



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FOREST SERVICE

OSM 20109.KW

**AUG 12 2020**

Susan L. Entsminger, Chair  
Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
1011 E. Tudor Road, M/S 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503 6199

Dear Chairwoman Entsminger,

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) met on April 20-23 and April 27, 2020 via teleconference to consider proposed changes to Federal subsistence management regulations for the harvest of wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska. This letter provides a report on the actions taken by the Board on Wildlife Proposals (WP) and Wildlife Closure Reviews (WCR) affecting residents of the Eastern Interior Alaska Region.

Section 805(c) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) provides that the Board will accept the recommendations of a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) regarding take unless, (1) the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, (2) the recommendation violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or (3) adopting the recommendation would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. When a Council's recommendation is not adopted, the Board is required by Secretarial regulations to set forth the factual basis and reasons for the decision.

Out of 54 proposals submitted, one proposal (**WP20-21**) was withdrawn by the proponent. The Board agreed with the recommendations of the Councils, in whole or with modifications, on 48 of 54 proposals. The Board deferred **WP20-26**, which would allow for the use of snowmachines to assist in positioning wolves or wolverines in Units 9B, 9C, 17B, and 17C, until its summer 2020 work session. Furthermore, the Board accepted the recommendations of the Councils on all 17 WCR's, voting to maintain status quo on 13 of them. Details of these actions and the Board deliberations are contained in the meeting transcriptions. Copies of the transcripts may be obtained by calling the toll free number 1-800-478-1456, and are available online at the Federal Subsistence Management Program website, <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence>.

The Board uses a consensus agenda on those proposals where there is agreement among the affected Council(s), a majority of the Interagency Staff Committee, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game concerning a proposed regulatory action. These proposals were deemed non-controversial and did not require a separate discussion. The consensus agenda contained four proposals affecting the

Eastern Interior Alaska Region, which the Board deferred to the Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council's (Council) recommendations. The Board *adopted* **WP20-48** requesting revisions to seasons and harvest limits for caribou in Units 20F, 20E, and 25C, and **WP20-51** requesting the Board recognize the customary and traditional use of sheep in Unit 12 by residents of Slana. The Board *rejected* statewide proposal **WP20-08**, requiring traps or snares to be marked with a name or state identification number and **WP20-19**, requesting revisions to the elder/minor sheep hunt in Unit 11.

The remaining proposals affecting the Eastern Interior Alaska Region appeared on the non-consensus agenda. However, for all of these proposals, the Board took action consistent with the Council's recommendations. The Board *rejected* **WP20-49** to rescind the closure to non-Federally qualified users for sheep in Units 25A Arctic Village Sheep Management Area, and *adopted with the Council's modification* **WP20-50** requesting revision to the hunt areas, seasons and harvest limits for moose in Unit 12.

The Board's actions on the WCR for the region was also consistent with the Council's recommendations. The Board voted to *maintain status quo* on **WCR20-42** for caribou hunting in Unit 12.

The Board appreciates Council's active involvement in and diligence with the regulatory process. The ten Councils continue to be the foundation of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and the stewardship shown by the Council chairs and their representatives at the Board meeting was truly admirable.

If you have any questions regarding the summary of the Board's actions, please contact Katya Wessels, Council Coordinator, at 907-786-3885 or [katerina\\_wessels@fws.gov](mailto:katerina_wessels@fws.gov).

Sincerely,



Anthony Christianson  
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council members  
Susan Detwiler, Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Thomas Doolittle, Deputy Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Lisa Maas, Acting Policy Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management  
Tom Kron, Acting Council Coordination Division Supervisor,  
Office of Subsistence Management  
Katerina Wessels, Subsistence Council Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management  
Interagency Staff Committee  
Administrative Record