

WHAT IS THE TITLE OF YOUR IDEA Qua K'uhda'i (Goodbye Moose)

WHAT CAN I DO, INVENT OR CREATE TO BETTER CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT ON THE KENAI PENINSULA, OR TO IMPROVE THE AREA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR A NATURAL DISASTER?

Qua K'uhda'i

(Goodbye Moose)

It is imperative that our community decreases the recurring road kills on the highways of the Kenai Peninsula involving both moose and vehicle. "33% of moose deaths are from vehicles, and most road kills are not reported, so that really puts the numbers at 40-45%." says John Morton (January 23, 2017).

"The population of moose sprung up about 30 years ago on the Kenai Peninsula, and since then car insurance companies have spent over 200 million dollars repairing cars just on the Kenai Peninsula from moose accidents." Says John Morton. (January 23, 2017)

The frighteningly high number of moose road kills on the highways and roads must be fixed. Not only I have recognized this problem, but numerous amounts of Kenai Peninsula residents have as well. Most researchers say, "We need to spread awareness", but I think we are way past awareness and need to take action. By taking action the Peninsula will save the moose, millions, you, and your loved ones.

An area biologist named Dave Battle from Fish and Game says this, "If there are more moose to be in the road, certainly that can increase your moose vehicle numbers." (January 3, 2017) That statement Dave Battle said implies if there are no moose on the highways or roads of the Kenai Peninsula there is nothing to hit (moose) so that brings me to my solution.

In order to get the moose off the highways we must use what frightens them the most. In my research I have found that it is wolves. A website online states this,

"100% Pure Wolf Urine is a powerful communicator to animals at the top of the food chain. Coyote, moose, bear, elk, weasel, beaver & mule deer fear the wolf more than any other animal. That is why the scent of wolf urine is so effective. When these large prey believe there is a wolf in the immediate area, they flee." According to PredatorPee.com (Date Unknown), the wolf urine has been sprayed in many people's yards in the lower 48's to keep unwanted animals out and has worked hundreds of times.

Continuing on with the wolf urine. Using a six by six-inch scent box approximately costing 20 dollars. The scent box will hold inside two cups of 100% pure wolf urine and point six ounce of glycerin in a jar with a lid. I am putting the glycerin in the jar as an anti-freeze so the wolf urine will not freeze during the cold winter months of Alaska. (Cost of glycerin, wolf urine, and jar with a lid is 20 dollars) The box will have a latch (For refilling the wolf urine and glycerin) and a metal netted top, so unwanted material from outside won't get in, but the scent will get out. The scent boxes will have to be empty and refilled every two weeks. I know this, because for my project's experiment I bought a 32-ounce bottle of 100% pure wolf urine and uncapped it outside and came back every day after school and smelled it, and by two weeks the potency of the scent had greatly depleted.

These scent boxes will be screwed into the power poles along the highways and roads of the Kenai Peninsula about 10 ft. up; not high enough to come in contact with the electrical lines if the boxes were to be shook, but high enough, so delinquents cannot tamper with the boxes. The boxes will be screwed into the poles where most moose collisions occur. (Kenai Spur Highway, Seward Highway, Sterling Highway, Kalifornsky Beach Road) "The Kenai Peninsula has been killing 250 moose on average a year."

says Department of Fish and Game. (Date unknown) This affordable natural deterrent will save lives and money.

This strategy has proved effective locally. Mr. Playe a Kenai Peninsula trapper on January 23, 2017 says, "I sprayed a couple of squirts of wolf urine into the air towards a moose in my yard from my deck, and watched the moose run away, and may I add I have never seen a moose run away that fast in my life." Continuing on, my solution is fairly cheap. For my first year we can test try 30 scent boxes and it will be 2,564 dollars (estimated cost). The years later it will cost the Peninsula only 5,000 dollars a year (estimated cost). Seems like a reasonable price to me.

Plus, I have even better news. I have research possible funders that want to see the moose and people of the Kenai Peninsula safe and they are... Central Peninsula Hospital Board, Kenai Peninsula Sporting Fishermen's Association, Alaska Outdoor Council, Moose Association, City of Kenai Oilers, American Legion, Alaska Moose Federation Conservation Fund, and Soldotna Rotary. I spoke with the City of Kenai Mayor Brian Gabriel, and he recommended the following additional funders for my solution, and they are Department of Fish and Game, Department of Transportation, and car insurance companies. (February 20, 2017)

Let's keep our community safe, unharmed, and debt free! With that I conclude that my idea is the way to go, because it should have been put in place many years ago, the moose need our help and guidance to keep them off the highways and roads, and it is fairly cheap. It will save the Kenai Peninsula time, money, and energy.

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CITATIONS AND REFERENCE INFORMATION IN APA FORMAT

References:

- City of Kenai Brian Gabriel (February 20, 2017), (Interviewer)

"I recommend Department of Fish and Game, Department of Transportation, and car insurance companies for possible funders."

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- Department of Fish and Game. (Unknown date). Averages of moose deaths. Retrieved from. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=livewith.drivingmoosecountry>
- John Morton (January 20, 2017). Percent's of moose deaths on the Kenai Peninsula. Retrieved from. <http://peninsulaclarion.com/outdoors/2012-01-27/vehicles-take-a-heavy-toll-on-kenai-moose>
- Mr. Playe a Kenai Peninsula trapper (January 23, 2017), (Interviewer)

"I sprayed a couple of squirts of wolf urine into the air towards a moose in my yard from my deck, and watched the moose run away, and may I add I have never seen a moose run away that fast in my life."

- The Pee Man (Unknown date). Wolf urine facts, retrieved from. http://www.predatorpee.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=CTGY&Category_Code=WU