

# **Federal Subsistence Board**



1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FOREST SERVICE

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

# FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE HUNTING AND TRAPPING FOR WOLF CLOSED IN UNIT 2

## SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

Under authority of: 36 CFR §242.10 and .19

50 CFR §100.10 and .19

Special Action No: 13-WO-12-18 Issued at: Craig Alaska, December 14, 2018

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, December 18, 2018

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, March 31, 2019 unless superseded by subsequent special

action

### **EXPLANATION:**

This Special Action closes Federal public lands within Unit 2 (GMU2) to the harvest of wolf. The closure begins on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. and continues through March 31, 2019. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has also implemented a similar closure within Unit 2 for the State hunting and trapping seasons.

Authority has been delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board to both the Craig/Thorne Bay District Ranger to close the Federal hunting and trapping seasons for wolf in Unit 2 when the combined Federal-State harvest quota has been taken.

**REGULATION:** 36 CFR §242.26(n)(2) and 50 CFR §100.26(n)(2) are amended to read:

**Unit 2– Wolf (hunting)** 

5 wolves. Federal hunting and trapping season may be closed when the combined Federal-State harvest quota is reached. Any wolf taken in Closed Unit 2 must be sealed within 14 days of harvest.

**Unit 2 – Wolf (trapping)** 

No limit. Federal hunting and trapping season may be closed when the combined Federal-State harvest quota is reached. Any wolf taken in Unit 2 must be sealed within 14 days of harvest.

Nov. 15 March 31 Closed

## **JUSTIFICATION:**

Wolf harvest in Unit 2 has reached higher levels during the past several seasons. This increase is believed to been due to a higher wolf population along with mild winter weather that kept much of the Unit 2 road system snow-free and accessible to trappers facilitating high trapper participation and effort. To conservatively manage wolves during the 2018/2019 hunting and trapping seasons, a harvest quota of 45 wolves was set for Unit 2. Managers anticipate that the quota will be reached by the closure date by hunters and trappers who still have gear still in the field.

# **DISTRIBUTION:**

#### **RADIO**

KBRD Radio; KCAW Radio; KRSA Radio

#### **NEWSPAPERS**

Ketchikan Daily News; Island News; Sitka Sentinel; Juneau Empire

#### **GOVERNMENT ORANIZATIONS**

Don Hernandez, Chair, Southeast Alaska Regional Advisory Council; ADF&G Wildlife Divisions-Ketchikan; William Elsner, Patrol Captain, USFS-Ketchikan; Ramsey Thompson, LEO, USFS-Thorne Bay; Paul Robbins Jr., Public Affairs, USFS-Ketchikan; Terry Suminski, Tongass Subsistence Program Leader, USFS-Sitka; Deanna Perry, Council Coordinator, USFS – Petersburg; Thomas Whitford, Regional Subsistence Program Leader, USFS – Anchorage; Chris McKee, Wildlife Division Chief, USFWS/OSM—Anchorage; Theo Matuskowitz, Regulations Specialist, USFWS/OSM—Anchorage; Caron McKee, Public Affairs, USFWS/OSM—Anchorage; Alaska Public Safety Department-Fish & Wildlife Protection Division, Ketchikan & Craig; Craig Tribal Association; Klawock Cooperative Association; Hydaburg Cooperative Association; Organized Village of Kasaan.