Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
c/o Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: (907) 786-3888, Fax: (907) 786-3898
Toll-Free: 1-800-478-1456

In Reply Refer To
R26086

NOV 05 2026

Jake Fletcher, Chair
Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

Dear Chair Fletcher,

I write to you on behalf of the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) to provide the Council's comments on a proposal that will be considered during the Alaska Board of Game's (BOG) Special Meeting regarding Ambler Road on November 20, 2026.

The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Western Interior Region. It was established by the authority in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establish the Council's authority to initiate, review and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their regions that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities served by the Council. The Council provides a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations regarding any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.

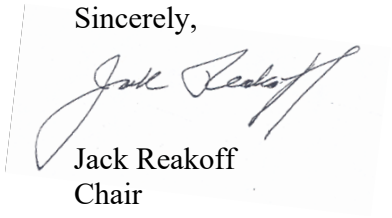
The Council held a public meeting on October 6-7, 2026, in Fairbanks, and took up several BOG proposals, including Proposal 4, which requests the closure of a 2-mile-wide corridor along the Ambler Road.

The Council supports Proposal 4 with modifications to 1) remove the prohibition on trapping, 2) limit the hunting prohibition to large game only, and 3) extend the closure corridor to five miles on each side of the road. Although the Council has significant reservations about establishing a closure for a road that does not yet exist and has no confirmed route, it supports measures to prevent any future road from providing hunters access to previously inaccessible lands. The Council opposes a trapping closure because every proposed route crosses active and historic traplines. It recommends limiting the hunting prohibition to large game, so trappers may take small game incidentally for food while tending their traplines. The Council also recommends extending the corridor to five miles on

each side of the road, consistent with the Dalton Highway corridor, because expanding it after construction would likely be difficult.

Thank you for considering our comments on the above proposal. If you have any questions or would like to follow up, please contact us through our Subsistence Council Coordinator Nissa Pilcher at (907) 891-9054 or nissa_pilcher@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,



Jack Reakoff
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
Office of Subsistence Management
Interagency Staff Committee
Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Aaron Poetter, Federal Subsistence Liaison, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Administrative Record