put an end to the abuse of the initiative process that has become the tool of too many outside special interests. Enough pandering to their emotional marketing campaigns and threats of tourist boycotts. Their continuing to make the ballot box their weapon against Alaskans is especially irksome to me when they ignore the process that already exist to deal with such matters. Moreover, it is foolishness to keep going through this debacle every time these environmentalists want to save a wolf but ignore the fact that that wolf will kill hundreds of caribou or moose.

HB 348 would enforce the Constitutional mandate that State resources cannot be allocated through the ballot box. I'm sick of it. I hope you are too.

Karen Gordon  
PO Box 61414  
Fairbanks, AK 99706

---

**From:** Andy Ziegler [ ]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 8:28 PM  
**To:** Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. John Coghill; Rep. Carl Gatto; Sen. Lyda Green; Rep. John Harris; Rep. Mike Hawker; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Rep. Craig Johnson; Rep. Wes Keller; Rep. Kevin Meyer; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Bill Stoltze; Rep. Bill Thomas; Sen. Gene Therriault; Sen. Tom Wagoner  
**Subject:** HB 348

I live in Alaska for many reasons, one of which is my hunting rights. I fully support HB348 and I hope each of you do also. Game management by the emotional vote is not very scientific and has no part in our government.

Thanks,  
Andrew Ziegler

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**From:** Richard and Joan Kerr |  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2008 12:54 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** Support HB348

**Please support House Bill 348. It is essential for responsible management of Alaska's heritage of fish and game.**

**Thank you for supporting HB348.**

**Richard Kerr**

---

**From:** Dan Caldwell  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2008 11:44 AM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 348

I strongly support HB 348 for the following reasons.

- Violate the Alaska Constitution by appropriating (or expropriating) the state's wildlife assets, independent of the legislative process (Article 11, Section 7).
- Violate the rights of consumptive users who have already been appropriated a portion of the state's wildlife assets by the legislature.
- Disproportionately harm rural subsistence users who rely on wildlife for food, yet do not have the votes to stop outside interests from harming their ability to hunt.
- Allow outside special interests (with millions of advertising dollars) to control Alaska's wildlife assets, and limit all Alaskan hunters' rights.
- Undermine professional scientific wildlife management

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Dan Caldwell

**Please get the EMOTIONAL thought out of Alaska's wildlife management once  
and for all.  
Our decimated wildlife populations deserve a LOGICAL attempt to rebalance the  
predator prey equation before it is too late.  
Please support Wess Kellers very LOGICAL HB 348  
And stop the EMOTIONAL "Balot box biology" forever.**

**Thankyou , Sincerly Doug Gross Wasilla**

**Jim Pound**

---

**From:** on behalf of D. Williams !  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 9:19 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* HB348

I urge you to support HB348 and protect my rights to hunt, fish and trap the wildlife in my state.

**Wildlife initiatives:**

- Violate the Alaska Constitution by appropriating (or expropriating) the state's wildlife assets, independent of the legislative process (Article 11, Section 7).
- Violate the rights of consumptive users who have already been appropriated a portion of the state's wildlife assets by the legislature.
- Disproportionately harm rural subsistence users who rely on wildlife for food, yet do not have the votes to stop outside interests from harming their ability to hunt.
- Allow outside special interests (with millions of advertising dollars) to control Alaska's wildlife assets, and limit all Alaskan hunters' rights.
- Undermine professional scientific wildlife management

**David Williams**

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**From:** Tony Russ [-]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 7:11 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller; Rep. Bill Stoltze; Rep. Bill Thomas; Rep. Carl Gatto; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Rep. Mark Neuman; Sen. Lyda Green  
**Subject:** H 348

Legislators,

I thank you all for continually working on our behalf in the realm of fish and game resources. HB 348 is another good step toward classifying our fish and game resources as assets that belong to all of us Alaskans equally, and should be used equally by all of us. Please support this bill, and the Senate Bills that coincide with it.

What also would be great is if we could stop ballot initiatives from being used to manage our fish and wildlife. They have no place in scientific management by professionals.

Tony Russ  
[www.ChinookShows.com](http://www.ChinookShows.com)  
"Guiding You to Success in the Alaska Outdoors"  
Tony@ChinookShows.com

ATTN: JACK

from: Sharon Long 465-4907

1.S1328 Resources

**CS FOR SS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 348 (RES)  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE-SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 02/17/08**

**Referred: Resources, Finance**

**Sponsors: REPRESENTATIVE KELLER, Johnson**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

- 1 "An Act relating to the adoption of regulations by the Board of Fisheries and the
- 2 Board of Game."

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

4 \*Section 1. AS 16.05.221 is amended by adding a new subsection to read.

- 5 (e) In this section, the terms "conservation" and "development" both require that the
- 6 appropriate Board must regulate in a manner that primarily concerns if, how, when and
- 7 where the public assets of fish or game will be allocated or appropriated.

**CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 348(RES)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE KELLER**

*Jack*  
*this passed*  
*out of committee*  
*evidently they are*  
*dissatisfied now.*  
*Sharon*

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the adoption of regulations by the Board of Game."**

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

3 **\* Section 1. AS 16.05.255(d) is amended to read:**

4 (d) Regulations adopted

5 (1) under (a) of this section must provide that, consistent with the  
6 provisions of AS 16.05.258, the taking of moose, deer, elk, and caribou by residents  
7 for personal or family consumption has preference over taking by nonresidents;

8 (2) under (a)(3), (a)(7), or (a)(10) of this section that implement,  
9 interpret, or make specific conservation and development of resources and  
10 utilization of game must primarily concern whether, how, when, and where the  
11 public asset of game will be allocated or appropriated.

AMENDMENT # \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Amendment for CSSH B 348

25-LS1328 Resources

Page 1, line 1 & 2

- 1 " An Act relating to the adoption of conservation and development regulations by the Board
- 2 of Fisheries and the Board of Game to address primary concerns relating to public assets."

# WORK ORDER REQUEST FORM

W.O. 25-LS1555

**KEYWORDS:** FISH/GAME, GAME REGULATIONS

**ASSIGNED:** Kane

**REQUEST FOR:** New Bill

**TAKEN BY:** Duffy

**SUBJECT:** Board of Game Regs. Re Public Assets

**REQUESTED FOR:** SC SRES

**BY:** Sharon Long

**PHONE:** 465-4907

**DELIVER TO:** Sen. Huggins; Attn: Sharon -- Cap. 119

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Draft bill with this title: "An Act relating to the adoption of conservation and development regulations by the Board of Game to address primary concerns relating to public assets."

The bill language is: "AS 16.05.255(j) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read: (e) in this section, the terms "conservation," "development" and "utilization" all require that the Board must regulate in a manner that primarily concerns if, how, when and where the public asset of game will be allocated or appropriated."

-- SJL - call Saxby: 269-5250 out 17.1 March 11  
(also Nelson (counseling) 269-5241  
279-2834

**OBTAIN**

**SPECIAL DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED**   
**AUTHORIZED TO CONFER WITH**

**RETURN**

**TO REQUESTOR**

**APPROVED**  **DIRECTOR, LEGAL SERVICES**

**REVIEWED** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN** 02/28/08 **DUE** \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPED: DRAFT** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROOFED** \_\_\_\_\_ **DELIVERED** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS to TYPING/PROOFING**

Would like in a couple of days to get a hearing scheduled

Request for DRAFT

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**Interim:**  
600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
Phone (907) 373-1842  
Fax: (907) 373-4729



**Session:**  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Phone: (907) 465-2186  
Fax: (907) 465-3818

## REPRESENTATIVE WES KELLER DISTRICT 14 Sponsor Statement

### SS HB 348

**"An Act relating to the adoption of regulations by the Board of Game."**

For years Alaska has devoted time and money to the management of one of its most valuable renewable resources. Wild Game represent many things to many Alaskans. Be it commercial guiding, hunting, or simply viewing wildlife, Alaska is unique and every Alaskan enjoys the gift of the resource.

Every year, Alaskans and tourists carrying in state or out of state licenses look for the moose, caribou or bear. Every summer thousands of tourist marvel at herds of caribou or a lone moose or sow with her cubs.

Alaska's wildlife is an asset. Without them not as many people would visit the state, which translates into a loss of revenue. Without them guides would not earn a living and hunters would not put food on the table.

The problem we face is that we have not allowed our Boards of game to manage the resource and allocate it for what it actually is, an asset. SS for House Bill 348 will accomplish that by inserting those important words into statute. The language makes it clear to others that it is our asset and we will manage for abundance as promised in the Alaska Constitution.

We urge your support for the language in SS for HB 348 to make it clear we understand what our wildlife truly is and what they mean. It is language that is easy to understand whether you live in Alaska or somewhere else.

E-Mail: [Representative\\_Wes\\_Keller@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us)  
Call Juneau Toll free: (800) 468-2186  
Website: [www.akrepublicans.org/keller/](http://www.akrepublicans.org/keller/)

**SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 348  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY REPRESENTATIVE KELLER**

**Introduced: 2/6/08**

**Referred:**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the adoption of regulations by the Board of Game."**

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

3 **\* Section 1. AS 16.05.255(a) is amended to read:**

4 (a) The Board of Game may adopt regulations it considers advisable in  
5 accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) for

6 (1) setting apart game reserve areas, refuges, and sanctuaries in the  
7 water or on the land of the state over which it has jurisdiction, subject to the approval  
8 of the legislature;

9 (2) establishing open and closed seasons and areas for the taking of  
10 game as a means to allocate the asset of game;

11 (3) establishing the means and methods employed in the pursuit,  
12 capture, taking, and transport of game as a means to allocate the asset of game,  
13 including regulations, consistent with resource conservation and development goals,  
14 establishing means and methods that may be employed by persons with physical  
15 disabilities;

- 1 (4) setting quotas, bag limits, harvest levels, and sex, age, and size  
2 limitations on the taking of game as a means to allocate the asset of game;
- 3 (5) classifying game as game birds, song birds, big game animals, fur  
4 bearing animals, predators, or other categories;
- 5 (6) methods, means, and harvest levels necessary to control predation  
6 and competition among game assets in the state;
- 7 (7) watershed and habitat improvement, and management,  
8 conservation, protection, use, disposal, propagation, and stocking of game;
- 9 (8) prohibiting the live capture, possession, transport, or release of  
10 native or exotic game or their eggs;
- 11 (9) establishing the times and dates during which the issuance of game  
12 licenses, permits, and registrations and the transfer of permits and registrations  
13 between registration areas and game management units or subunits is allowed;
- 14 (10) regulating sport hunting and subsistence hunting as needed for the  
15 conservation, development, and preferential use [UTILIZATION] of game;
- 16 (11) taking game to ensure public safety;
- 17 (12) regulating the activities of persons licensed to control nuisance  
18 wild birds and nuisance wild small mammals;
- 19 (13) promoting hunting and trapping and preserving the heritage of  
20 hunting and trapping in the state.

**SB**

**20001**

**(FILE 1)**



Official Business

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**SENATOR THOMAS H. WAGONER**

- Member, Resources
- Member, Community & Regional Affairs
- Member, World Trade

*LB&A  
Admin*

Session: January - May

State Capitol, #423

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907-465-2828 Fax: 907-465-4779

Interim: May - December

145 Main Street Loop; Suite 226

Kenai, AK 99611

Phone: 907-283-7996 Fax 907-283-8127

*written req.*

DATE: October 5, 2007

TO: Senator Charlie Huggins, Chair  
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Senator Tom Wagoner *Tom*

RE: ACES Legislation

*- retention of contractors of consultants*

*- hiring of retaining consultants*

*- anticipate*

*- LB&A has process for people's req.*

I think it's imperative that we have legislative consultants available at the time we begin hearing the ACES legislation.

As of this time, I have no information as to who our consultants might be.

I would like to have those names, at your earliest convenience, so I can prepare for the hearings on the legislation.

✓ Since we now have a draft bill, it seems prudent to have consultants review the draft and at least provide information on how the draft bill improves the current statute.

*- Daniel Johnson - ) lots of responsibility*

*- Patrick Van Alen - )*

*- 283-9171 direct to Cheryl*

*- 252-5651 cell*

*- Dan Decker*

*- Steve Poles*

*- purchased the Admin report - need to get this report today*

*- avail to us (availability) - summary public*

*part lands: - work on longley fields - hybrid on near rpt II*

*working on*

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



**Interim:**  
600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

**Session:**  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

**SENATOR LYDA GREEN**  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Toll Free: 1-877-465-6601

September 28, 2007

The Honorable Sarah Palin  
Governor  
State of Alaska  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Palin:

Earlier this month, during conversations with members of your staff, I indicated that the Alaska State Senate is eager to meet with administration officials to review and discuss legislation dealing with oil and gas production taxation as soon as draft legislation has been prepared by your administration. I wanted to follow up in writing regarding this issue, as well as to respectfully request that the Senate Bipartisan Working Group be notified when draft legislation is available for review by lawmakers.

As you know, the Working Group has a wide range of opinions, concerns and questions regarding the issue of oil and gas taxation. Some senators were disappointed that you decided against a gross tax, while others, including myself, believe it is premature to make further changes or additional tax increases to Alaska's recently enacted petroleum production tax before it has been in place long enough to draw impartial and meaningful conclusions about its effectiveness; as well as its potential impact on private sector investment, exploration and development, Alaska jobs, and the overall economy of our State.

It is my belief that any consideration of further changes to Alaska's oil and gas production tax must be carefully weighted, seriously analyzed and fully debated before the legislature takes any action. It is critical that we ensure that the interests of all Alaskans, as well as the economic health of the State of Alaska, are considered and protected.

Therefore, I believe it is important that all senators meet with your oil and gas team between now and the start of the special session. I propose that this meeting take place in Anchorage at the Atwood Building as soon as your draft legislation is made available.

# CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)  
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO  
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services  
Department of Education & Early Development  
State of Alaska



Official Business

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## SENATOR THOMAS H. WAGONER

- Member, Resources
- Member, Community & Regional Affairs
- Member, World Trade

*LBFA Admin*

Session: January - May  
 State Capitol, #423  
 Juneau, AK 99801  
 Phone: 907-465-2828 Fax: 907-465-4779

Interim: May - December  
 145 Main Street Loop; Suite 226  
 Kenai, AK 99611  
 Phone: 907-283-7996 Fax 907--283-8127

*written req.*

DATE: October 5, 2007  
 TO: Senator Charlie Huggins, Chair  
 Senate Resources Committee  
 FROM: Senator Tom Wagoner *Tom*  
 RE: ACES Legislation

*- retention of contractors of consultants*  
*- hiring of retaining consultants*  
*- anticipate*  
*- LBFA has process for people's req.*

I think it's imperative that we have legislative consultants available at the time we begin hearing the ACES legislation.

As of this time, I have no information as to who our consultants might be.

I would like to have those names, at your earliest convenience, so I can prepare for the hearings on the legislation.

✓ Since we now have a draft bill, it seems prudent to have consultants review the draft and at least provide information on how the draft bill improves the current statute.

*- Daniel Johnson -*  
*Peter Van Alburg -*  
*State Parks -*  
*purchase the Admin*  
*and make*  
*avail to my constituency*  
*support public*  
*working before*

*- 283-9171 direct to Cheryl*  
*- 252-5651 call "*

*per Linda: - cross on laptop*  
*- hybrid on sub*

Dan Dickinson ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Steve Perler SENATOR FOR DISTRICT 11

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# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



**Interim:**

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

**Session:**

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

Toll Free: 1-877-465-6601

**SENATOR LYDA GREEN**  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

September 28, 2007

The Honorable Sarah Palin  
Governor  
State of Alaska  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Palin:

Earlier this month, during conversations with members of your staff, I indicated that the Alaska State Senate is eager to meet with administration officials to review and discuss legislation dealing with oil and gas production taxation as soon as draft legislation has been prepared by your administration. I wanted to follow up in writing regarding this issue, as well as to respectfully request that the Senate Bipartisan Working Group be notified when draft legislation is available for review by lawmakers.

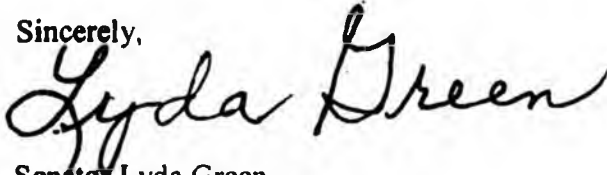
As you know, the Working Group has a wide range of opinions, concerns and questions regarding the issue of oil and gas taxation. Some senators were disappointed that you decided against a gross tax, while others, including myself, believe it is premature to make further changes or additional tax increases to Alaska's recently enacted petroleum production tax before it has been in place long enough to draw impartial and meaningful conclusions about its effectiveness; as well as its potential impact on private sector investment, exploration and development, Alaska jobs, and the overall economy of our State.

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Therefore, I believe it is important that all senators meet with your oil and gas team between now and the start of the special session. I propose that this meeting take place in Anchorage at the Atwood Building as soon as your draft legislation is made available.

**Please have your staff contact me or Portia Babcock in my Anchorage office at 269-0243, so we may schedule a meeting that works for you, your staff and for Working Group senators. Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you or your staff very soon.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda Green". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

**Senator Lyda Green  
Senate President**

cc    **All Senators  
The Honorable John Harris, Speaker of the House  
Michael Tibbles, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor  
Russ Kelly, Legislative Liaison, Office of the Governor**

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



**Location:**

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 576-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

**Session:**

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

**SENATOR LYDA GREEN**  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Toll Free: 1-877-465-6601

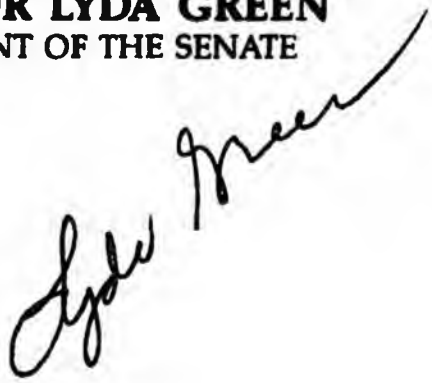
## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** ALL SENATORS  
Alaska State Legislature

**FROM:** Senator Lyda Green  
President of the Senate

**DATE:** September 14, 2007

**RE:** Special Session called by Governor Palin



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This memorandum is to inform you of the details concerning the upcoming special session called by Governor Palin to be held in Juneau commencing on October 18, 2007.

Citations and memoriams will not be introduced during this special scssion. Although the introduction of legislation during the special session can not be prohibited, remember that any such legislation will not carry over to the next regular session.

I am planning to convene the Senate at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 18, 2007, and will begin the work of the Alaska State Senate immediately. In order to facilitate completing the work of the Senate in an expeditious, efficient and cost-effective manner, weekend breaks, session recesses and additional travel will not be authorized during this special session.

Only those staff (outside of Juneau) required to assist designated committee chairman or who are essential to provide assistance in conducting this special session will receive my approval to travel; approval must be granted prior to receiving authorization to travel. It is my intention that very few staff will travel.

If you have not done so already, please make your travel arrangements through Brandi Billings in the LAA Accounting office.

If you have questions regarding travel, please contact Ginger in my office at 465-5038. If you have non-travel related questions regarding the special session, please contact Portia in my office at 269-0243. Thank you.

**SARAH PALIN**  
GOVERNOR  
GOVERNOR@GOV.STATE.AK.US



P.O. Box 110001  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811 0001  
(907) 465-3500  
FAX (907) 465-3532  
WWW.GOV.STATE.AK.US

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**JUNEAU**

August 3, 2007

The Honorable John Harris  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
716 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 300  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Dear Speaker Harris:

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to your May 7 letter offering your support and cooperation with regard to matters related to the Petroleum Profits Tax (PPT). It was a pleasure reading that we are on the same page regarding the need to revisit PPT this year.

As you requested, I looked into the process in which the PPT was adopted, and I directed the Department of Revenue to review the implementation of PPT. Examination of the public records associated with the public corruption probe and indictments surrounding the passage of PPT last year provide sufficient evidence to conclude that the outcome of the PPT vote was a result of undue influence. In the interest of maintaining the public integrity of our tax system, the legislature should revisit PPT as soon as possible.

Enclosed is a status report on the performance of PPT to date which was recently completed by the Department of Revenue. As you can see, the performance of our new production tax law has fallen short of the goals and objectives touted by its proponents last year. Not only is the new tax resulting in far lower tax receipts than was originally estimated, the investment incentives incorporated into the new system have proven less valuable to explorers than was predicted when the bill was passed. This is unacceptable. Declining North Slope oil production is the most critical revenue issue facing Alaska today. It is imperative that the state provide incentives to explorers to take the risks necessary to discover new sources of oil production.

The Honorable John Harris  
August 3, 2007  
Page 2

Having reviewed the process leading up to the adoption of the PPT, as well as its performance, I am left with no other conclusion than to remain committed to call a special session.

This is no time for politics and rhetoric. Rather, it's time for good, sound policy that puts the interests of Alaska first. We can ill afford to undervalue a nonrenewable resource such as oil. However, if care is not taken, we jeopardize our long-term prosperity. I am confident we can work together to develop a law that balances an appropriate share of revenue generated from our petroleum resources with an attractive investment climate.

No doubt, there will be critics to whatever proposal is put forward and as we both know it is easy to posture and find fault. However, it will take real leadership committed to find the right solution for the long-term. I urge you and all your colleagues in the legislature to join me in showing Alaskans that we can demonstrate leadership by working together for the common good of our state.

With these thoughts in mind, it is my intention to call a special session of the Alaska State Legislature on October 18. I have directed the Department of Revenue to prepare a proposal to respond to the substantive deficiencies with PPT. I expect a proposal ready for release to the public by September 4. This will provide more than 40 days for the public and legislature to become familiar with the proposal before the special session begins.

I look forward to your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sarah Palin  
Governor

# Alaska State Legislature

*Session: (Jan-May)*  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4859  
Fax (907) 465-3799



*Interim: (June-Dec)*  
716 West 4th Avenue, Suite 300  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133  
(907) 269-0129  
Fax (907) 269-0128

**John Harris**  
**Speaker of the House**

May 7, 2007

The Honorable Sarah Palin  
Governor, State of Alaska  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Palin: 

In light of all the controversy swirling around the Petroleum Production Tax and the means to which it was adopted, I wish to express my support for a special session to revisit the tax legislation should you decide that one is needed.

I hope you will undertake a review of the process in which the PPT was adopted and decide whether or not the conclusion reached by the Legislature was flawed and tainted to the point that the PPT needs to be revisited.

With the clouds of suspicion hanging over the State today, I pledge my support and full cooperation should you decide to call us back into special session. I respectfully await your decision and look forward to working with your administration to put the events of these past few days behind us and work toward moving our state forward in a positive direction.

Sincerely, 

Representative John Harris  
Speaker, Alaska State House



*FPT*  
*Sp Session*

SENATOR KIM ELTON

MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 3, 2007  
**TO:** Senator Lyda Green, Senate President  
**FROM:** *[Signature]* Senator Kim Elton  
**SUBJ:** Special session

A long special session is best held in Juneau for several important reasons. Administrative staff, legislative legal, legislative finance, and legislative research staff are important to the smooth functioning of a special session that will be lengthy and contentious. In Juneau, each member will have an office and office accoutrements with phone numbers assigned so constituents can contact their legislators.

I've attached the bookings for the Egan Center and the Carlson Center for your information. The Alaska Federation of Natives is holding its annual convention in Fairbanks from October 22 - 27 at the Carlson Center and the Egan Center calendar shows its facility booked for all but a few days during October and November.

In order to realize the governor's vision of having legislative activity on the road system, I believe holding committee meetings around Alaska before the special session begins fulfills that vision. Committee chairs can hold meetings in both urban and rural areas of the state to get the most public participation as possible before we meet.

Please let me know if there's anything I can do to facilitate a challenging special session.

Attachments

cc: Senate majority members

Post-It Fax Note	7671	Date	8/6/07	Page	7
To	Sharon	From	Judy		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #		Fax #			