

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



Current Regulations Projects April 2021

These proposed amendments will be public noticed, please ensure the division has your current mailing address to ensure you receive the notice.

Agenda Item: Regulations Proposal(s) – New Proposals

12 AAC 75.260(d) UVC's (J. Bunch) – proposed amendments to potentially provide clearer guidance for enforcement. **12 AAC 75.260. REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.** d) A contracting registered or master guide who is signing the hunt contract, and who intends to apply a client for a drawing hunt permit for a hunt conducted under regulations required under AS 16.05, shall obtain a unique verification code (UVC) **for each guide use area in which a UVC is required** from the department before entering an application for the client. UVC's will only be issued to registered or master guides who are registered in a guide use area located in the hunt area the year the application is made and the years the permit is valid. **UVC's will be current until the associated GUA registration expires or is withdrawn or amended. UVC's can only be utilized by the contracting registered or master guide who is applying clients for a drawing hunt permit.**

In a motion duly made by Adam Trombley, seconded by Henry Tiffany with unanimous consent, it was resolved to move the draft proposal forward to regulations for public comment.

B. Booking agents – discussion tabled to Tuesday, December 1 at 2:30 pm.

Break at 9:45 am

Return at 10:00 am

Agenda Item: Public Comment –

Steve Perrins II, Registered Guide GUIR1295. Stated that he feels the board has taken a position of micromanaging guides in the past few years. Wants the Master guide statute language corrected to match the intent as quickly as possible. Would like the board/division to reconsider the numbering convention used currently for license numbering.

Kurt Whitehead, Master Guide GUIM211. Choose to hold his comments until 12/1/20 as they are directly associated with draft regulation.

Dick Rohr, Master Guide GUIM69. Spoke to program finances. Per his calculations the program should have a healthy surplus going into FY 2022 and he recommends the \$300 annual filing fee for hunt records be considered for reduction at that time. The current fee is the same for all contracting guides and transporters, he would like consideration to be given to those who contract fewer hunts over the course of the year. Feels the board is moving in the right direction with the proposal for the UVC's regulations.

Sam Rohr, Master Guide GUIM204. President, Alaska Professional Hunters Association. Thanked the board for ongoing support and thanked H. Tiffany for his years of service.

Joe Klutsch, Master Guide GUIM91. Thanked H. Tiffany for his service and dedication to the board. Feels guides are over-regulated in some aspects of their businesses and would like the

Board Members Absent:

Adam Trombley – Public Member; EXCUSED

Ely Cyrus – Private Landowner; EXCUSED

Staff Members present:

Renee Hoffard – Executive Administrator

Thomas Bay – Licensing Examiner

Lee Strout – Investigator

Representative from Federal/State agencies present:

Douglas Vincent-Lang; Commissioner Department of Fish and Game

Eddie Grasser, Division Director, Department of Fish and Game

Tony Kavalok, Assistant Director Department of Fish and Game

Cliff Larson, Natural Resources Manager, Department of Natural Resources

Candice Snow, Department of Natural Resources

Amber-Lynn Taber, Department of Natural Resources

Nikki Potter, Department of Natural Resources

John Forbes, Department of Natural Resources

Kristen Ulery, Department of Natural Resources

Ben Hagedorn, Department of Natural Resources

Chandler Long, Trust Resource Manager, Mental Health Land Trust

Jusdi Doucet, Deputy Director, Mental Health Land Trust

Zach Million, Bureau of Land Management

Mabel Kaleak, North Slope Borough

Also, present:

Bob Koenitzer, McKinley Research Group, LLC on behalf of APHA

Agenda Item – New Business; Potential Regulations projects March 2021 proposals:

In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Mike Flores it was proposed start a regulations project by accepting the proposal made by Nathan Peterson to amend 12 AAC 75.460(b) to add (3) personally harvested a minimum of three for that species”. The motion was amended by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Jerry Burnett and passed with unanimous consent to start a regulations project by amending 12 AAC 75.460(a) to read “A registered guide-outfitter who was initially licensed on or after July 30, 2006, and who wishes to contract to guide a hunt for sheep, moose, brown bear, or mountain goat, must have the specific species named on the registered guide-outfitter’s license as an authorized species.”; removing “or caribou,” from the regulation.

Following previous advice from the Department of Law the board declined to take action on Mr. Danford’s proposal for a 5-mile boundary/buffer area.

In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Mike Flores and passed with unanimous consent it was proposed start a regulations project by accepting the proposal made by Michelle Heun to amend 12 AAC 75.450(b)(13) to read: (13) include the following

statement: “A licensed transporter may not provide vehicles, fuel, camping, hunting or any hunting services such as skinning, caping, or cleaning of game, glassing, and packing in the field, including from a permanent structure or on a boat on salt water.”; by removing “game processing equipment”.

The board chose to not take action on Lance Kronberger’s proposal to amend 12 AAC 75.240, Supervision. The proposal was sent to sub-committee for further research.

In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist and passed with unanimous consent it was proposed start a regulations project by accepting the proposal made by the Professional Development sub-committee to create:

12 AAC 75.150. Professional development for assistant guide, class A assistant guide, registered guide-outfitter, master guide-outfitter, and transporter licensees.

(a) For renewal of any class of license, the applicant must complete a refresher examination prepared by the board under AS 08.54.600.

(b) An applicant for a registered guide-outfitter license, must provide evidence of attendance to a minimum of three Big Game Commercial Services Board meetings either telephonically, through video conferencing, in person or by another means approved by the board.

(c) An applicant for a Master Guide-Outfitter license must provide evidence of attendance to a minimum of five Big Game Commercial Services Board meetings and participation as a proctor in at least three regularly scheduled registered guide oral exam sessions. For this requirement; participation refers to the willingness and availability to participate as attested by the chairperson of the board or a board member delegated with this responsibility.

(d) The requirements listed in this section will be documented on a form provided by the department and signed by the chairperson or a delegated board member at the time of completion.

In a motion duly made by Aaron Bloomquist, seconded by Pete Buist and passed with unanimous consent it was proposed start a regulations project to amend 12 AAC 75.145(b)(2) to read “(2) limited liability company, proof of either articles of organization or registration in good standing under AS 10.50;” replacing “poor” with “good”.

Following a brief discussion, the board requested to hear oral testimony regarding this regulations project as well as the UVC regulations project from the Nov/Dec 2020 meeting at the July teleconference which will be limited to a 1-day meeting.

The board formed the following sub-committees to work on specific topics in advance of the winter 2021 meeting:

Supervision; Chair Aaron Bloomquist

Partnerships/LLC’s; Chair Aaron Bloomquist

Break at 10:56 am

Return at 11:30 am