



MEMORANDUM

TO: Alaska Board of Game

DATE: January 9, 2026

FROM: Art Nelson, Acting Executive
Director

SUBJECT: Meeting dates for the 2026/2027 Board
of Game Meeting Cycle

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During the annual work session on January 22, 2026, the Board of Game (board) will set the meeting dates and locations for the 2026-2027 meeting cycle. The topics on the board's schedule for this meeting cycle are the Western Arctic / Western Region (Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A), and the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region (Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B & 26C.)

The following considerations have been used by the board in past years when setting meeting dates and locations.

- The meeting dates are based on the duration of past meetings needed to address that region's issues.
- The meetings begin on a Friday to accommodate the public for providing testimony over the weekend, which is traditional practice by the board.
- The schedule takes into consideration the timing for the needs of the Department of Fish and Game such as surveying/data collecting, conflicts with hunting seasons, the legal review process for new regulations, and publishing the hunting regulations handbook.
- The duration between meetings needs to be at least four weeks apart.
- The options take into consideration the meeting dates for the Board of Fisheries to minimize overlap for agencies, advisory committees, and public participants. The Board of Fisheries tentative meeting dates in 2027 are:
 - January 5 – 8, 2027: Kodiak Finfish
 - March 4-15, 2027: Upper Cook Inlet Finfish

The board's ACR deadline is November 1, and at least 30 days public notice is required for any that are accepted by the board.

The options provided on the following page reflect the above-mentioned criteria.

Options for the 2026/2027 Board of Game Meeting Cycle:

The following dates for the Western Arctic / Western Region meeting are based on previous meeting duration of four days. The options for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region meeting are eight-days duration, which is also based on past board meetings. The table below provides the historical meeting information including the number of proposals and testifiers. The proposal deadline for this cycle will be May 1, 2026, so the number of proposals for the meetings is unknown in order to compare with previous meetings.

In addition to the schedule for the regional meeting, the board will also have a one-day Work Session the day prior to the first regulatory meeting and will meet via teleconference to consider agenda change requests following the annual deadline of November 1. The ACR meeting will be determined later as that deadline approaches unless the board prefers to set it at this Work Session.

Options for the Western Arctic / Western Region meeting

- January 8 – 11, 2027 (*One day overlap with the Board of Fisheries meeting*)
- January 15 – 18, 2027 (*January 18 falls on a state holiday.*)
- January 22 – 25, 2027
- January 29 – February 1, 2027

Options for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting

- March 12 – 19, 2027 (*Three days overlap with the Board of Fisheries Meeting*)
- March 19 - 26, 2027

State holidays: 1/16/27 – Martin Luther King Day; 2/15/27 – Presidents’ Day; 3/29/27 - Seward’s Day

Other events: 1/7/27 - Russian Orthodox Christmas

Historical Meeting Information for the Western Arctic / Western Region meetings.

Western Arctic / Western Region Information			
<i>Past Meeting Dates</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>No. of Proposals</i>	<i>No. of Testifiers</i>
January 26 – 29, 2024 (4 days)	Kotzebue	42	53
January 17 – 20, 2020 (4 days)	Nome	44	33
January 6-9, 2017 (4 days)	Bethel	50	33
January 10-13, 2014 (4 days)	Kotzebue	38	25
November 11-14, 2011 (4 days)	Barrow	41	15
November 13-16, 2009 (4 days)	Nome	29	23

Interior & Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Information			
<i>Past Meeting Dates</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>No. of Proposals</i>	<i>No. of Testifiers</i>
March 15 – 22, 2024 (8 days)	Fairbanks	62	77
March 6 – 14, 2020 (9 days)	Fairbanks	124	94
February 17-25, 2017 (9 days)	Fairbanks	119	67
February 14 – 21, 2014 (8 days*)	Fairbanks	94	52
March 2-11, 2012 (9 days*)	Fairbanks	143	85
February 26 – March 7, 2020 (10 days)	Fairbanks	145	82

**MtgS were scheduled for ten days but finished in early)*

Agenda Change Request Deadline: November 1, 2026

The proposal deadline for the 2026/2027 meeting cycle will be May 1, 2026