



**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**

**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK  
99518**

**March 29-31, 2022**

Public Packet

Office of Governor  
**MIKE DUNLEAVY**

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## Roster

### Big Game Commercial Services Board

NAME	APPOINTED	REAPPOINTED	EXPIRES
<b>Bloomquist, Aaron</b> (Copper Center) Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	03/01/2021		03/01/2025
<b>Boniek, Martin</b> (Glennallen) Licensed Transporters	03/01/2021		03/01/2025
<b>Buist, Peter</b> (Fairbanks) Public	05/21/2019	03/01/2021	03/01/2025
<b>Bunch, Jason</b> (Kodiak) Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	03/02/2018	03/01/2019	03/01/2023
<b>Burnett, Jerry</b> (Juneau) Designated Game Board Member/Restricted	01/21/2021		03/01/2024
<b>Flores, Michael</b> (Soldotna) Licensed Transporters	05/11/2020		03/01/2023
<b>Nordlum, Clay</b> (Kotzebue) Private Landholders/Restricted	06/25/2021	03/01/2022	03/01/2026
<b>Vacant</b> () Public			03/01/2022
<b>Vacant</b> () Private Landholders/Restricted			03/01/2024

[Board Fact Sheet](#)



**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development**  
**Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing**  
**Big Game Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK 99518**

Zoom Meeting Call-In # 669-900-6833  
 408-638-0968  
 346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 858 5516 3605  
 Password: **908162**

**TENTATIVE MEETING AGENDA**  
**March 29, 2022**

1. 9:00 am Roll call/Call to Order
2. 9:05 am Review Agenda 11/30/21
3. 9:10 am Ethics Review
4. 9:15 am Review/Approve Meeting Minutes
  - A. *February 2022*
5. 9:30 am State & Federal Agency Updates
  - A. Dept. of Fish & Game
  - B. Dept. of Natural Resources
  - C. Bureau of Land Management
  - D. Mental Health Trust
  - E. North Slope Borough Planning & Community Services Dept.
  - F. US Forest Service
  - G. Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
  - H. Board of Game – Jerry Burnett
  - I. Alaska Wildlife Troopers
6. 12:00 pm Lunch Break
7. 1:30 pm Division Update
  - A. *Current fiscal report*
  - B. *Fee analysis*
8. 2:30 pm Investigations Unit
  - A. *Probation Monitor Report*
  - B. *Investigative Report*
  - C. *Executive Session*
9. 4:30 Recess

# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

## **Meeting Minute Review**

1 State of Alaska  
 2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
 3 DIVISION OF CORPORATION, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
 4

5 BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD  
 6 Minutes of the meeting February 4, 2022  
 7

8 *These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and*  
 9 *Professional Licensing. These minutes have not been approved by the Board.*

10  
 11 By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.86.030, and in compliance with the provisions of  
 12 AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Big Game Commercial Services Board originated  
 13 from Juneau, 333 Willoughby Ave.; this meeting was held via Zoom.  
 14

15 **Friday, February 4, 2022**  
 16

17 **The Chair brought the meeting to order at 9:03 am**  
 18

19 **Board Members Present Constituting a Quorum:**

20 Jason Bunch - Licensed Registered Guide-Board Chair

21 Martin Boniek - Licensed Transporter

22 Pete Buist - Public Member

23 Aaron Bloomquist - Registered Guide Outfitter

24 Ely Cyrus – Private Landowner

25 Mike Flores – Licensed Transporter  
 26

27 **Board members absent:**

28 Adam Trombley – Public Member *EXCUSED*

29 Clay Nordlum – Private Landowner *EXCUSED*

30 Jerry Burnett - Board of Game Representative *EXCUSED*  
 31

32 **Staff Members present:**

33 Renee Hoffard – Executive Administrator

34 Thomas Bay – Licensing Examiner

35 Lee Strout – Investigator

36 Michelle Hearn – Probation Monitor

37 Jennifer Summers – Senior Investigator  
 38

39 **Members of the Public Present included:**  
 40

41 **Agenda Item - Review Agenda:**

42 The board reviewed the agenda that was approved by Board Chair Jason Bunch.  
 43

44 **Agenda Item – Ethics Review**

45 Chair Bunch reviewed ethics policies with the board; there were no disclosures of ethics  
 46 conflicts.

47 **Agenda Item - Review Meeting Minutes:**

48 The board reviewed draft meeting minutes for the November 30 – December 2, 2021 meeting  
49 held by the board. Pete Buist requested corrections.

50 A. page 3, line 107 to read “permits and does require guides to have a permit when providing  
51 services anywhere within NSP.”

52 B. Page 6, line 275 change “uptake” to “increase”

53

54 **In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Mike Flores with unanimous  
55 consent, it was resolved to approve the November 30 – December 2, 2021 meeting minutes  
56 as amended.**

57

58 **Agenda Item – Assign representative(s) for legislative session:**

59 The board discussed which board members should speak on behalf of the board at legislative  
60 hearings for the current session if required. It was determined that Chair Bunch, Aaron  
61 Bloomquist or Mike Flores would speak if needed. The specific board member to speak should  
62 be based upon which of the three is available at the time of the hearing.

63

64 **Agenda Item – Application review (tabled and/or “Yes” answers):**

65

66 **In accordance with the provisions of Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c), Aaron Bloomquist moved to  
67 go into executive session for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the  
68 reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.  
69 Board staff to remain for the session. Pete Buist seconded the motion. Motion passed via  
70 unanimous consent.**

71

72 **Off record at 9:19 am**

73 **Return to record 9:55 am pm**

74

75 **On a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist, via roll call vote, it was  
76 RESOLVED to approve Assistant Guide license 182810, Ronald Turner. Motion passed;**

77

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Aaron Bloomquist	X			
Jerry Burnett				X
Martin Boniek	X			
Peter Buist	X			
Ely Cyrus	X			
Adam Trombley				X
Mike Flores	X			
Clay Nordlum				X
Jason Bunch, Chair	X			

78

79 **On a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist, via roll call vote, it was  
80 RESOLVED to approve Assistant Guide license 181594, Frank Maestri II. Motion passed;**

81

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Aaron Bloomquist	X			
Jerry Burnett				X
Martin Boniek	X			
Peter Buist	X			
Ely Cyrus	X			
Adam Trombley				X
Mike Flores	X			
Clay Nordlum				X
Jason Bunch, Chair	X			

82

83 **Agenda Item - Investigations Unit:**

84 Probation Monitor Michelle Hearn provided the probation report. At the time of the report  
 85 there were 18 licenses holders on probation, 13 of whom were in compliance. Since the fall  
 86 board meeting, 8 license holders were released from probation.

87

88 **In accordance with the provisions of Alaska Statute 44.62.310(c), Aaron Bloomquist moved to**  
 89 **go into executive session for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the**  
 90 **reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.**  
 91 **Board staff and investigative staff to remain for the session. Pete Buist seconded the motion.**  
 92 **Motion passed via unanimous consent.**

93

94 **Off record at 10:23 am**

95 **Return to record 11:21 am**

96

97 **In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist with unanimous**  
 98 **consent, it was resolved to grant a 1 (one) year extension on payment of civil fine in case 20-**  
 99 **0610-GUI for Creig Butler.**

100

101 **On a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist, via roll call vote, it was**  
 102 **RESOLVED to accept the Voluntary Surrender of license for case number 2020-000222.**

103 **Motion passed;**

104

Board Member	Approve	Deny	Recuse	Absent
Aaron Bloomquist	X			
Jerry Burnett				X
Martin Boniek	X			
Peter Buist	X			
Ely Cyrus	X			
Adam Trombley				X
Mike Flores	X			
Clay Nordlum				X
Jason Bunch, Chair	X			

105

106 EA Renee Hoffard notified the board of division intent to have the meeting information for the  
107 March 2022 board meeting posted to the program webpage no later than March 10, 2022. She  
108 is working with the travel desk to secure a meeting location outside of the state offices where  
109 the meeting was held in November-December 2021.

110

111 Having concluded all scheduled business, Chair Bunch adjourned the meeting.

112

113 Off record at 11:35 pm.

114

115 Respectfully Submitted,

116

117 \_\_\_\_\_

118 Renee Hoffard  
119 Executive Administrator

120

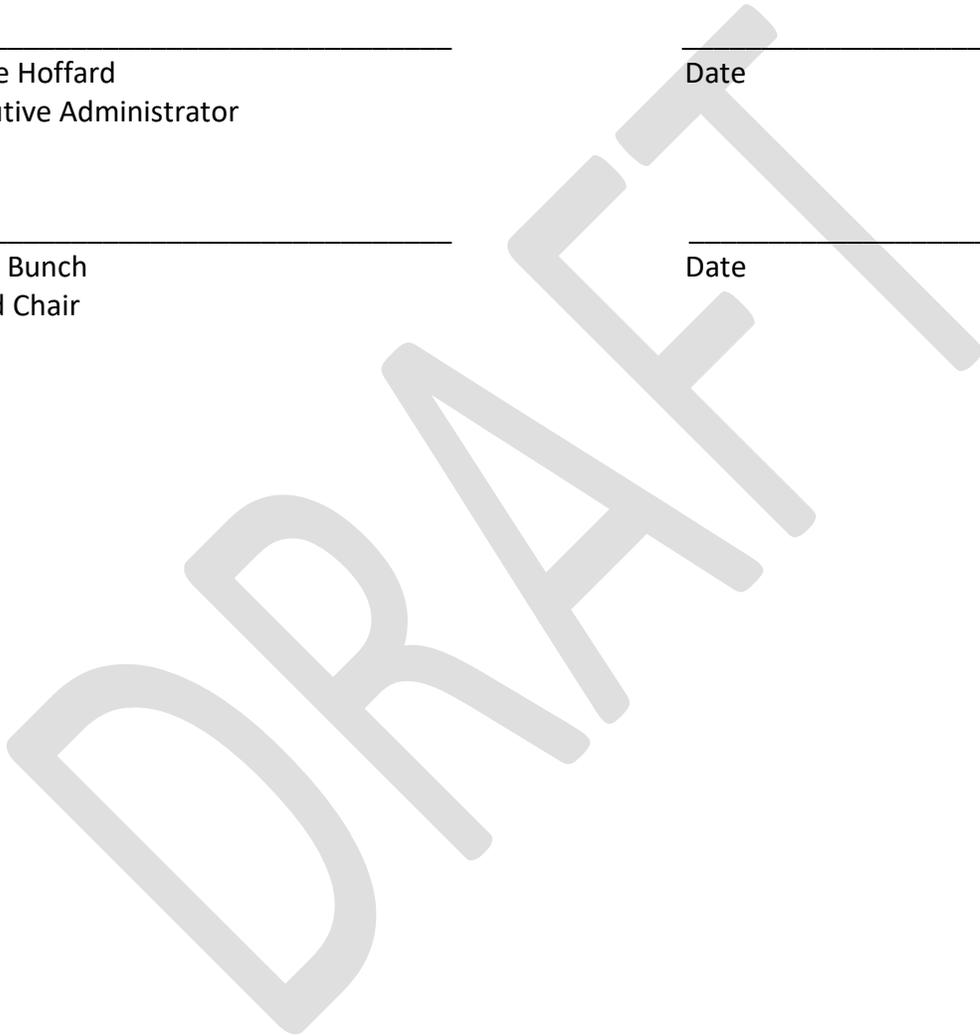
121

122 \_\_\_\_\_

123 Jason Bunch  
124 Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK  
99518**

**Agency Updates**  
**March 29, 2022**

9:30 am State & Federal Agency Updates

- A. Dept. of Fish & Game
- B. Dept. of Natural Resources
- C. Bureau of Land Management
- D. Mental Health Trust
- E. North Slope Borough Planning & Community Services Dept.
- F. US Forest Service
- G. Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- H. Board of Game – Jerry Burnett
- I. Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
All Regions: SERO, SCRO, NRO

**Big Game Commercial Services Board Annual Meeting**  
**Annual Meeting Outline**  
**DNR Agency Update**

Prepared by: Pete Mueller 11.12.2021  
Updated by: Nikki Potter 3.14.2022  
Prepared for: Annual meeting on 3.29.2022

## OVERVIEW

- **Introductions**
  - Person presenting
    - we also have a handful of other staff on this call
  - A brief explanation of regions: NRO, SCRO, SERO (<https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/lands/>)
    - NRO- covers the northern half of the state, including Fairbanks, Barrow, and Nome.
    - SCRO – covers roughly the southern half of the state, excluding the southeast panhandle. SCRO includes the Aleutian Chain, Kodiak and Anchorage.
    - SERO- consists of the panhandle and includes Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka and Yakutat.

## Announcements

- The DNR and DCCED have a two-way communication door. We cross-reference current business and professional license and landowner permission
- Fill out applications completely, please! – “same as last year” does not work.
- DNR does not fill out the ‘Land Use Auth Form” for BGCSB; Your permit is your landowner permission and should be presented to BGCSB/Renee to provide land-owner permission
- We are working to be consistent across regions and streamline processes
- No courtesy billing notice of payment due
- If you have a separate entity filming your hunt, your auth does NOT cover them. They need their own authorization (and business license) to be filming commercially on general state land.
- The DNR does not provide guides exclusive areas/proximity; for concerns about code of ethics please contact BGCSB
- We are open for business; call ahead, make an appointment so we are available for you – have staff in office M-F 8:30-5

## General

- **General State Land** - uplands, shore lands, tidelands, and submerged lands

- An authorization from the state DNR is required to operate a commercial guiding business on these lands, called 'land-owner permission' in the form of a permit or registration. There are 3 main types of permits.
- **Generally Allowed Uses** – anything beyond GUA needs an authorization  
<https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/cdn/pdf/factsheets/generally-allowed-uses.pdf>;

## **PERMITS** – do not convey an interest in state land. Revokable at will

- 1. Commercial Day-Use Registration**
  - 2. Commercial Recreation Permit and other OTC permits**
  - 3. Land Use Permit**
- 1. Commercial Day-Use Registration** – CDUR - \$80 plus \$4 Visitor Day-Use Fee(VDUF)
    - This authorization applies to Commercial Guiding Outfits that return to land *other* than state land each night. For example, the hunting party return to a private lodge each night. No overnight, no caching
    - Self-registration online, up to 3 Guide Use Areas
      - Pay VDUF at end of season
  - 2. Commercial Recreation Permit** – CRP: \$800+ \$4 VDUF 6 mo or less; \$1600+ \$4 VDUF for 7-12mo
    - Annual Authorization applies to portable commercial recreation camp
      - Receives an 'LAS' number – Land Administration System – over-the counter
      - CRP's expire at the end of the calendar year.
      - Commercial Guiding of clients on general state land up to 14 days
        - Move at least 2 miles for a minimum of 96 hours after 14 days
      - Up to 3 spike camps: 1 basecamp(14 days) and 2 spike(14 days)
      - If you have/want more than 3 spike camps simultaneously, get another CRP
      - DNR does not have catalog of location of CRPs – know how many are in a GUA, but not specifically where it exactly is located
      - Application available on DNR website- remember these are 1-year terms although GUAs are issued in 3-5 year terms now- need this every year from DNR
  - 3. Other OTC permits** – streamline the permitting process and reduce backlog. Traditionally these authorizations were captured under a LUP or in some cases an easement. Processing LUPs and easements is time consuming for staff and for low-impact activities, this is not always necessary.
    - Events
    - Personal Use Waterlines
    - Storage – in progress
    - Docks – in progress
    - XC travel – in progress
    - Mooring buoys – in progress
  - 4. Land Use Permit** – LUP – \$400 application fee; varying annual cost to activity plus \$4 VDUF

- Used for authorizations exceeding 14 days in one location
- Receives a LAS number – 30-day adjudication process
  - 14-day public notice and agency review
  - bonding and insurance
- Seasonal and year-round comm rec camps authorized for up to 5-year term – annual fee
  - Can be removed in 48 hours or less
  - Cabins, platforms, caching, off-season caching
  - Up to two spike camps within 50 miles or adjacent GUA in addition to basecamp
  - May require annual report: seasonal demobilization and VDUF payment
    - Always photo doc in field – bring a camera every visit
  - Requires completion report – termination of authorization
    - Documentation required!

*Land Use Permit* applications are processed in the order received, ideally a LUP will take 30 days after receiving a complete application with app fee payment. Best practice is to give the DNR staff as much lead time as possible for new issuance and reissuance.

## OTHER INFORMATION

- **Amendment**
  - Applies to CRPs and LUPs – contact us *before* you change something about your auth
    - Adding GUA
    - Required when relocating LUP camp, scope of structures at camp, etc
  - Amendment fee may apply
- **Closure**
  - Requires completion report per stipulations of permit including photos
  - Successful closure is complete vacation of site; return of state’s interest in bond
  - A bond can be garnished for non-compliance, ie leaving stuff in field, back fees
- **Field Inspections**
  - DNR staff conduct regular field inspections
    - No notice of inspection
    - DNR may provide a report of site
    - If violation to permitted activity or stipulations – potential unauthorized use fine and rectification

## HELPFUL TOOLS

- Alaska Mapper
  - Working on getting the GUA layer into mapper
  - <https://mapper.dnr.alaska.gov/docs/UserGuide.pdf>
- Website
  - <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/lands/permitting/factsheets>:  
<https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsheets/>

- Email correspondence
  - Fillable forms (applications) are here!
- DNR now has Annual and Completion report forms

Thank you BGCS board for inviting the DNR to present at this year's annual meeting. We are always here to help answer any questions and serve the commercial guiding industry. Thank you!



# Trust

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## Land Office



## **BIG GAME GUIDE PERMIT PROGRAM ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST TRUST LAND OFFICE**

BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD

MARCH 29, 2022

# Trust

## Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

### WHAT IS THE ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AND WHY WAS IT CREATED?

*It is the duty of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to provide leadership in the advocacy, planning, implementing and funding of services and programs for Trust beneficiaries. The Trust Land Office is contracted exclusively by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to manage its approximately one million acres of land and other non-cash assets to generate revenue to better serve our beneficiaries.*

- The Alaska Mental Health Enabling Act was passed in 1956
- Grant of 1 million acres of unappropriated and unreserved land
- Land to be used to generate revenue to invest in a comprehensive mental health program
- Surface and subsurface estate



**MENTAL HEALTH  
TRUST SURFACE  
ESTATE**

# TRUST LAND OFFICE MISSION

- Management of the Trust land and resources for the best interest and benefit of Trust beneficiaries
- Maximize revenues – land sales, permitting, leasing, easements, utilities, mining, timber, etc.
- Land stewardship efforts to protect inherent value for today and into perpetuity – clean and maintain, resolve trespass, monitor unauthorized use, compliance, etc.





## BIG GAME GUIDE PERMIT PROGRAM

- One exclusive permit per large land tract
- \$500 application fee
- Commercial liability insurance and bonding required
- Five-year permit with a potential five-year renewal
- Permittee allowed motorized use, access, and temporary camps
- [www.alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/trust-land-office/land-sales/biggameguidepermits/](http://www.alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/trust-land-office/land-sales/biggameguidepermits/)

## BIG GAME GUIDE PERMIT PROGRAM MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- A master guide or have at least 8 years of experience as a registered guide.
  - Good standing with the Big Game Commercial Services Board.
  - Certified to guide in the subject Game Management Unit.
  - Good standing with the Trust Land Office.
- [www.alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/trust-land-office/land-sales/biggameguidepermits/](http://www.alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/trust-land-office/land-sales/biggameguidepermits/)





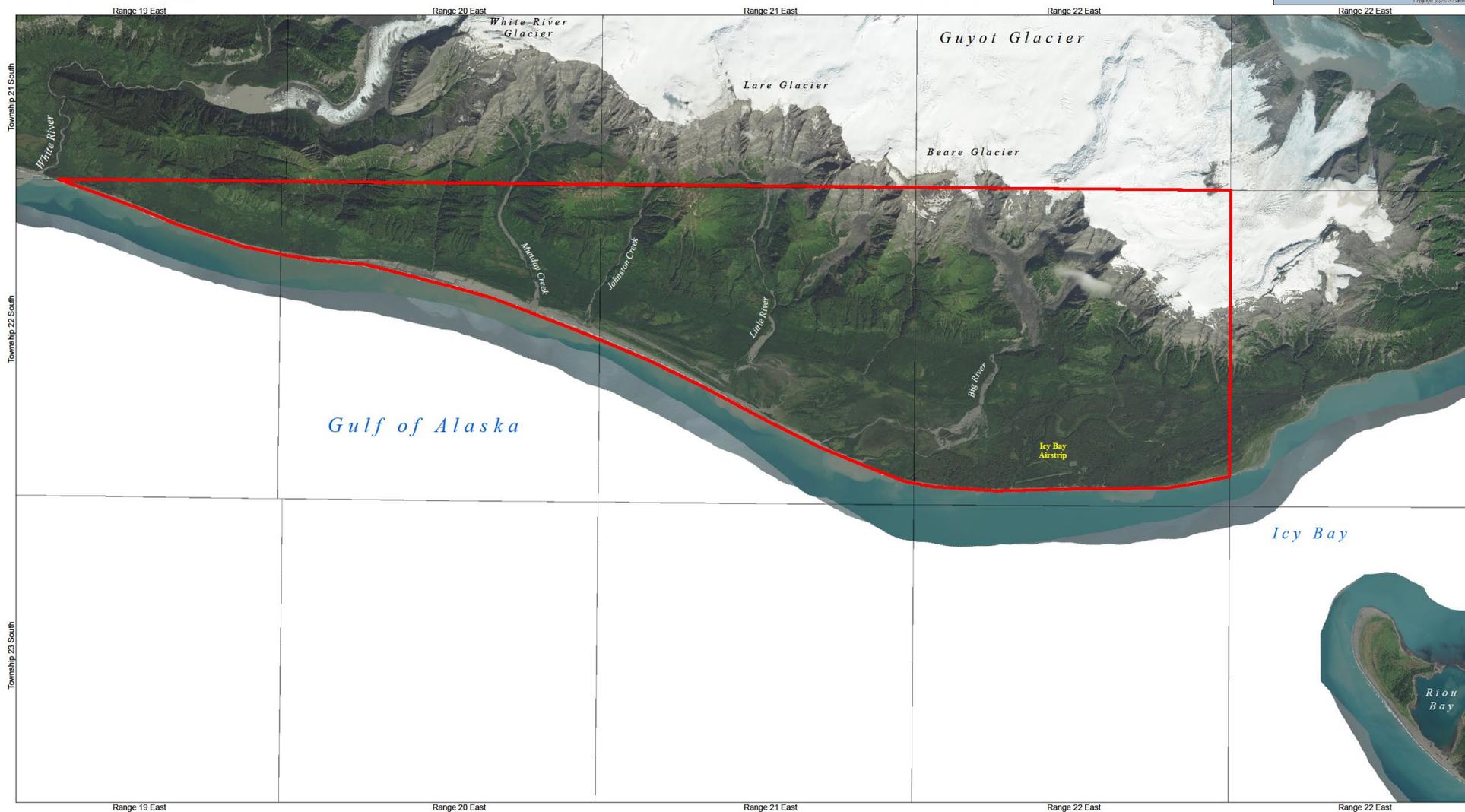
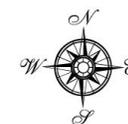
Trust  
Land Office

# Alaska Mental Health Trust Land and Airstrip at Icy Bay - MHT 9100992

All land within Township 22 South, Ranges 19 - 22 East and 23 South, Ranges 21 - 22 East, Copper River Meridian.  
Total Acreage: Approximately 50,000 acres. Game Management Unit 6A, Guide Use Area 6-01.

GIS Standard Map Disclaimer: This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

 Mental Health Parcel



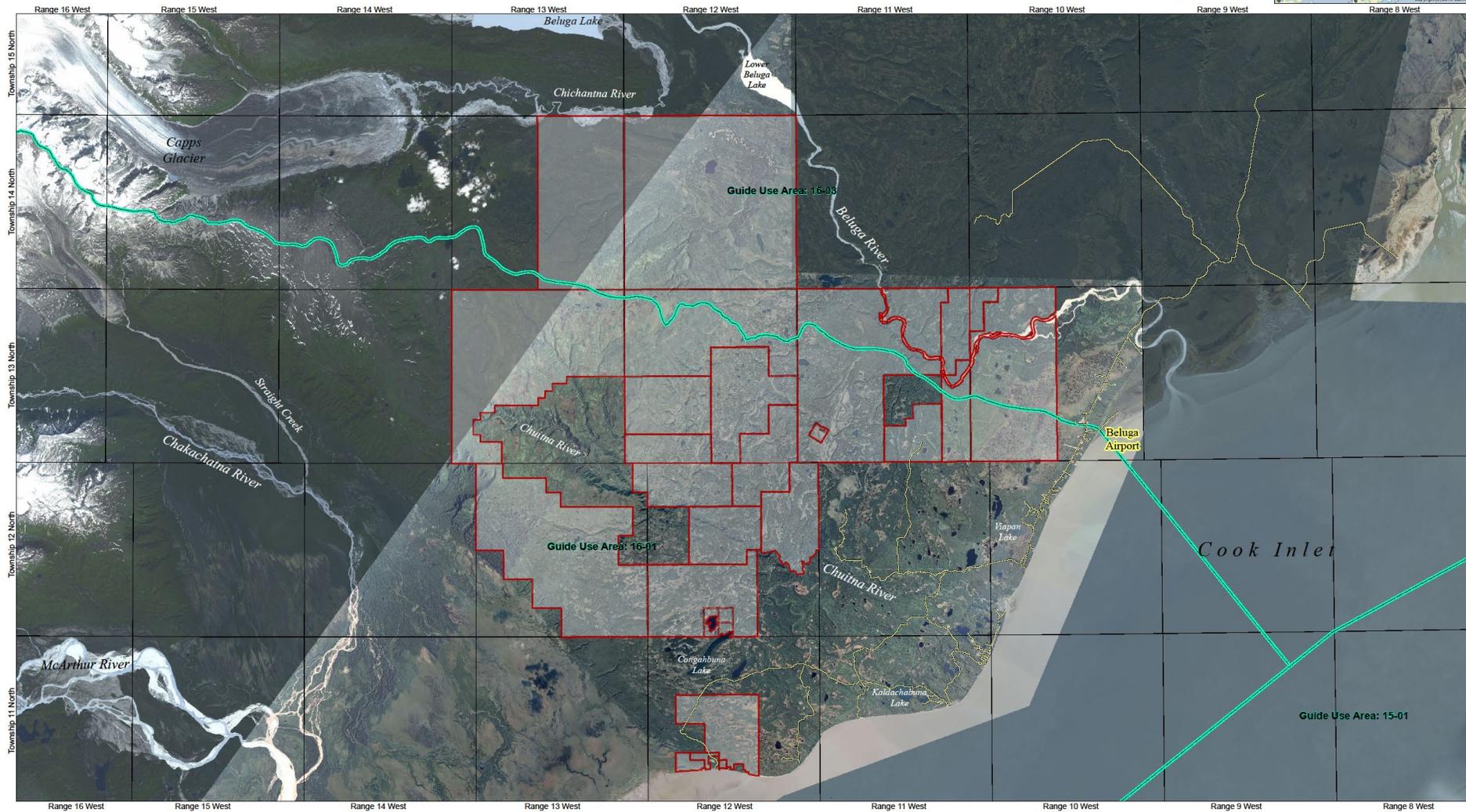
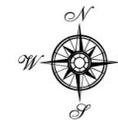


# Alaska Mental Health Trust Land at Tyonek - MHT 9200749

Trust Parcels located within Township 11 North, Range 12 West; Township 12 North, Ranges 12-13 West; Township 13 North, Ranges 10-13 West; and Township 14 North, Ranges 12-13 West, Seward Meridian.  
Total Acreage: Approximately 141,000 acres. Game Management Unit 16B, Guide Use Areas 16-01 and 16-03.

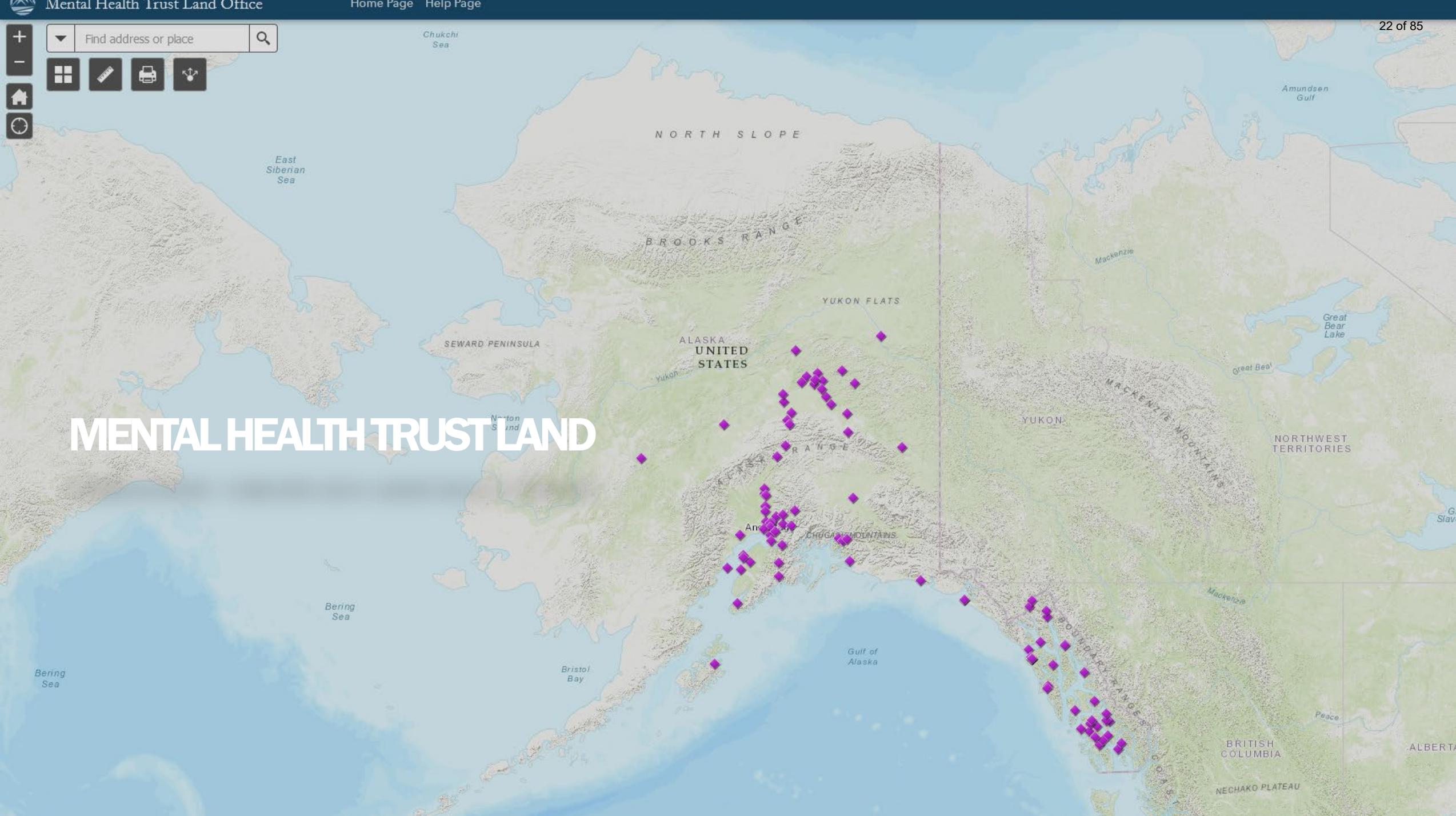
GIS Standard Map Disclaimer: This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

- Roads
- Guide Use Area
- Mental Health Parcel



Map navigation controls including a search bar with the text "Find address or place", a search icon, and icons for zooming, home, and refresh.

# MENTAL HEALTH TRUST LAND





**RESTRICTED USE  
NOTICE**  
LANDS OWNED BY THE  
ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH  
TRUST  
ONLY NON-COMMERCIAL, NON-  
MOTORIZED, DAY USE OF THIS LAND  
IS ALLOWED UNLESS AUTHORIZED  
BY PERMIT  
For more information on Permits or to  
report unauthorized use, please contact:  
 Trust  
Land Office  
3500 C...

**THANK YOU!**

Chandler Long  
Trust Resource Manager  
(907) 269-8421  
(907) 225-6619  
[chandler.long@alaska.gov](mailto:chandler.long@alaska.gov)

# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

## **Division Update**

- A. 2nd Quarter Fiscal Report**
- B. Fee Analysis**

Department of Commerce Community, and Economic Development  
Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Summary of All Professional Licensing  
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures

Big Game Commercial Services Board, Guide-Outfitters	FY 16			FY 17			Biennium			FY 18			FY 19			Biennium			FY 20			FY 21			Biennium			FY 22			
<b>Revenue</b>																															
Revenue from License Fees	\$	1,057,847	\$	485,669	\$	1,543,516	\$	1,122,760	\$	405,090	\$	1,527,850	\$	1,061,930	\$	458,520	\$	1,520,450	\$	676,920											
General Fund Received																															
Allowable Third Party Reimbursements		-		225		225		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,057,847</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>485,894</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,543,741</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,122,760</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>405,090</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,527,850</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,061,930</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>458,520</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,520,450</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>676,920</b>											
<b>Expenditures</b>																															
Non Investigation Expenditures																															
1000 - Personal Services		118,573		78,939		197,512		103,082		85,533		188,615		116,391		128,509		244,900		83,287											
2000 - Travel		17,545		14,814		32,359		10,047		10,107		20,154		9,328		3,751		13,079		3,079											
3000 - Services		49,702		24,199		73,901		35,454		28,371		63,825		50,200		23,671		73,871		945											
4000 - Commodities		1,518		212		1,730		3,092		2,560		5,652		41		165		206		1,962											
5000 - Capital Outlay		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-											
<b>Total Non-Investigation Expenditures</b>		<b>187,338</b>		<b>118,164</b>		<b>305,502</b>		<b>151,675</b>		<b>126,571</b>		<b>278,246</b>		<b>175,960</b>		<b>156,096</b>		<b>332,056</b>		<b>89,273</b>											
Investigation Expenditures																															
1000-Personal Services		124,462		127,020		251,482		118,456		146,016		264,472		150,184		148,053		298,237		69,473											
2000 - Travel		-		-		-		-		-		-		1,099		-		1,099		-											
3023 - Expert Witness		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		2,981		2,981		-											
3088 - Inter-Agency Legal		85,834		23,942		109,776		101,433		167,574		269,007		46,637		59,243		105,880		-											
3094 - Inter-Agency Hearing/Mediation		21,387		5,318		26,705		7,138		69,542		76,680		20,485		38,084		58,569		4,140											
3000 - Services other		-		-		-		-		1,524		1,524		1,730		612		2,342		-											
4000 - Commodities		-		-		-		-		270		270		49		300		349		54											
<b>Total Investigation Expenditures</b>		<b>231,683</b>		<b>156,280</b>		<b>387,963</b>		<b>227,027</b>		<b>384,926</b>		<b>611,953</b>		<b>220,184</b>		<b>249,273</b>		<b>469,457</b>		<b>73,667</b>											
<b>Total Direct Expenditures</b>		<b>419,021</b>		<b>274,444</b>		<b>693,465</b>		<b>378,702</b>		<b>511,497</b>		<b>890,199</b>		<b>396,144</b>		<b>405,369</b>		<b>801,513</b>		<b>162,940</b>											
Indirect Expenditures																															
Internal Administrative Costs		59,545		51,116		110,661		69,514		65,321		134,835		70,156		59,162		129,318		29,581											
Departmental Costs		43,045		46,041		89,086		48,099		47,629		95,728		39,754		37,509		77,263		18,755											
Statewide Costs		15,685		23,522		39,207		24,759		24,123		48,882		35,119		37,959		73,078		18,980											
<b>Total Indirect Expenditures</b>		<b>118,275</b>		<b>120,679</b>		<b>238,954</b>		<b>142,372</b>		<b>137,073</b>		<b>279,445</b>		<b>145,029</b>		<b>134,630</b>		<b>279,659</b>		<b>67,316</b>											
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>537,296</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>395,123</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>932,419</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>521,074</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>648,570</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,169,644</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>541,173</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>539,999</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,081,172</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>230,256</b>											
<b>Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)</b>																															
Beginning Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	\$	(1,120,051)	\$	(599,500)	\$	(508,729)	\$	(150,523)	\$	370,234	\$	288,755	\$	(150,523)	\$	370,234	\$	288,755	\$	288,755											
Annual Increase/(Decrease)		520,551		90,771		601,686		(243,480)		(81,479)		446,664		520,757		(81,479)		446,664		446,664											
Ending Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	\$	(599,500)	\$	(508,729)	\$	92,957	\$	(150,523)	\$	288,755	\$	735,419	\$	370,234	\$	288,755	\$	288,755	\$	735,419											
<b>Statistical Information</b>																															
Number of Licenses for Indirect calculation		1,770		1,574		1,730		1,467		1,624		1,446																			

**Additional information:**

- Fee analysis required if the cumulative is less than zero; fee analysis recommended when the cumulative is less than current year expenditures; no fee increases needed if cumulative is over the current year expenses \*
- Most recent fee change: New fee added FY19
- Annual license fee analysis will include consideration of other factors such as board and licensee input, potential investigation load, court cases, multiple license and fee types under one program, and progr

Appropriation Name (Ex)	(All)
Sub Unit	(All)
PL Task Code	GUI1

Sum of Budgetary Expenditures Object Name (Ex)	Object Type Name (Ex)				Grand Total
	1000 - Personal Services	2000 - Travel	3000 - Services	4000 - Commodities	
1011 - Regular Compensation	75,010.91				75,010.91
1014 - Overtime	303.76				303.76
1023 - Leave Taken	16,956.50				16,956.50
1028 - Alaska Supplemental Benefit	5,669.15				5,669.15
1029 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Benefits	11,484.90				11,484.90
1030 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Contribution	2,545.35				2,545.35
1034 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Cont Health Reim	1,626.72				1,626.72
1035 - Public Employee's Retirement Sys Defined Cont Retiree Medical	512.42				512.42
1037 - Public Employee's Retirement Sys Defined Benefit Unfnd Liab	9,743.73				9,743.73
1039 - Unemployment Insurance	294.09				294.09
1040 - Group Health Insurance	23,325.15				23,325.15
1041 - Basic Life and Travel	37.87				37.87
1042 - Worker's Compensation Insurance	841.20				841.20
1047 - Leave Cash In Employer Charge	1,572.72				1,572.72
1048 - Terminal Leave Employer Charge	1,287.67				1,287.67
1053 - Medicare Tax	1,321.55				1,321.55
1077 - ASEA Legal Trust	96.22				96.22
1079 - ASEA Injury Leave Usage	18.03				18.03
1080 - SU Legal Trst	4.13				4.13
2008 - In-State Non-Employee Meals and Incidentals		480.00			480.00
2010 - In-State Non-Employee Non-Taxable Reimbursement		1,428.76			1,428.76
3046 - Advertising			944.75		944.75
3094 - Inter-Agency Hearing/Mediation			4,139.80		4,139.80
4002 - Business Supplies				2,016.44	2,016.44
1016 - Other Premium Pay	108.69				108.69
2000 - In-State Employee Airfare		224.81			224.81
2002 - In-State Employee Lodging		495.00			495.00
2003 - In-State Employee Meals and Incidentals		333.00			333.00
2009 - In-State Non-Employee Taxable Per Diem		112.00			112.00
3079 - Inter-Agency Conservation/Environmental				-	-
2036 - Cash Advance Fee		5.26			5.26
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>152,760.76</b>	<b>3,078.83</b>	<b>5,084.55</b>	<b>2,016.44</b>	<b>162,940.58</b>

**Big Game Commercial Services**

Analysis last updated: 3/15/2022  
 Renewal Deadline: 12/31/2023  
 Presented to board: 03/29-31/22

Note: Non-renewal year fee analysis

Fee Type	Current fee schedule				Proposed by board				Proposed by division				Adjustments			In System 01.01.2020 to 12.31.2021
	Current Fee	Projected Units	Projected Revenue	Fee Adjustment	Fee with Recommended Adjustment	Projected Revenue after Adjustment	% Change	Fee Adjustment	Fee with Recommended Adjustment	Projected Revenue after Adjustment	% Change	Fee Adjustment for Estimated Prorated Renewals	Projected Units	Projected Revenue Loss		
Application Fee	200	238	\$ 47,600	-	\$ 200	\$ 47,600	0%		\$ 200	\$ 47,600	0%				Application Fee	238
Guide-Outfitter Exam or Retake	125	25	3,125	-	125	3,125	0%		125	3,125	0%				Guide-Outfitter Exam or Retake	25
Game Management Exam	400	30	12,000	-	400	12,000	0%		400	12,000	0%				Game Management Exam	30
Annual HR/TAR Reporting Fee	300	758	227,400	-	300	227,400	0%	(150)	150	113,700	-50%				Annual HR/TAR Reporting Fee	758
Guide Use Area Registration	100	580	58,000	-	100	58,000	0%		100	58,000	0%				Guide Use Area Registration	580
Mun HR/Trans Activity Report	500	0	-	-	500	-	0%		500	-	0%				Mun HR/Trans Activity Report	0
New Master Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	850	1	850	-	850	850	0%		850	850	0%	(425)	0		New Master Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	1
New Master Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	1,700	1	1,700	-	1,700	1,700	0%		1,700	1,700	0%	(850)	0		New Master Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	1
Renew Master Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	850	86	73,100	-	850	73,100	0%		850	73,100	0%				Renew Master Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	86
Renew Master Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	1,700	15	25,500	-	1,700	25,500	0%		1,700	25,500	0%				Renew Master Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	15
New Registered Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	850	19	16,150	-	850	16,150	0%		850	16,150	0%	(425)	10	(4,250)	New Registered Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	19
New Registered Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	1,700	4	6,800	-	1,700	6,800	0%		1,700	6,800	0%	(850)	3	(2,550)	New Registered Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	4
Renew Registered Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	850	227	192,950	-	850	192,950	0%		850	192,950	0%				Renew Registered Guide-Outfitter (Resident)	227
Renew Registered Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	1,700	46	78,200	-	1,700	78,200	0%		1,700	78,200	0%				Renew Registered Guide-Outfitter (Non-Resident)	46
New Class-A Asst Guide (Resident)	410	9	3,690	-	410	3,690	0%		410	3,690	0%	(205)	3	(615)	New Class-A Asst Guide (Resident)	9
New Class-A Asst Guide (Non-Resident)	820	1	820	-	820	820	0%		820	820	0%	(410)	0		New Class-A Asst Guide (Non-Resident)	1
Renew Class-A Asst Guide (Resident)	410	64	26,240	-	410	26,240	0%		410	26,240	0%				Renew Class-A Asst Guide (Resident)	64
Renew Class-A Asst Guide (Non-Resident)	820	11	9,020	-	820	9,020	0%		820	9,020	0%				Renew Class-A Asst Guide (Non-Resident)	11
New Assistant Guide (Resident)	410	96	39,360	-	410	39,360	0%		410	39,360	0%	(205)	46	(9,430)	New Assistant Guide (Resident)	96
New Assistant Guide (Non-Resident)	820	82	67,240	-	820	67,240	0%		820	67,240	0%	(410)	48	(19,580)	New Assistant Guide (Non-Resident)	82
Renew Assistant Guide (Resident)	410	379	155,390	-	410	155,390	0%		410	155,390	0%				Renew Assistant Guide (Resident)	379
Renew Assistant Guide (Non-Resident)	820	267	218,940	-	820	218,940	0%		820	218,940	0%				Renew Assistant Guide (Non-Resident)	267
New Transporter (Resident)	850	23	19,550	-	850	19,550	0%		850	19,550	0%	(425)	12	(5,100)	New Transporter (Resident)	23
New Transporter (Non-Resident)	1,700	2	3,400	-	1,700	3,400	0%		1,700	3,400	0%	(850)	1	(850)	New Transporter (Non-Resident)	2
Renew Transporter (Resident)	850	91	77,350	-	850	77,350	0%		850	77,350	0%				Renew Transporter (Resident)	91
Renew Transporter (Non-Resident)	1,700	3	5,100	-	1,700	5,100	0%		1,700	5,100	0%				Renew Transporter (Non-Resident)	3
Retired Master/Reg Guides	300	0	-	-	300	-	0%		300	-	0%				Retired Master/Reg Guides	0
Retired Class-A Asst Guides	175	0	-	-	175	-	0%		175	-	0%				Retired Class-A Asst Guides	0
Centralized Fees	30,409	1	30,409	-	30,409	30,409	0%		30,409	30,409	0%					
			\$ 1,399,884		\$ 1,399,884	\$ 1,286,184			\$ 1,286,184					\$ (42,475)		

Beginning Cumulative Surplus must be from FY2020  
 Decline in license reflected in projected revenue.

Initial: PY new applications  
 New: PY new applications  
 Renewal: PY renewed + PY new  
 Temporary: PY temporary  
 Courtesy: PY courtesy  
 Centralized: PY revenue x .01  
 Inactive: Equals PY inactive

Revenues and Expenditures	CALCULATIONS BASED ON CURRENT FEES				
	FY2018/2019 Actuals	FY2020/FY2021 Actuals	Projected FY2022/2023	Projected FY2024/2025	Projected FY2026/2027
Revenue	1,527,850	1,520,450	1,399,884	1,399,884	1,399,884
Expenses	(1,169,644)	(1,081,172)			
Adjusted Expenses			(1,102,795)	(1,124,851)	(1,147,348)
Expenses adjusted for 2% biennial increase			(42,475)	(42,475)	(42,475)
Fee adjustment for pro-rated renewal					
Projected Net		439,278	254,614	232,558	210,061
*Beginning Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)		(150,523)	288,755	543,369	775,926
Ending Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)		288,755	543,369	775,926	985,987

Revenues and Expenditures	CALCULATIONS BASED ON BOARD'S PROPOSAL			
	FY2020/FY2021 Actuals	Projected FY2022/2023	Projected FY2024/2025	Projected FY2026/2027
Revenue	1,520,450	1,399,884	1,399,884	1,399,884
Expenses	(1,081,172)			
Adjusted Expenses		(1,102,795)	(1,124,851)	(1,147,348)
Expenses adjusted for 2% biennial increase		(42,475)	(42,475)	(42,475)
Fee adjustment for pro-rated renewal				
Projected Net	439,278	254,614	232,558	210,061
*Beginning Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	(150,523)	288,755	543,369	775,926
Ending Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	288,755	543,369	775,926	985,987

Revenues and Expenditures	CALCULATIONS BASED ON DIVISION'S PROPOSAL			
	FY2020/FY2021 Actuals	Projected FY2022/2023	Projected FY2024/2025	Projected FY2026/2027
Revenue	1,520,450	1,286,184	1,286,184	1,286,184
Expenses	(1,081,172)			
Adjusted Expenses		(1,102,795)	(1,124,851)	(1,147,348)
Expenses adjusted for 2% biennial increase		(42,475)	(42,475)	(42,475)
Fee adjustment for pro-rated renewal				
Projected Net	439,278	140,914	118,858	96,361
*Beginning Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	(150,523)	288,755	429,669	548,526
Ending Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	288,755	429,669	548,526	644,887

32nd Legislature (2021-2022)

Alaska Admin Code

12 AAC 02.230

SEARCH  Display

**12 AAC 02.230. Big Game Commercial Services Board**

- (a) The following fees are established for registered and master guide-outfitters:
  - (1) nonrefundable application fee for initial license, \$200;
  - (2) initial registered guide-outfitter qualification examination or retake examination fee, \$125;
  - (3) game management unit examination fee for taking initial examination, retaking examination, or adding game management units, \$400 per game management unit;
  - (4) registered or master guide-outfitter license fee, for all or part of the biennial license period, \$850;
  - (5) biennial registered or master guide-outfitter license renewal fee, \$850;
  - (6) examination preparation packet for registered guide-outfitter, \$100;
  - (7) retired status license fee, \$300.
  - (8) hunt record annual filing fee, \$300;
  - (9) guide use area registration fee, \$100.
- (b) The following fees are established for Class-A assistant and assistant guides:
  - (1) nonrefundable application fee for initial license, \$200;
  - (2) Class-A assistant and assistant guide license fee for all or part of the initial biennial license period, \$410;
  - (3) Class-A assistant and assistant guide biennial license renewal fee, \$410.
  - (4) retired status license fee, \$175.
- (c) The following fees are established for transporter licenses:
  - (1) nonrefundable application fee, \$200;
  - (2) transporter license fee, for all or part of the biennial license period, \$850;
  - (3) biennial transporter license renewal fee, \$850;
  - (4) transporter activity report annual filing fee, \$300.
- (d) Under AS 08.54.770(e), the license fees for nonresidents are double the license fees established in (a) - (c) of this section.
- (e) The following fee is established for each municipality request for hunt record and transporter activity report information under AS 08.54.760(b)(2), \$500.

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
 Professional Licensing Fees Changes FY06 - FY22  
 (as of February 8, 2022)

GUI	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
		<u>Eff. 11/18/06</u>	<u>Eff. 12/21/07</u>		<u>Eff. 11/26/09</u>				<u>Eff. 11/30/13</u>		<u>Eff. 11/20/15</u>	<u>Eff. 11/26/16</u>		<u>Eff. 11/30/18</u>			
Application	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	<b>\$100</b>	\$100	\$100	\$100	<b>\$200</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Examination/Retake	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	<b>\$125</b>	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Unit Examination	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	<b>\$200</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	<b>\$390</b>	\$390	<b>\$400</b>	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
Master Guide	\$185	\$185	<b>\$450</b>	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	<b>\$650</b>	\$650	<b>\$850</b>	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850
Registered Guide	\$185	\$185	<b>\$450</b>	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	<b>\$650</b>	\$650	<b>\$850</b>	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850
Class-A Assistant Guide	\$75	\$75	<b>\$250</b>	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	<b>\$360</b>	\$360	<b>\$410</b>	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410
Assistant Guide	\$75	\$75	<b>\$250</b>	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	<b>\$360</b>	\$360	<b>\$410</b>	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410	\$410
Transporter	\$185	\$185	<b>\$450</b>	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	<b>\$650</b>	\$650	<b>\$850</b>	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850
Examination Packet	n/a	<b>\$25</b>	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	<b>\$100</b>	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Retired Master/Reg Guides	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$300</b>	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Retired Class-A Assist Guide	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$175</b>	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175
Hunt Record <b>Annual</b> Filing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$300</b>	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Guide Use Area Registration	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$100</b>	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Trans Activity Report <b>Annual</b> Filing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$300</b>	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Municipality request for hunt record/transpo	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>\$500</b>	\$500	\$500	\$500

# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

## **Investigations Unit**

- A. Probation Report**
- B. Investigations Report**
- C. Executive Session**

***When the Board reaches executive session, the public will be asked to leave. No further board business will be discussed on the record. The meeting will resume for the public at 9:00 am on March 30, 2022.***



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development**

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL  
LICENSING

Anchorage Office

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567  
Main: 907.269.8160  
Fax: 907. 269.8195

**PROBATION REPORT**

**DATE:** March 17, 2022

**TO:** Alaska Big Game Commercial Services Board

**THROUGH:** Jennifer Summers, Senior Investigator 

**FROM:** Michele Hearn, Probation Monitor 

**SUBJECT:** Probation Report for the March 29, 2022 Meeting

The following is a complete list of individuals on probation for this Board. All individuals are in compliance with their agreements except as noted below. There are currently **fourteen (14)** licenses on probation as of the date of this document. Since the last probation report, **four (4)** licenses were released from probation. All personnel are in compliance except as noted below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Start of Probation</u>	<u>End of Probation</u>
Malone, Paul	2019-000173	08/12/2020	08/12/2023
Colpo, Michael	2020-000719	07/22/2020	07/22/2022
Donelson, Patrick	2020-000720	07/22/2020	08/05/2022
Kruse, Jeff	2020-000734	07/22/2020	08/18/2022
Cavner, Preston	2020-000741	07/22/2020	09/21/2022
*Walker, John	2020-001047	07/22/2020	Suspended
Augustine, Ryan	2021-000252	03/24/2021	03/24/2023
Hyce, Richard	2021-000253	03/24/2021	03/24/2023
Roberts, Clayton	2021-000255	03/24/2021	03/24/2024

<u>Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Start of Probation</u>	<u>End of Probation</u>
Scheid, Skylar	2021-000256	03/24/2021	05/09/2022
Cates, Jerry	2021-000282	03/19/2020	03/19/2023
Burns, Bradford	2021-000278	03/24/2021	03/24/2022
Butler, Creig	2021-000646	07/27/2021	07/27/2023
Wolford, Bruce	2021-000732	07/23/2021	07/23/2022

**RELEASE FROM PROBATION:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Start of Probation</u>	<u>Release Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Tunguing, Gust	2021-000251	03/24/2021	03/24/2022	
Fithian, Robert	2021-000291	03/24/2021	03/24/2022	
Kramer, Cole	2021-000292	03/24/2021	03/24/2022	
Wagner, Charles	2021-000296	03/24/2021	03/24/2022	

**NOTES:**

\*Walker, John: Mr. Walker's OAH Decision was adopted on July 22, 2020 and stipulated a one-year probation and a \$4,000 fine with \$2,000 suspended due by January 22, 2021. Mr. Walker became non-compliant in January of 2021 when he failed to pay the civil fine in full by the due date. The Division made numerous attempts to contact Mr. Walker. All attempts have resulted in no contact with Mr. Walker. Mr. Walker's license was suspended on July 23, 2021, and the full fine was invoked due to non-compliance with his Consent Agreement. The Notice of Suspension was successfully served by the Alaska State Troopers on January 7, 2022. During service, Mr. Walker reported that he does not intend to guide in the future. A voluntary surrender of license will be sent to Mr. Walker soon.

**Certificate Of Completion**

Envelope Id: 8BF543808FF248F7A249E222CA3009C9	Status: Completed
Subject: Please DocuSign: March 2022 GUI Probation Report.pdf	
Source Envelope:	
Document Pages: 2	Signatures: 2
Certificate Pages: 4	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
Envelopeld Stamping: Disabled	Michele Hearn
Time Zone: (UTC-09:00) Alaska	PO Box 110206
	Juneau, AK 99811
	michele.hearn@alaska.gov
	IP Address: 158.145.14.24

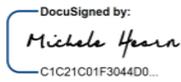
**Record Tracking**

Status: Original	Holder: Michele Hearn	Location: DocuSign
3/17/2022 10:34:39 AM	michele.hearn@alaska.gov	
Security Appliance Status: Connected	Pool: StateLocal	
Storage Appliance Status: Connected	Pool: State of Alaska	Location: DocuSign

**Signer Events**

Michele Hearn  
michele.hearn@alaska.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

**Signature**

DocuSigned by:  
  
C1C21C01F3044D0...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
Using IP Address: 10.233.81.77

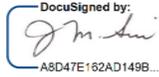
**Timestamp**

Sent: 3/17/2022 10:35:22 AM  
Viewed: 3/17/2022 10:35:34 AM  
Signed: 3/17/2022 10:35:40 AM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**

Accepted: 2/16/2022 8:10:03 AM  
ID: 5e8b0bc9-3ac9-4ff6-b919-da92070e277b  
Company Name: State of Alaska

Jenni Summers  
jennifer.summers@alaska.gov  
State of Alaska  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:  
  
A8D47E162AD149B...

Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image  
Using IP Address: 24.237.107.203

Sent: 3/17/2022 10:35:41 AM  
Viewed: 3/17/2022 10:41:47 AM  
Signed: 3/17/2022 10:42:42 AM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**

Accepted: 3/15/2022 4:38:57 PM  
ID: d53a2622-7df2-439f-8105-e9c1b6cda536  
Company Name: State of Alaska

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp

<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	3/17/2022 10:35:22 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	3/17/2022 10:41:47 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	3/17/2022 10:42:42 AM
Completed	Security Checked	3/17/2022 10:42:42 AM

<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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<b>Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure</b>
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## **ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE**

Please read this Electronic Records and Signature Disclosure (ERSD). It concerns your rights regarding electronically undertaking, and the conditions under which you and the State of Alaska agree to electronically undertake, the transaction to which it relates (the “TRANSACTION”).

### **Consent to Electronically Undertake the TRANSACTION**

You can electronically undertake the TRANSACTION only if you confirm that you meet the following requirements by selecting the box next to “I agree to use electronic records and signature” (the “AGREE BOX”):

1. you can fully access and have read this ERSD;
2. you can fully access all of the information in the other TRANSACTION records;
3. you can retain all of the TRANSACTION records in a form that you will be able to fully access for later reference;
4. you consent to undertake the TRANSACTION electronically; and
5. you are authorized to undertake the TRANSACTION. (Please note that falsely undertaking the TRANSACTION may subject you to civil liabilities and penalties and/or to criminal penalties.)

If you cannot or are not willing to confirm each of these five things, do not select the AGREE BOX.

### **Withdrawing Consent**

If you select the AGREE BOX, you can withdraw your consent to electronically undertake the TRANSACTION at any time before you complete the TRANSACTION: simply do not finalize it. The only consequence of withdrawing your consent is that you will not finalize the TRANSACTION.

If you select the AGREE BOX, your consent will apply only to this TRANSACTION. You must separately consent to electronically undertake any other transaction with the State of Alaska.

### **Paper Option for Undertaking the TRANSACTION**

You may undertake the TRANSACTION with the State of Alaska using paper records. (State of Alaska employees who want to undertake the TRANSACTION in paper should contact the agency responsible for the TRANSACTION.) Print the paper records on the website of the State of Alaska agency responsible for the TRANSACTION, or request them from the agency. The State of Alaska homepage is at <http://alaska.gov/>.

### **Copies of TRANSACTION Records**

After completing the TRANSACTION but before closing your web browser, you should download the TRANSACTION records. Or you can download the records within 30 days after

completing the TRANSACTION using the link in the DocuSign email sent to the email address you used to complete the TRANSACTION. The State of Alaska will not provide a paper copy of the TRANSACTION records as part of the TRANSACTION. Under the Alaska Public Records Act (APRA), AS 40.25.100–.295, you can request a copy from the agency responsible for the TRANSACTION, but if too much time has passed, the agency may no longer have the records when you make your request. If required under the APRA, the agency will charge a fee.

### **Required Hardware and Software**

For the minimum system requirements to electronically undertake the TRANSACTION, including accessing and thereby retaining the TRANSACTION records, visit <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>. These requirements may change. In addition, you need access to an email account.

### **How to Contact the State of Alaska**

To ask a question on this ERSD or the DocuSign document generated after you complete the TRANSACTION or on using DocuSign to electronically undertake the TRANSACTION, contact the Alaska Department of Administration at either of the following addresses:

State of Alaska  
Department of Administration  
550 West 7th Avenue  
Suite 1970  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Reference: DocuSign

[doa.commissioner@alaska.gov](mailto:doa.commissioner@alaska.gov)  
Subject: DocuSign

To ask any other question on the TRANSACTION records or to update the information for contacting you electronically, contact the State of Alaska agency responsible for the TRANSACTION using the contact information in the TRANSACTION records or, if those records contain no contact information, using the contact information on the agency's website. Again, the State of Alaska homepage is at <http://alaska.gov/>.



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1500  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3567  
Main: 907.269.8160  
Fax: 907.269.8156

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 16, 2022  
TO: Big Game Commercial Services Board<sup>DS</sup>  
THRU: Greg Francois, Chief Investigator   
FROM: Lee Strout, Investigator  
RE: Investigative Report for the March 28, 2022 Meeting

The following information was compiled as an investigative report to the Board for the period of November 20, 2021 thru March 16, 2022; this report includes cases, complaints, and intake matters handled since the last report.

Matters opened by the Paralegals in Anchorage and Juneau, regarding continuing education audits and license action resulting from those matters are covered in this report.

**OPEN - 60**

<b><u>Case Number</u></b>	<b><u>Violation Type</u></b>	<b><u>Case Status</u></b>	<b><u>Status Date</u></b>
<b>ASSISTANT GUIDE</b>			
2021-001330	License application problem	Intake	12/29/2021
2022-000161	License application problem	Intake	02/17/2022
2022-000226	License application problem	Intake	03/10/2022
2021-000314	Unlicensed practice or activity	Complaint	04/14/2021
2021-000759	License application problem	Complaint	09/22/2021
2021-000828	License application problem	Complaint	09/14/2021
2021-001302	License application problem	Complaint	02/28/2022
2022-000169	License application problem	Complaint	03/08/2022
2022-000242	License application problem	Complaint	03/15/2022
2018-001136	Unlicensed practice or activity	Monitor	

2021-000949	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	01/13/2022
2021-001101	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	12/02/2021
<b>GUIDE-OUTFITTER</b>			
2022-000081	License application problem	Intake	01/25/2022
2022-000192	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	02/28/2022
2022-000222	Criminal action - no conviction	Intake	03/08/2022
2020-001017	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	11/24/2020
2021-000223	Fraud or misrepresentation	Complaint	04/05/2021
2021-000315	Breach of fiduciary duty	Complaint	05/04/2021
2021-000405	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	06/17/2021
2021-000680	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	08/10/2021
2021-000706	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	08/12/2021
2021-000712	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	08/12/2021
2021-000873	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	09/22/2021
2021-000898	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	09/23/2021
2021-000914	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	12/22/2021
2021-001029	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	12/01/2021
2021-001036	Breach of fiduciary duty	Complaint	11/01/2021
2021-001046	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	10/26/2021
2021-001082	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	11/02/2021
2021-001242	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	12/27/2021
2021-001317	License application problem	Complaint	03/01/2022
2022-000090	License application problem	Complaint	01/27/2022
2022-000176	Breach of fiduciary duty	Complaint	03/09/2022
2022-000244	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	03/15/2022
2020-000051	Criminal action - conviction	Monitor	
2021-000624	Criminal action - no conviction	Monitor	
2021-000968	Criminal action - conviction	Monitor	
2021-000964	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	02/03/2022
2021-001091	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	02/03/2022

2021-001318	License application problem	Investigation	01/26/2022
<b>MASTER GUIDE-OUTFITTER</b>			
2021-001323	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	12/29/2021
2022-000099	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	01/31/2022
2022-000175	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	02/22/2022
2022-000210	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	03/07/2022
2022-000211	Violation of licensing regulation	Intake	03/07/2022
2022-000248	Criminal action - no conviction	Intake	03/15/2022
2020-000135	Breach of fiduciary duty	Complaint	03/04/2020
2020-000222	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	02/25/2020
2022-000100	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	01/31/2022
2022-000160	Breach of fiduciary duty	Complaint	03/07/2022
2022-000179	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	02/23/2022
2021-000623	Criminal action - no conviction	Monitor	
2021-000627	Criminal action - no conviction	Monitor	
2021-000012	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	12/20/2021

**TRANSPORTER**

2020-000486	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	05/26/2020
2022-000168	License application problem	Complaint	03/08/2022
2022-000170	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	03/07/2022
2019-000483	Criminal action - no conviction	Monitor	
2019-000589	License application problem	Monitor	
2020-000924	Violation of licensing regulation	Monitor	

**Closed - 27**

<b><u>Case #</u></b>	<b><u>Violation Type</u></b>	<b><u>Case Status</u></b>	<b><u>Closed</u></b>	<b><u>Closure</u></b>
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**ASSISTANT GUIDE**

2021-001301	License application problem	Closed-Intake	12/27/2021	Review Complete
2021-001327	Unlicensed practice or activity	Closed-Intake	03/01/2022	Incomplete Complaint

2022-000164	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/09/2022	Review Complete
2022-000167	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/10/2022	Review Complete
2022-000227	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/10/2022	Review Complete
2022-000243	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/15/2022	Review Complete
2021-000685	License application problem	Closed-Complaint	12/16/2021	No Action - No Violation
2021-000800	License application problem	Closed-Investigation	12/29/2021	Advisement Letter

### **CLASS A ASSISTANT GUIDE**

2021-001316	License application problem	Closed-Intake	02/01/2022	Review Complete
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### **GUIDE-OUTFITTER**

2021-001033	Breach of fiduciary duty	Closed-Intake	12/09/2021	Incomplete Complaint
2021-001275	License application problem	Closed-Intake	12/16/2021	Review Complete
2021-001329	Violation of licensing regulation	Closed-Intake	03/01/2022	Incomplete Complaint
2022-000012	License application problem	Closed-Intake	01/20/2022	Review Complete
2022-000079	License application problem	Closed-Intake	01/28/2022	Review Complete
2022-000166	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/09/2022	Review Complete
2021-000480	Violation of licensing regulation	Closed-Complaint	12/01/2021	Other (See Abstract)
2021-000983	Violation of licensing regulation	Closed-Complaint	01/12/2022	No Action - No Violation

### **MASTER GUIDE-OUTFITTER**

2021-001269	License application problem	Closed-Intake	12/15/2021	Review Complete
2021-001313	License application problem	Closed-Intake	02/11/2022	Review Complete
2022-000018	License application problem	Closed-Intake	01/06/2022	Review Complete
2022-000155	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/04/2022	Review Complete
2022-000156	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/03/2022	Review Complete

2018-000009	Criminal action - conviction	Closed-Investigation	12/09/2021	License Action
2021-000965	Violation of licensing regulation	Closed-Investigation	03/01/2022	Advisement Letter

**TRANSPORTER**

2022-000021	License application problem	Closed-Intake	01/20/2022	Review Complete
2022-000163	License application problem	Closed-Intake	02/23/2022	Review Complete
2022-000165	License application problem	Closed-Intake	03/09/2022	Review Complete

***END OF REPORT***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Alaska State Big Game Commercial Services Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing \_\_\_\_\_

Board staff member(s) \_\_\_\_\_ to remain during the session.

Off record: \_\_\_\_\_  
On record: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority: AS 44.62.310(c), Government meetings public

The following subjects may be considered in executive session:

- matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the public entity;
- **subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion;**
- **matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential;**
- matters involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure.

# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

**March 30, 2022**

Office of Governor  
**MIKE DUNLEAVY**

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## Roster

### Big Game Commercial Services Board

NAME	APPOINTED	REAPPOINTED	EXPIRES
<b>Bloomquist, Aaron</b> (Copper Center) Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	03/01/2021		03/01/2025
<b>Boniek, Martin</b> (Glennallen) Licensed Transporters	03/01/2021		03/01/2025
<b>Buist, Peter</b> (Fairbanks) Public	05/21/2019	03/01/2021	03/01/2025
<b>Bunch, Jason</b> (Kodiak) Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	03/02/2018	03/01/2019	03/01/2023
<b>Burnett, Jerry</b> (Juneau) Designated Game Board Member/Restricted	01/21/2021		03/01/2024
<b>Flores, Michael</b> (Soldotna) Licensed Transporters	05/11/2020		03/01/2023
<b>Nordlum, Clay</b> (Kotzebue) Private Landholders/Restricted	06/25/2021	03/01/2022	03/01/2026
<b>Vacant</b> () Public			03/01/2022
<b>Vacant</b> () Private Landholders/Restricted			03/01/2024

[Board Fact Sheet](#)



**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development**  
**Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing**  
**Big Game Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK 99518**

Zoom Meeting Call-In # 669-900-6833  
 408-638-0968  
 346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 858 5516 3605  
 Password: 908162

**TENTATIVE MEETING AGENDA**  
**March 30, 2022**

10. 9:00 am Roll Call
11. 9:05 am Agenda Review 3/30/22
12. 9:10 am Summary/Motions Executive Session 3/29/22
13. 9:30 am Public Comment
14. 10:15 am BREAK
15. 10:30 am Sub-committee updates/formation of new committees
  - A. Exam's - Jason Bunch
  - A. Transporter's - Mike Flores
  - B. Concession program – Jason Bunch
  - C. Partnerships – Aaron Bloomquist
16. 12:00 Lunch Break
17. 1:30 pm Regulations Proposal(s) - New proposals
  - A. Trainee (Lance Kronberger)
  - B. Employment contract (Aaron Bloomquist)
  - C. Guide use area registration (Aaron Bloomquist)
18. 2:45 pm BREAK
19. 3:00 pm Public Comment
20. 4:30 pm Recess

**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**



**Public Comment**

The board chair shall open public comment. The time allotted for comment will be divided between all individuals signed in to give comment. The group will be told how much time each person will have to speak; board staff will keep track of the time and notify the individual when they need to wrap up their comment(s).

This is not the time for the board to respond to the comments. The board can choose to respond to any comments at the end of the comment period; they can choose to send a letter with their responses to the individual; or they can choose to not respond.

Please be mindful of the time limit so that all who choose to speak will be given the same opportunities.



**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community &**  
**Economic Development Division of Corporations,**  
**Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game**  
**Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK**  
**99518**

**BGCSB Sub-committee Update(s)**  
**March 30, 2022**

- A. Exam's - Jason Bunch
- B. Transporter's - Mike Flores
- C. Concession program – Jason Bunch
- D. Partnerships – Aaron Bloomquist

# State of Alaska Big Game Commercial Services Board



Proposal Packet  
March 29-31, 2022  
Board meeting

Big Game Commercial Services Board  
**REGULATION PROPOSAL**

If you wish your proposal to be considered by the Board at the next scheduled meeting, the proposal must be received by the Division by close of business 45 days before the first day of the scheduled meeting. You may photocopy this form if necessary.

***Proposals must be typed or printed legibly in ink.***

Is this a proposal for a new regulation?  YES  NO

If "yes", which Alaska Statute (AS) under 08.54 supports your new regulation? AS 08.54. \_\_\_\_\_

Is this proposal an amendment to an existing regulation?  YES  NO

If "yes", what is the regulation number? AAC 75. \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who is it likely to benefit: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who is likely to suffer? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What will happen if nothing is done? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If your proposal is an amendment to an existing regulation, you must provide the regulation number to the proposed amendment. If your proposal is for new regulation you must provide the Alaska Statute number under 08.54 that supports your proposal. Failure to provide this information along with your printed name will result in your proposal not being submitted to the Board for consideration.

Proposed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Printed Name)*

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To: Big Game Commercial Services Board  
PO Box 110806  
Juneau, AK 99811-0806**

Proposals: Contracting RGO'S and Transporters must have employment contracts with their employees.

- The contract must include the rate of pay and the term of pay (by the day/week/month).
- The contract must state if travel days and additional days of employment while not accompanying clients are paid at the same rate or a different rate.
- The contract must state if employees are paid for the entire hunt or just the days of service if the hunt gets done early.
- The contract must state when the employee will be paid (eg. Every two weeks, at the end of the season, etc).
- The contracts must state the duties of the employee.
- The contract may include other stipulations as deemed appropriate by the RGO.
- The contract must be provided to the Board or staff upon receipt of a complaint from an employee. Only that contract of an employee that has filed a formal complaint may be requested.

Justification: The Big Game Commercial services Industry has an ongoing problem with timely and appropriate compensation for employees. Common examples are: employees only being paid for the days the client is in the field rather than the contracted days of the hunt; late payment far beyond reasonable; extra duties pre-or post season that are not compensated for; keeping a guide on the hook to guide a hunt even though a hunter is not booked or has cancelled, then not paying; and disagreements about travel pay.

## Proposal:

**12 AAC 75.230. GUIDE USE AREA REGISTRATION.** (a) The department will register an applicant in a guide use area if the applicant meets the requirements of AS 08.54.750 and this section. For each guide use area for which a registered guide-outfitter is registering, the registered guide-outfitter shall submit the following information on a form provided by the department:

- (1) the applicant's registered guide-outfitter license number;
- (2) the guide use area for which the registered guide-outfitter is registering;
- (3) certification in the game management unit in which the registered guide-outfitter is applying;
- (4) a sworn statement by the applicant attesting to the required land use authorization;
- (5) a sworn statement by the applicant attesting to the ability to provide services on at least 5,000 contiguous acres of uplands in the guide use area requested;
- ~~(6) whether registration is for a single calendar year or multiple calendar years.~~

~~(b) Unless it is issued for multiple calendar years, a guide use area registration issued under AS 08.54.750 and this section expires on December 31 of each year. A registration for multiple calendar years expires on December 31 of the last year for which it is issued. To re-register, the registered guide-outfitter must again submit a complete application under (a) of this section.~~

~~(c) A registered guide-outfitter may register for a maximum of five calendar years ending on December 31, including the calendar year in which the registration becomes effective. A registration for multiple calendar years may be withdrawn or changed annually *if the GUA being withdrawn or changed has not been used in the that year. This includes attempting to get hunters drawn for limited entry drawings for that GUA, in which case the guide must have been registered for the GUA in the year of the December draw application period AND the year the hunt would have taken place. Both of these years will be considered used and may not be withdrawn. No refunds will be issued for the years left on a multiple year registration if it is withdrawn.* with the withdrawal or change to take effect on or after January 1 of the next calendar year.~~

(d) In accordance with AS 08.54.750, a registration will be considered effective 30 days after the date the registration is submitted to the department, or 30 days after the date the application is considered complete, whichever is later.

(e) A registered guide-outfitter who is registered in three guide use areas may register for and conduct big game hunting services in a portion of one additional guide use area on federal land adjacent to a guide use area for which the registered guide-outfitter is already registered if the registered guide-outfitter meets the requirements of (a)(1) – (5) and (f) of this section, and submits

(1) the guide use area map that identifies the portion of the additional guide use area that is located on federal land and is adjacent to a guide use area for which the registered guide-outfitter is currently registered; and

(2) a letter from the federal landholder that states that the area would otherwise remain unused by a registered guide-outfitter because the boundaries do not coincide with boundaries of a federal big game guide concession or permit area.

(f) A registered guide-outfitter may not register for, or provide services within, a guide use area unless the applicant has written authorization by the landowner or appropriate representative in the form of a permit, registration or letter to provide big game hunting services on at least 5,000 contiguous acres of uplands in the guide use area.

~~(g) A registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter who was unable to hunt a brown bear in game management unit 9 in the spring 2020 season may register for the 2021 spring brown bear season in game management unit 9, if~~

~~(1) the registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter registers on a form provided by the department; (2) the registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter provides either~~

~~(A) a current registration, valid as of April 10, 2020, for the same guide use area for which the registration is submitted; or~~

~~(B) copies of completed, signed, and dated hunt contracts for the 2020 spring bear season in game management unit 9 indicating that the registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter had booked clients who were later unable to complete the contracted hunt and an attestation that the registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter would have registered before the April 10, 2020 deadline; and~~

~~(3) the clients for whom the registered guide outfitter or master guide outfitter will provide services have not hunted brown bear in a guide use area within game management unit 9 since May 10, 2020.~~

(h) A registered guide-outfitter or master guide-outfitter must register for a minimum of three years in a guide use area at the time of registration.

Who is likely benefit? All Licensees. This is largely a housekeeping proposal with one substantive change. That substantive change is to allow guides to change or withdraw a GUA that they have not used, at any time, rather than having that withdrawal or change wait until Jan 1 of the following year. The Jan 1 date is arbitrary and has caused a hardship for licensees that have had situations change after January 1 but need to make changes before hunting season. An example of this is if someone buys a new business or gets a new Federal Concession after Jan1. Some of these business sales involve hundreds of thousands of dollars and great financial hardship may be encountered if they are not allowed to operate simply because the deal closed after January 1 but well before any hunting seasons. The current regulation essentially makes them take a year of from guiding in those areas. It also makes clear that there will be no refunds for withdrawals. This has been the practice but was not in regulation so some licensees didn't know. We are also removing any reference to a single year registration and the covid specific regulations that applied to 2020 and 2021.

Who is likely to suffer? No one will suffer any more than they already have. The non-refund for withdrawals of GUA's could be seen as financial suffering for some but this has already been the practice. The fee is to register the GUA's, not for the use of the GUA.

What will happen if nothing is done? People will suffer the ramifications of not being able to guide in areas in which they are authorized by the land manager but not able to register a GUA simply because they got authorization after January 1 of the year they plan to hunt. There will also be confusion with reference to single year registrations and unnecessary covid-specific regs on the books.

Submitted By Aaron Bloomquist  
Po box 871  
Palmer Ak 99645

**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**



**Public Comment**

The board chair shall open public comment. The time allotted for comment will be divided between all individuals signed in to give comment. The group will be told how much time each person will have to speak; board staff will keep track of the time and notify the individual when they need to wrap up their comment(s).

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# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

**March 31, 2022**

Office of Governor  
**MIKE DUNLEAVY**

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## Roster

### Big Game Commercial Services Board

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<b>Boniek, Martin</b> (Glennallen) Licensed Transporters	03/01/2021		03/01/2025
<b>Buist, Peter</b> (Fairbanks) Public	05/21/2019	03/01/2021	03/01/2025
<b>Bunch, Jason</b> (Kodiak) Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	03/02/2018	03/01/2019	03/01/2023
<b>Burnett, Jerry</b> (Juneau) Designated Game Board Member/Restricted	01/21/2021		03/01/2024
<b>Flores, Michael</b> (Soldotna) Licensed Transporters	05/11/2020		03/01/2023
<b>Nordlum, Clay</b> (Kotzebue) Private Landholders/Restricted	06/25/2021	03/01/2022	03/01/2026
<b>Vacant</b> () Public			03/01/2022
<b>Vacant</b> () Private Landholders/Restricted			03/01/2024

[Board Fact Sheet](#)



**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development**  
**Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing**  
**Big Game Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK 99518**

Zoom Meeting Call-In # 669-900-6833  
 408-638-0968  
 346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 858 5516 3605  
*Password: 908162*

**TENTATIVE MEETING AGENDA**  
**March 31, 2022**

21. 9:00 am Roll Call
22. 9:05 am Review Agenda 3/31/2022
23. 9:15 am Public Comment
24. 9:45 Break
25. 10:00 am Position statement(s)
26. 11:00 am Application review (tabled applications/"Yes" answers)
27. 12:00 pm Lunch Break
28. 1:30 pm Staff Update; EA R. Hoffard
29. 2:00 pm Regulations Project(s)
30. 3:00 pm Board Business
  - A. New Business
    - i. Alaska Wood Bison Planning Team
31. 4:00 pm Administrative Business
32. 3:30 pm Task List
33. 4:30 pm Adjourn

**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**



**Public Comment**

The board chair shall open public comment. The time allotted for comment will be divided between all individuals signed in to give comment. The group will be told how much time each person will have to speak; board staff will keep track of the time and notify the individual when they need to wrap up their comment(s).

This is not the time for the board to respond to the comments. The board can choose to respond to any comments at the end of the comment period; they can choose to send a letter with their responses to the individual; or they can choose to not respond.

Please be mindful of the time limit so that all who choose to speak will be given the same opportunities.

# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

**Application Review**

**May require Executive Session**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Alaska State Big Game Commercial Services Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing \_\_\_\_\_

Board staff member(s) \_\_\_\_\_ to remain during the session.

Off record: \_\_\_\_\_  
On record: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority: AS 44.62.310(c), Government meetings public

The following subjects may be considered in executive session:

- matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the public entity;
- **subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion;**
- **matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential;**
- matters involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure.



**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing Big Game  
Commercial Services Board**  
**The Megan Room, 6591 A St, Anchorage, AK  
99518**

**BGCSB Board Business**  
**March 31, 2022**

A. New Business

- i. Alaska Wood Bison Planning Team

**From:** [Rogers, Luke R \(DFG\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Bruning, Darren L \(DFG\)](#); [Seaton, Tom \(DFG\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Draft Wood Bison Management Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:57:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [2020\\_2023 Wood Bison Mgmt Plan DRAFT.pdf](#)

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Dear Wood Bison Planning Team Members,

This is a courtesy email reminding you that the comment and review period for the 2020-2023 Wood Bison Management Plan is still open. We are requesting feedback in the form of comments or approval as written by March 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have already submitted comments or approval as written you can disregard this email. You can find the draft management plan as an attachment to this email. A summary of the changes as well as an update on the herd and restoration progress is provided by project biologist Tom Seaton in the email below.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Tom Seaton or I via email or phone if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the management plan.

Thank you for your time!

## Luke Rollie Rogers

Wood Bison Project Technician  
 Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
 Division of Wildlife Conservation  
 1300 College Road  
 Fairbanks, AK 99701  
 Phone: (907)699-8523  
 Email: [luke.rogers2@alaska.gov](mailto:luke.rogers2@alaska.gov)  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=woodbisonrestoration.main>

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**From:** Seaton, Tom (DFG) <tom.seaton@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 10:07 PM  
**To:** Seaton, Tom (DFG) <tom.seaton@alaska.gov>  
**Cc:** Bruning, Darren L (DFG) <darren.bruning@alaska.gov>; Rogers, Luke R (DFG sponsored) <luke.rogers@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Wood Bison Management Plan

Hello Wood Bison Planning Team members!

Today is a great day. We have overcome the struggles of the Covid pandemic and the Lower Innoko-Yukon Rivers Wood Bison Management Plan is ready for your review. The wheels are back on the bus and we are hoping for more progress restoring wood bison in the Lower Innoko-Yukon Rivers area this year.

If you remember, we all met in February 2020 in Fairbanks to update the 2015-2020 plan. The 2020-2023 plan is a direct reflection of what the planning team discussed at the meeting in February 2020. The new plan is attached for your review. An overview of the changes is listed below.

1. The format of the plan was changed to satisfy the state publications section guidelines

2. The list of planning team members was updated to represent the 2020 attendance
3. The Dedication section was changed to represent the will of the planning team
4. The Vision Statement was unchanged
5. The Background section was mostly unchanged except for
  - a. The description of the release was updated
  - b. Electronic links to other documents were updated
6. The Planning Process section was updated to reflect the work done during the 2020 meeting
7. The Goals, Objectives, and Actions section was mostly unchanged except
  - a. Updating the language to represent past present and future tense (it was just future tense in the first plan)
  - b. Grammar and style was corrected in a few places.
  - c. Goal 1 was updated to reflect the team's desire to add more bison when possible to make up for the 2018 decrease and get to a harvestable population sooner.
  - d. Goal 2 was unchanged
  - e. Goal 3 was unchanged
  - f. Goal 4 was mostly unchanged with the exception of
    - i. the Action items to create a subcommittee to clarify the land access objectives defined in the 2015-2020 plan
    - ii. the statement that access to Doyon lands is to be requested directly from Doyon.
  - g. Goal 5, 6, and 7 were unchanged
  - h. A References Cited section was added.

**Please review the plan by March 17 (three weeks)** and let me know if you approve of it in its current form. We will follow up this email with phone calls to ensure that the new plan has been received by the team members.

**HERD UPDATE-** We captured and radiocollared 8 wood bison along the lower Innoko River on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. I was elated to see that some of them were extremely fat and the others were in normal body condition for this time of year. I was worried about them with all of the difficult snowstorms that have hit most of Interior Alaska this winter. I can also report that calf survival appears to be extremely high so far this winter. We recorded 26 calves last summer, and we found all 26 again on February 9<sup>th</sup>. That is truly remarkable. Our hope is that the rest of the winter goes smoothly for the wild wood bison. If it does, 2022 will be a growth year for the population.

**RESTORATION UPDATE-** Since the planning team asked for more bison in 2020, ADF&G has been working toward that goal. We have requested surplus bison from Elk Island National Park in Canada and they separated 41 calves for us on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We are making arrangements to get them transported to Alaska in April. They will go into captivity in Alaska first, but they may be released into the wild later this summer or potentially in future years. We will keep you updated on their progress. Speaking of updates, we have a new Wood Bison Facebook Page. The link is as follows. We plan to post regular updates about the wild herd and the journey of these Canadian bison to Alaska.

[ADF&G Wildlife Conservation - Wood Bison Restoration in Alaska | Facebook](#)

Take Care,

Tom

C. Tom Seaton

Wood Bison Project Biologist

Caribou Photocensus

Chief Pilot Region III

Division of Wildlife Conservation

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

1300 College Road

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Phone 907-459-7235

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Mobile 907-378-2043

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=woodbisonrestoration.main>

# Wood Bison Management Plan For Lower Innoko-Yukon River in Westcentral Alaska, 2020-2023

Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team



Photo by Doug Lindstrand.



Wildlife Management Plan ADF&G/DWC/WMP-2022-XX

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## Wood Bison Management Plan For Lower Innoko-Yukon River in Westcentral Alaska, 2020–2023

**PREPARED FOR THE ALASKA WOOD BISON MANAGEMENT PLANNING TEAM BY:**

C. Tom Seaton  
Wood Bison Project Biologist

Luke R. Rogers  
Wood Bison Project Technician

Laurie Boeck  
Former Wildlife Information Officer

**APPROVED BY:**

Darren Bruning  
Regional Supervisor, Region III

**REVIEWED BY:**

Lincoln Parrett  
Management Coordinator

**Published by:**

Sky M. Guritz  
Technical Reports Editor

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Division of Wildlife Conservation  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526



The Alaska Wood Bison Restoration Project has been funded mainly by the Federal Wildlife Restoration Program, and in part by grants from BLM, Safari Club International Foundation, and donations from many others.

To see a full list of contributors, visit the supporters page at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=woodbisonrestoration.supporters>.

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Wildlife Management Plans set out specific plans for management of wildlife and habitat in certain areas. They review available data and other information, legal requirements, wildlife population and habitat needs, public comment, and other information and set out a course of action for a specified period of time.

This Wildlife Management Plan was reviewed and approved for publication by Darren Bruning, Regional Supervisor, Region III, for the Division of Wildlife Conservation.

Wildlife management plans are available via the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's public website ([www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)) or by contacting Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Division of Wildlife Conservation, PO Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; phone: (907) 465-4190; email: [dfg.dwc.publications@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.dwc.publications@alaska.gov). The plan may also be accessed through most libraries, via interlibrary loan from the Alaska State Library or the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services ([www.arlis.org](http://www.arlis.org)). To subscribe to email announcements regarding new technical publications from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation please use the following link:  
<http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/adfgwildlifereport>.

This document, published in PDF format only, should be cited as:

Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team. 2022. Wood bison management plan for lower Innoko-Yukon River in Westcentral Alaska, 2020–2023. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management Plan ADF&G/DWC/WMP-2022-XX, Juneau.

Please contact the authors or the Division of Wildlife Conservation at (907) 465-4190 if you have questions about the content of this plan.

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ADF&G does not endorse or recommend any specific company or their products. Product names used in this publication are included for completeness but do not constitute product endorsement.

**Cover Photo:** Wood bison adult female at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, Girdwood, Alaska, 2020. Photo by Doug Lindstrand.

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This Alaska wood bison management plan is the result of a collaborative effort of an eclectic group of Alaskans with a broad range of interests. Below is a list of the interest groups invited to be a part of the Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team and their representative(s). Organizations are in alphabetical order.

Organization	Representative
Alaska Outdoor Council	Theresa Woldstad
Anchorage Advisory Committee	Joel Doner
Anvik Tribal Council	Carl Jerue
Big Game Commercial Services Board	No representative available
Bureau of Land Management Alaska Office	Bruce Seppi
Board of Game	Al Barrette
Calista Corporation	Mary Martinez (phone)
Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee	Lisa Feyereisen
Defenders of Wildlife	Jen Christopherson
Deloy Ges, Inc. – Anvik	Ken Chase
Deloycheet, Inc. – Holy Cross	Alfred Demientieff Jr
Alaska Department of Natural Resources	Casey Dinkel
Doyon Ltd.	Jamie Marunde / Laraina Szmyd
Fairbanks Advisory Committee	Jeff Lucas / Mark Richards
Federal Subsistence Board	No representative available
Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross Advisory Committee	Ken Chase
Grayling Tribal Council	No representative available
Hee-Yea Lingde Corporation – Grayling	No representative available
Holy Cross Tribal Council	Alfred Demientieff Jr
Innoko National Wildlife Refuge Manager	Jeremy Havener
Northern Alaska Environmental Center	Stepped down from team
Office of Subsistence Management, USFWS	No representative available
Safari Club International Kenai Chapter	No representative available
Safari Club International Alaska Chapter	Jeff Garness (phone)
Shageluk Tribal Council	Keith Workman
The Kuskokwim Corporation	No representative available
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Doug Cooper
Western Interior Regional Advisory Council	Jack Reakoff (phone)
Yukon Delta Regional Advisory Council	No representative available
Zho-Tse, Inc. – Shageluk	Kelly Workman

Additionally, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) staff from the divisions of Wildlife Conservation and Subsistence were present to provide assistance and information. Those (in alphabetical order) were Laurie Boeck, Caroline Brown, Darren Bruning, Josh Peirce, and Tom Seaton.

Dr. Alistair Bath, Memorial University, Newfoundland, expertly facilitated the meetings for both the 2015–2020 and the 2020–2023 wood bison management plans for Lower Innoko-Yukon River area.



**Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team at the February 2020 meeting. Photo by ADF&G.**

## **Dedication**

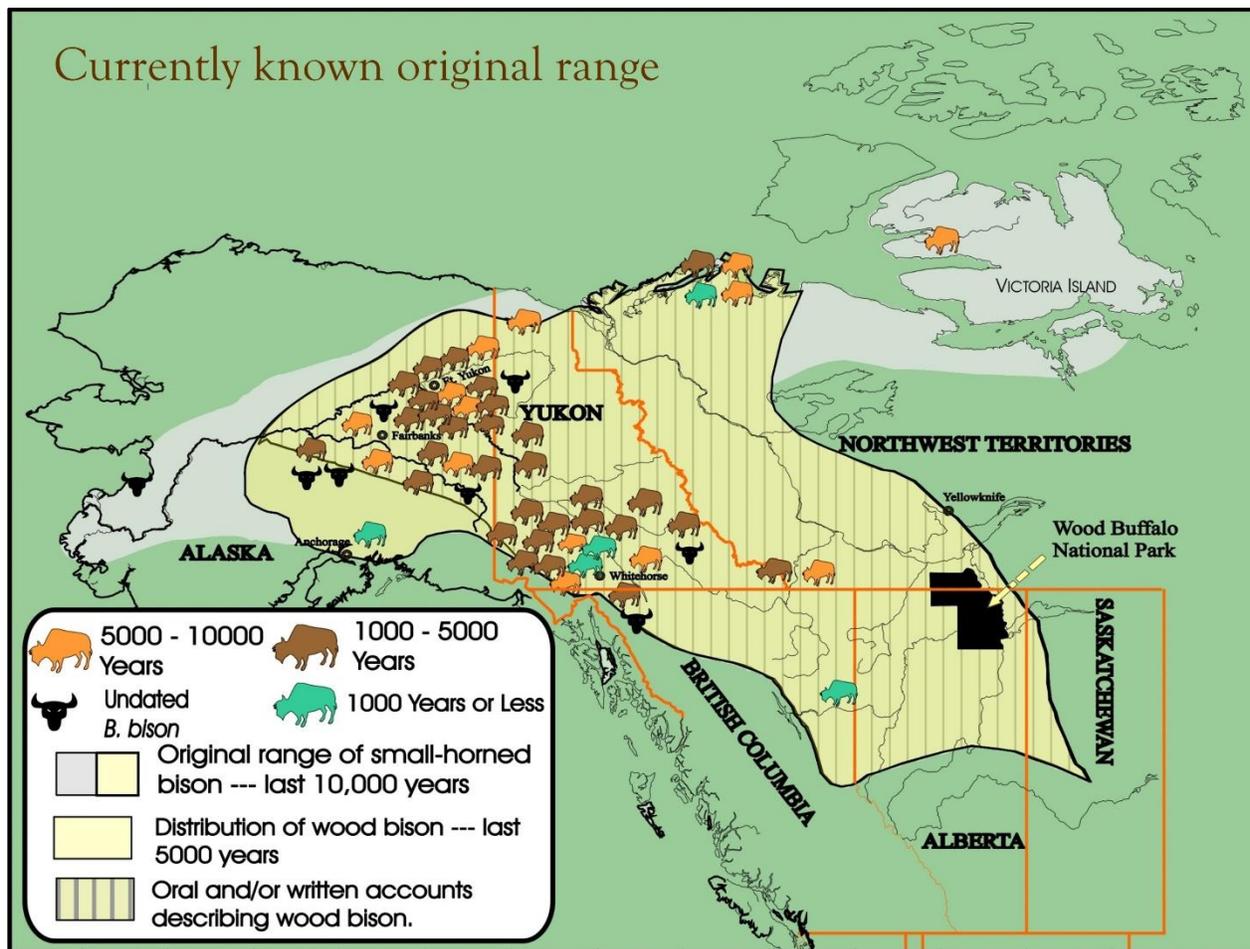
This wood bison management plan is respectfully dedicated to Arnold Hamilton, Shageluk Fish and Game Advisory Committee member; Gabe Nicholi Sr, former Chief of Grayling; Greg Roczicka, former Yukon Delta Regional Advisory Council representative; David James, retired ADF&G Regional Supervisor; Rita St. Louis, retired ADF&G Wildlife Planner; and many others who gave endless hours and enthusiasm to the project. They have all contributed to the wood bison restoration success story.

## **Vision Statement**

Through the collaboration of many, manage a sustainable wood bison herd while ensuring a healthy landscape, benefiting all people for future generations.

## Background

Wood bison (*Bison bison athabascae*) roamed Alaska for approximately 10,000 years, gradually diminishing in numbers from west to east, and disappearing from Alaska altogether about 200 years ago (Fig. 1). In 1991, ADF&G biologist Bob Stephenson proposed reintroducing wood bison to the Yukon Flats to provide an additional source of red meat for residents of the area (ADF&G 1994). This would simultaneously address the broader conservation goal of restoring free ranging, disease free wood bison in portions of their original range.



Produced by ADF&G, 2001 using ArcGIS™ software (Esri, Redlands, California); base map sources: ADF&G, ESRI, and USGS.

**Figure 1. Original range of wood bison in Alaska and Canada based on archeological records, and oral and written history. Adapted from Stephenson et al. (2001).**

In 1969 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) listed wood bison as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The status was changed to threatened in 2012. ESA requires a range of protections for listed species and their habitats. Concerns about these protections and management requirements resulted in opposition to restoring wood bison in Alaska. ADF&G worked with USFWS to develop a federal rule which was published in 2014 (Federal Register 2014). This rule designated wood bison in Alaska as a nonessential experimental population

(NEP) under section 10(j) of ESA. Sections 10(j) and 4(d) of ESA allow certain kinds of take, including hunting, to provide for the conservation of the species. The federal rule also gives ADF&G primary management responsibility for leading and implementing the restoration effort.

Continued concerns about potential management requirements under the 10(j) NEP classification compelled ADF&G to identify the lower Innoko-Yukon River area as the most appropriate of 3 potential release sites to initiate the restoration project. The Innoko-Yukon area had local communities that strongly supported the project for at least a decade, and the area had not been identified for any large-scale economic development projects.

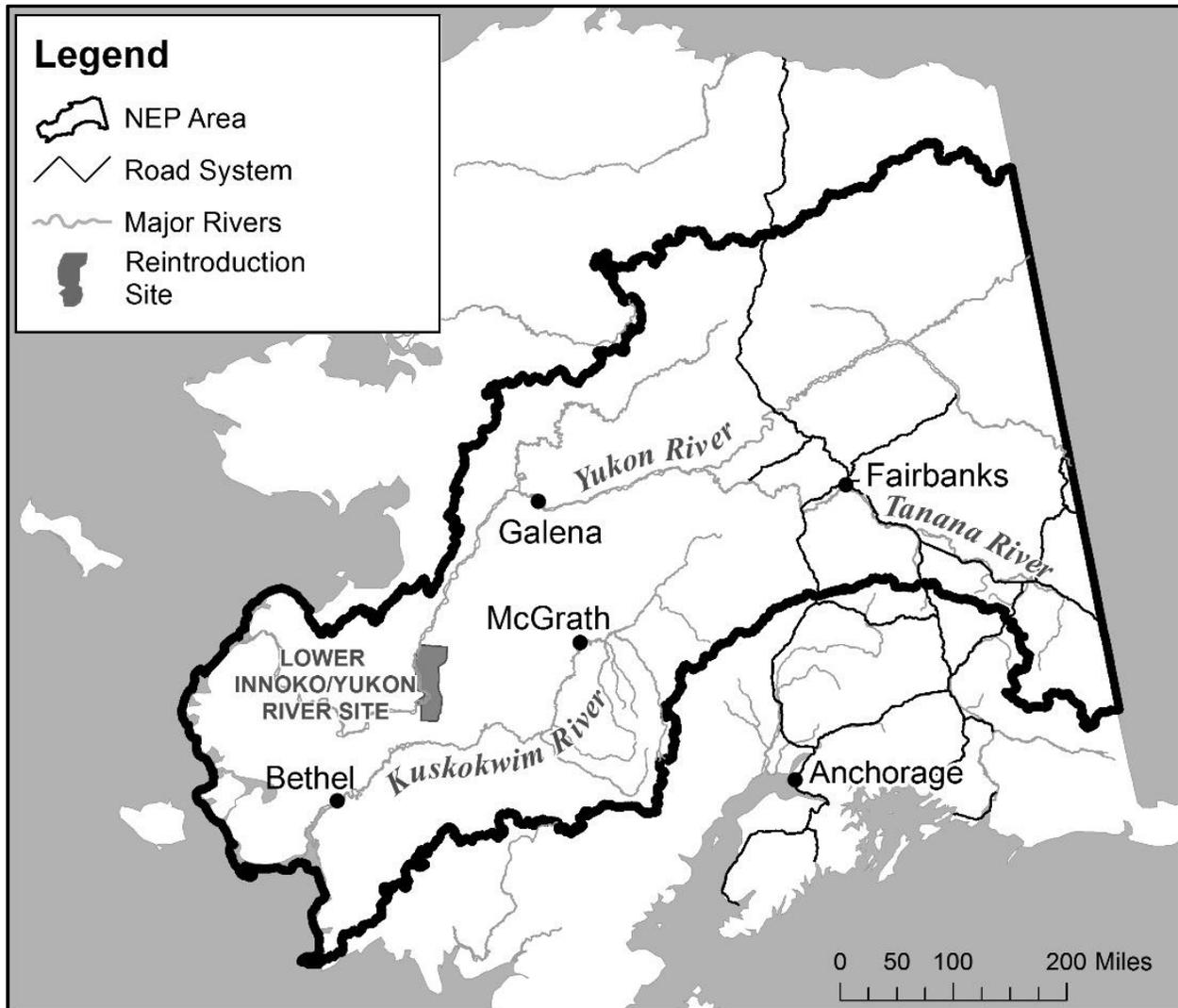
The final rule for the 10(j) NEP under ESA was published May 7, 2014 by USFWS titled Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Wood Bison in Alaska (Federal Register 2014). The full text of the final rule can be viewed at <http://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2014/2014-10506.pdf>.

Under the rule:

- Regulated hunting under sustained yield principles is allowed.
- Activities such as resource development, hunting, trapping, and recreation are allowed.
- Designation of “critical habitat” under ESA is not allowed (this provides additional assurance that other land uses will not be affected).
- If a reintroduction effort fails, or in the unlikely event that litigation changes their legal status, the animals may be removed from the landscape.
- ADF&G will be the lead agency in reintroductions and, using scientific knowledge and experience, will have primary responsibility for bison management.
- Management of wood bison in the NEP area will be guided by provisions in
  1. The federal final rule <http://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2014/2014-10506.pdf> (Federal Register 2014).
  2. The associated final Environmental Assessment [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/species/speciesinfo/woodbison/pdfs/environmental\\_assessment\\_designation\\_experimental\\_population\\_wood\\_bison\\_interior\\_alaska\\_2013.pdf](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/species/speciesinfo/woodbison/pdfs/environmental_assessment_designation_experimental_population_wood_bison_interior_alaska_2013.pdf) (ADF&G 2013).
  3. The ADF&G Environmental Review [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/species/speciesinfo/woodbison/pdfs/er\\_no\\_appendices.pdf](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/species/speciesinfo/woodbison/pdfs/er_no_appendices.pdf) (ADF&G 2007).
  4. A site-specific management plan (i.e., this document).

In late March and early April of 2015 ADF&G transported and released 100 bison, both adult cows and young bison, along the Innoko River near Shageluk, Alaska (Fig. 2). In May and June

of 2015 an additional 30 adult bull bison were also released near the adult cows and young bison. These individuals and their subsequent offspring comprise what is now the lower Innoko-Yukon River Wood Bison Herd.



Produced by ADF&G, 2012, using ArcGIS™ software (Esri, Redlands, California); base map sources: ADF&G, AKDOT, ESRI, and USGS.

**Figure 2. The Alaska wood bison nonessential experimental population (NEP) area and the lower Innoko/Yukon River release site.**

In addition to other provisions, the federal final rule (Federal Register 2014) states:

“ADF&G will use public planning processes to develop implementation and management plans for wood bison restoration. Planning groups will include representatives from local communities, regional population centers, landowners, Alaska Native interests, wildlife conservation interests, industry, and State and Federal agencies, as appropriate for each area. Draft management plans will be circulated for public review, and final plans will be presented to the Alaska Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board for review and approval.”

## Planning Process

To update the 2015 site-specific management plan (Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team 2015), ADF&G invited several interest groups and agencies representing a broad range of interests to select representatives and participate as part of the Alaska Wood Bison Management Planning Team (hereafter referred to as the Team) to update the management plan for wood bison in the lower Innoko-Yukon River area. Most groups sent participants. This included all of the invitees from 2014, and more as described below. Not all interest groups could attend, and a representative was not available from the Big Game Commercial Services Board, Federal Subsistence Board, Office of Subsistence Management (USFWS), Grayling Tribal Council, Hee-Yea Lingde Corporation, Yukon-Delta Regional Advisory Council, Kenai Chapter of Safari Club International, or The Kuskokwim Corporation. The Northern Alaska Environmental Center stepped down from the team because of a stated change in their organization from a species-specific to a habitat-related focus. To maintain a presence of environmental NGO interest on the Team, ADF&G invited Defenders of Wildlife in their place. Most Team members came for the duration of the meeting, but in some cases, organizations were represented by different delegates on different days. At the beginning of the first day, the Team realized that in addition to the current interest groups present, the Calista Corporation and The Kuskokwim Corporation should also be a part of the Team. A representative from Calista Corporation was then added by speakerphone. All told, 30 groups were invited, and 21 groups were represented.

The Team met for 3 full days and was facilitated by Dr. Alistair Bath of Memorial University, Newfoundland, Canada. It was tasked with updating the management plan for wood bison along the lower Innoko and Yukon Rivers. Although ADF&G provided historical, biological, and regulatory expertise, the plan reflects the desires of the Team.

During the 2014 planning team meeting, the Team explored, identified, and addressed key issues facing bison and their management. To do that, it agreed to several tenets. The Team agreed to listen respectfully to each participant's point of view and to mutually identify compromises or new solutions to resolve a wide range of issues. The Team also agreed to share the concerns of their respective constituents with each other, and then advocate the Team's decisions back to their constituents. Furthermore, Team members agreed to not leave the group if the solutions developed by consensus were not to their liking, and they would not say "yes" if they really were thinking "no." The Team agreed that because compromise was paramount to the success of a plan, all Team decisions should be by consensus. The Team discussed core values and fleshed out many of these values in detail. Respect for private property and mutual respect for diverse cultural values were deemed important and discussed at length. Likewise, the importance of fairness was discussed at length. The Team rejected the term "equal opportunity" because it implied that all individuals should be treated exactly the same, which the Team agreed simply was not practical. Instead, the Team agreed on the concept of "equitable or balanced opportunity" because it better represented the reality and complexity of landownership, differences in proximity of users to wood bison, and other differences as well. In conclusion, the Team agreed that even if individuals were not treated equally, they could still be treated fairly.

During the 2020 meeting, the Team highlighted the need to reaffirm the ideas in the wood bison management plan and revisit certain sections to ensure everything was still relevant. Some members stated how they had been part of the process since the beginning and were looking

forward to exploring what happens next. There was concern that the wood bison might be ranging into new areas and there was a need to discuss the implications of bison showing up in areas where residents may not be expecting to see the animal.

ADF&G gathered a substantial amount of information about the now wild Lower Innoko-Yukon River wood bison during the 5 years since release. This meeting provided another opportunity to inform the Team of ADF&G's findings. A series of presentations were given throughout the meeting by ADF&G Wood Bison Biologist Tom Seaton which outlined the monitoring of the herd. Biological information included the bison release story; movements and grouping since release; bison diet; mortality; productivity; the influence of snow conditions and flooding events; current population numbers including cow-to-calf ratios, bull-to-cow ratios, and yearling recruitment; a forage assessment with a video and discussion; and disease testing. All participants found the information very useful and informative. Publications outlining this biological information are in progress and will be available along with this publication on the ADF&G Wood Bison management and research page (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildliferesearch.woodbison>).

Moving forward, the Team agreed on ways in which they will operate into the future. The Team emphasized the necessity of holding meetings to maintain group trust. They also agreed to continue working cooperatively in addressing future challenges. It was decided that the time period of 2020–2023 in the updated management plan is somewhat tentative and will depend on the size and health of the herd, if the herd range expands into new areas, the desire of any new communities that result from range expansion, and any harvest considerations that arise. The Team agreed through consensus that this plan will be in effect for a minimum of 3 years, 2020–2023, but if public support remained beyond 2023, and conditions ecologically and socially remained positive, then an extension could be considered from 2023 to 2025, effectively changing the years that this plan covers to 5 years, 2020–2025. It was decided that annual updates should occur virtually, with no need to meet physically.

## Goals, Objectives, and Actions

**Goal 1:** Increase or grow the wood bison herd in the lower Innoko-Yukon River area and manage it for long-term viability.

The Team recognizes that restoring wood bison in Alaska would be a conservation opportunity of state, national, and international importance; providing a broad range of benefits to hunting and nonhunting uses alike. The Team also emphasized the importance of hunting as an important management tool.

Objective 1: Add animals whenever feasible and move animals where appropriate to grow this population.

Objective 2: Continue to closely monitor and conservatively manage the wood bison to better understand how the herd adapts to its surroundings including occasional deep snow and flooding.

Objective 3: Conduct ongoing field surveys to monitor the status of the herd.

*Action 1* — Conduct field surveys to collect biological data on population size, cow-to-calf ratios, bull-to-cow ratios, productivity, survivorship, age structure, body condition, seasonal movements, and dispersal.

*Action 2* — Encourage local residents to share information about known locations of bison with one another and ADF&G for management purposes.

Objective 4: Conduct forage-assessment surveys to monitor the impact of the herd on its habitat.

Objective 5: Continue to ensure that future harvesting of the herd is maintained at a level that does not prevent growth and expansion of wood bison into adjacent areas where suitable habitat exists.

Objective 6: Maintain separation between wood bison and plains bison to prevent interbreeding.

Objective 7: Conduct routine disease testing to monitor health of wood bison and associated wildlife.

**Goal 2:** Ensure adequate staffing and funding for all phases of wood bison management.

Objective 1: Continue to support a dedicated ADF&G biologist to intensively monitor wood bison while the herd becomes established in the wild and to ensure well-informed management decisions after the herd has been established.

Objective 2: Ensure that revenue from drawing permit application fees is used to support the wood bison management program.

Objective 3: To the extent possible, ensure available funding is maximized for wood bison.

**Goal 3:** Minimize conflicts between humans and wood bison.

Much has been learned about conflicts between people and wood bison in Canada. Wood bison rarely attack people and are less likely to do so than moose. Like moose, bison want to move away or avoid people but, if cornered, could become aggressive. Unlike moose, old bison bulls are generally more aggressive than cows with calves.

Lethal removal or harassment of problem wood bison will be guided by state regulations (5 AAC 92.410 “Taking of game in defense of life or property,” 5 AAC 92.033 “Permit for scientific, educational, propagative, or public safety purposes”) and also by federal regulations (50 CFR 17.84 (x)(5)(iv) “What take of wood bison is allowed in the NEP area?”).

Objective 1: Continue to educate all user groups about wood bison and their interactions with people.

Objective 2: Continue to employ established procedures to accurately identify and resolve problem bison situations.

*Action 1* — Lethal removal of wood bison will be allowed only in the defense of human life.

*Action 2* — Nonharmful harassment of wood bison, in coordination with ADF&G, will be allowed in defense of property.

Objective 3: Maintain the cooperative effort between ADF&G and local communities to develop procedures and train personnel to deal with problem wood bison.

Objective 4: Exempt lethal removal of problem wood bison from harvest quotas.

**Goal 4:** Encourage cooperation among land managers to ensure reasonable, standardized land use to access wood bison.

The land around the lower Innoko-Yukon River release site is a checkerboard of Bureau of Land Management and Native corporation lands. Native corporate lands are private lands and use by nonshareholders is often prohibited. A land-use policy is necessary to provide opportunity for nonshareholders to use the wood bison resource. The Team agreed that respecting private property rights is an important aspect of allowing reasonable, standardized land use for all user groups including local residents, nonlocal residents, and nonresidents. Representatives of 5 Native corporation landowners developed a unified policy including fees to allow reasonable land use. Doyon Ltd pointed out that any access to Doyon lands requires permission directly from Doyon Ltd.

Objective 1: Provide reasonable land use for all users of wood bison on private corporate lands.

*Action 1* — Ensure a common fee, paid regardless of success, for land use to access bison as follows:

- 1) No fee for shareholders of the 4 Lower Yukon Subregion (Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross; GASH) village corporations;
- 2) Fee of \$300 for all Alaska resident hunters that are nonshareholders;
- 3) Fee of up to \$300 for all Alaskans that are nonhunting nonshareholders;
- 4) Fee of \$500–\$1,500 for nonresidents of Alaska.

*Action 2* — Develop a subcommittee to ensure that each village has a clear understanding of the land use access fees.

**Objective 2:** Provide proper orientation materials to nonlocal wood bison hunters and viewers to ensure compliance with private landowner access requirements and restrictions.

*Action 1* — Provide detailed maps of landownership boundaries to hunters and viewers of wood bison.

*Action 2* — Require all nonresidents to be accompanied by a local person.

*Action 3* — Strongly encourage all nonlocal Alaskans to be accompanied by a local person.

*Action 4* — Provide land use requirements and restrictions and other orientation materials to ensure compliance with landowner desires.

*Action 5* — Provide a single location to receive fees and to issue necessary paperwork for land use.

*Action 6* — Minimize conflict between local and nonlocal users by notifying appropriate villages when a user is arriving.

*Action 7* — Develop a subcommittee to ensure that each village has qualified transporters and guides for wildlife hunting and viewing opportunities.

**Objective 3:** Put all monies received for land use fees into a trust fund that is agreed upon by and administered by GASH villages, to be used for student scholarships.

*Action 1* — Utilize the subcommittee from Goal 4, Objectives 1 and 2, to discuss the administration of this fund.

**Goal 5:** Manage harvest allocation to equitably benefit local resident, nonlocal resident, and nonresident hunters.

Restricting hunting on federal land to only federally qualified subsistence hunters, or restricting hunting to only those who win a state drawing (lottery) permit will not satisfy the interests of all Alaskans. A hunting allocation system that ensures equitable and reasonable hunting opportunity to local communities as well as to a broader segment of the hunting public including nonlocal residents and nonresidents is preferred and will be addressed through proposals to the Board of Game by the team.

Monetary contributions from federal, state, and private sources over the past 2 decades for wood bison restoration have been substantial. The willingness of local landowners to allow bison on their lands as well as the future use of their lands by bison hunters are substantial commitments. Local residents support the project and must have some assurance of realizing benefits from the wood bison population. There is strong local interest in bison as a source of red meat to augment moose harvests. Additionally, other Alaskans and people outside of Alaska support the project and they too wish to realize benefits from wood bison. It is important to respect cultural differences and diverse interests represented by the Team while recognizing that these deeply held values stem from a shared appreciation of hunting traditions. Therefore, finding a middle

ground between extremes of the state and federal harvest allocation systems is in the best interests of all participants.

Also, the Team emphasized the philosophical importance of striving for a positive “total hunting experience” which includes enjoying the trip, enjoying the hunt, and sharing the experience.

Objective 1: Enforce regulations and encourage voluntary actions that result in no wasting of meat.

*Action 1* — Provide hunters, especially nonlocal hunters, with orientation materials to help them deal with the logistics of removing harvested wood bison from the field.

Objective 2: Allocate 20 percent of the harvest under a state limited registration permit to be issued in Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross, and allocate 80 percent of the harvest under a state drawing permit hunt of which at least 90 percent is reserved for residents of Alaska.

Objective 3: Open the first hunting season when the size and productivity of the herd allows for a minimum harvest of 20 wood bison. This would allow the 4 GASH villages to be eligible for at least 1 permit each.

Objective 4: Encourage all hunters, especially nonlocal hunters, to share clean, well cared for meat with local communities.

Objective 5: Establish hunting regulations to avoid simultaneous hunting of wood bison and moose.

Objective 6: Conservatively issue wood bison harvest permits as needed under regulation 5 AAC 92.033 Permit for scientific, educational, propagative, or public safety purposes.

Objective 7: Delay state and federal customary and traditional use determination processes until a hunt history has been established and data are available regarding harvest and use patterns.

Objective 8: Support and encourage the establishment of local infrastructure and support services related to viewing and harvesting activities.

**Goal 6:** Minimize wood bison impact on other wildlife species and the ecosystem on which they depend.

Much information exists on interactions between wood bison and other wildlife species in the boreal forest environment in Canada. Many of the studies that contain this information are described or cited in the May 2014 federal rule (Federal Register 2014) that provides for the establishment of nonessential experimental populations of wood bison in Alaska, the November 2013 environmental assessment (ADF&G 2013), and the 2007 ADF&G environmental review of

wood bison restoration in Alaska (ADF&G 2007). Wood bison are an indigenous species that evolved along with other animal and plant species in the boreal forest. No significant negative impacts of wood bison on species in this environment have been documented to date.

As a result of an introduction effort that began in 1928, there are 4 different populations of plains bison in Alaska. There have been no significant negative effects documented from plains bison in Alaska during those 94 years. This further supports that wood bison are unlikely to have negative effects on the environment and other species, because the 2 subspecies of bison interact with their environment in essentially the same way.

Objective 1: Objective 1: Ensure that only certified weed-free hay is used for supplemental feeding of bison.

Objective 2: Objective 2: Conduct field inspections for noxious weed species at supplemental feeding sites.

Objective 3: Objective 3: Reassess and monitor wood bison interactions with their habitat and other species.

**Goal 7:** Ensure continuing communication among all user groups.

Communication is critical to the success of the wood bison restoration project. In addition to biological parameters, social and political considerations also must continue to be explored.

Objective 1: Objective 1: Maintain positive working relationships among the diverse user groups to help resolve future concerns and issues.

*Action 1* — Conduct Team meetings at least once a year as funding allows.

*Action 2* — Share updates and reports on the status of the wood bison herd and management program with the Team.

Objective 2: Listen to all user groups about their views toward wood bison and their interaction with people and habitat, and incorporate local knowledge.

Objective 3: Involve new communities and interest groups near areas where wood bison might expand.

Objective 4: Recognize that this plan is adaptive and shall be amended to reflect what has been learned since the release. This plan should not be substantively changed for at least 3 years (through 2023) to allow adequate evaluation of its effectiveness.

Objective 5: Continue and encourage additional efforts devoted to helping the public learn about wood bison, the role they play in the northern ecosystem, and the restoration program.

*Action 1* — Disseminate existing educational programs such as those developed by ADF&G and by the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center and Bear Trust International for grades 7–8.

*Action 2* — Make skeleton kits available to school-aged children to learn about bison anatomy and function.

*Action 3* — Continue to develop and disseminate new materials as appropriate to educate the public about wood bison.



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# **Big Game Commercial Services Board**

## **Administrative Business**

# 2022 STATE CALENDAR

## JANUARY

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Holiday
Payday
Staff Unavailable
Scheduled BGCSB Meeting

### State Holidays

Date	Holiday
01/01/22	New Year's Day (observed 12/31/2021)
01/17/22	MLK Jr.'s Birthday
02/21/22	Presidents' Day
03/28/22	Seward's Day
05/30/22	Memorial Day
07/04/22	Independence Day

### State Holidays

Date	Holiday
09/05/22	Labor Day
10/18/22	Alaska Day
11/11/22	Veterans' Day
11/24/22	Thanksgiving Day
12/25/22	Christmas Day (observed 12/26/2022)

Please refer to appropriate collective bargaining unit agreement for more information regarding holidays.

# 2023 STATE CALENDAR

## JANUARY

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## APRIL

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## JUNE

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## JULY

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## OCTOBER

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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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 Holiday  Payday

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