

## **PROPOSAL 164**

### **5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.**

### **5 AAC 92.010. Harvest tickets and reports.**

Count wounded big game animals towards nonresident hunter's bag limit for all units, excluding the one sheep and one bear every four years as follows:

Add section (k) to 5 AAC 92.130 as follows:

- **(k) In Units 1-26 a big game animal wounded by a nonresident hunter that animal will count against that hunter's bag limit. However a wounded brown bear does not count against that person's one bear every four regulatory years bag limit established in 5 AAC 92.132; and a wounded Dall sheep does not count against the person's one sheep every four regulatory years bag limit as established in 5 AAC 85.055.**

Add section (m) to 5 AAC 92.010 as follows:

- **(m) If a nonresident has wounded a big game animal but that animal was not recovered the hunter at the end of a contracted hunt or before leaving the field, the hunter must remove the day and month from their harvest ticket or permit and lock their big game metal locking tag.**

- Many outfitters already have this or similar written into their contracts.
- 12 AAC 75.340. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS STANDARDS FOR GUIDES. (d) Field craft standards. (2) use every lawful means at the licensee's disposal to bag a wounded animal while it is in danger of escaping, or, in a serious emergency, while human life or well-being is endangered.
- Nonresident hunters should be held to the utmost highest standard when hunting big game is concerned.
- It is commonly taught in hunter education courses to take the most ethical shot on an animal yet there is no accountability for making poor judgement calls in the field.
- A nonresident hunting with or without a guide could currently continue to hunt after an animal is wounded but not dispatched or retrieved.
- There are areas of the state that already have a regulation to include wounded game in a person's bag limit for both residents and nonresidents for certain species. This exemplifies that an expanded version of this type of regulation to hold nonresidents to a standard of ethics that is being taught as well as to protect our game from unreasonable loss is within the powers of the Board of Game.
- All methods of take have some probability of wounding game, however, current trends such as long range shooting have a high potentiality of wounded game. That game deserves the respect of being ethically hunted and dispatched.

- For hunt report filing purposes the report would be filled out as though an animal were taken, however, an additional option for “Was the animal recovered? Yes/No” would be included in the reporting process.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** That any big game wounded by a nonresident be counted against that hunter’s bag limit.

**PROPOSED BY:** Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-012)  
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