

**Alaska Board of Game
Special Meeting: Intensive Management for
the Mulchatna Caribou Herd
July 14-15, 2025
Anchorage, Alaska**

Preliminary Meeting Summary

The Board of Game (Board) convened a special meeting to address the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management plan, on Monday, July 14, 2025. The meeting was held in Anchorage at the Coast Inn at Lake Hood. Seven Board members were present: Chairman Jake Fletcher, Vice-Chairman Stosh Hoffman, Al Barrette, Dave Lorrington, Jake Garner, Jim Baichtal, and Carri Ann Mueller.

The meeting opened with introductions and Board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by the oral hearing. The Board heard from 16 testifiers which included representatives for the Bethel and Central Bering Sea Advisory Committees. The complete list of testifiers is posted on the meeting website as Record Copy (RC) #084.

Upon the conclusion of the oral hearing on Monday, the Department of Fish and Game (department) provided the following reports.

- Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management, presented by John Landsiedel (See RC 3, Tab 1.)
- Mulchatna Caribou Herd Research, presented by Dr. Kristen Denryter (See RC 3, Tab 1.2)
- Sustained Yield of Predators Under IM: Overview for the Board of Game, July 2025, presented by Chris Brockman. (See RC 3, Tab 1.3)

Following the reports Tuesday morning, the Board deliberated and unanimously supported the proposal to allow the take of brown and black bears by department staff, as part of the intensive management plan for the benefit of the Mulchatna Caribou herd. The Board also unanimously approved written findings recommending the department take the following actions:

1. To continue to monitor the sustainability of the predator populations to identify if conditions require the Commissioner to review, modify, or suspend program activities.
2. To recognize calving grounds have and will shift over time, the Department will continue to monitor the herd to identify changes in calving periods and locations of calving grounds.
3. To conduct Department removal of brown and black bears on the calving grounds, and during the time frame immediately preceding and during the calving period and as conditions warrant.
4. That adding black and brown bears to the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Plan in 5 AAC 92.111(c) is not intended to alter existing wolf removal authorizations.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, July 15.

All meeting material including ADF&G reports, and public and advisory committee comments are available on the meeting website at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=07-14-2025&meeting=anchorage>.

The meeting audio is available online at: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/swf/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/index.html#.