



Federal Subsistence Management Program 2022-2024 Wildlife Proposals

Comment period open through July 19, 2021



Comment period open through July 19, 2021

Send your written comments on the enclosed proposals to:

Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
(Attn: Theo Matuskowitz)
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Email: subsistence@fws.gov
Fax: (907) 786-3898

**Comments received after July 19, 2021 will be forwarded to the Federal Subsistence Board for their consideration; however, they will not be included in Fall 2021 Regional Advisory Council meeting materials, or in any proposal analysis.*

After the Fall 2021 Regional Advisory Council meeting cycle, anyone wishing to provide written comments on these proposals may do so only by delivering comments directly to the Federal Subsistence Board at its regulatory meeting scheduled to take place in April 2022.

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) invites your comments on the enclosed proposals to change Federal subsistence wildlife hunting and trapping regulations for the 2022–2024 regulatory years (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024). These proposals seek changes to existing Federal subsistence regulations for the taking of wildlife on Federal public lands and waters in Alaska. Wildlife proposals submitted during the current regulatory cycle can be found beginning on page 8.

In addition, the Board is asking for your comments on existing wildlife closures that will be reviewed by the Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and the Board during this wildlife cycle. The wildlife closures being reviewed can be found beginning on page 5.

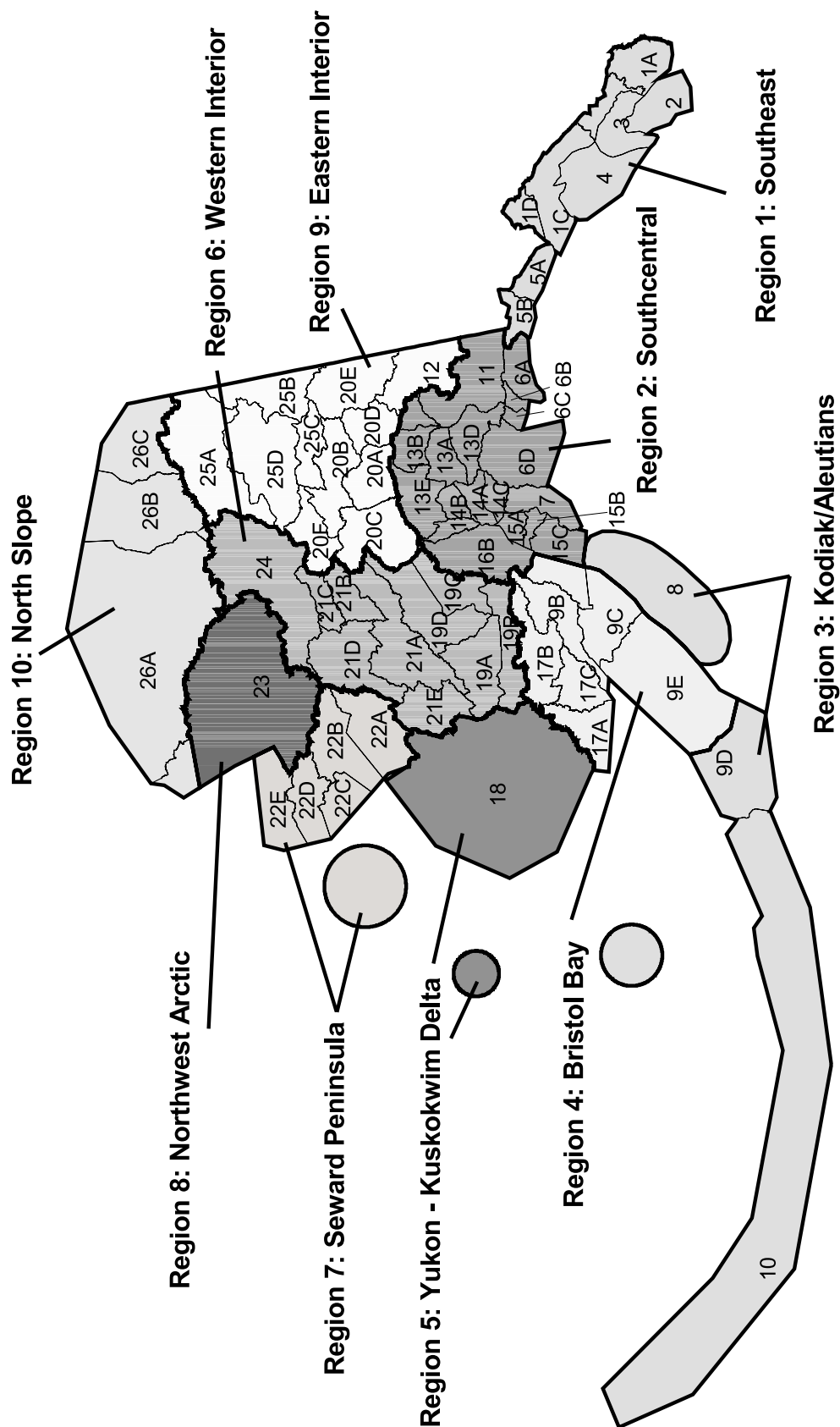
You may mail your comments to the Federal Subsistence Board at the address on the previous page of this book, fax them to (907) 786-3898, or email them to subsistence@fws.gov.

Please refer to a specific proposal number or wildlife closure number in your comments. All comments received by **July 19, 2021** will be included in the meeting materials for the appropriate Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to discuss at their fall meetings and the Board at its spring 2022 meeting.

Before making decisions on these proposals and wildlife closures, the Board considers technical analyses prepared by its staff, recommendations from the 10 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils, and any written public comments and oral testimony it receives on the proposal, along with Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation comments received during consultations. The Board may consider and act on alternatives that address the intent of a proposal while differing in approach. Once the Board makes its decisions, the changes will be published as final regulations for the 2022–2024 regulatory years, effective July 1, 2022, and the regulation book distributed throughout Alaska.

Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues? If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing:
[*fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov*](mailto:fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov).

Federal Subsistence Resource Regions and Units



GENERAL INFORMATION

Federal Subsistence Board

The Federal Subsistence Board oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. Board members include the Alaska directors of five Federal agencies: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Forest Service. The Board Chair is a representative of the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. Two additional public members are appointed by the Secretaries to represent rural subsistence users.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils (Council(s)), State of Alaska representatives, and the general public play an active role in the regulatory process. You can find information about the Federal Subsistence Board on the Federal Subsistence Management Program's website at: www.doi.gov/subsistence or by contacting the Office of Subsistence Management at 800-478-1456 or 907-786-3888.

Regional Advisory Councils

The Federal Subsistence Management Program divides Alaska into 10 subsistence resource regions, each represented by a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. These 10 Councils provide an opportunity for Alaskans to contribute in a meaningful way to the management of subsistence resources. Subsistence users and other stakeholders have the opportunity to comment and offer input on subsistence issues at Council meetings. Councils meet a least twice a year to develop proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations, and review and make recommendations on proposals submitted by others.

Council membership

The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture appoint Council members. Members must reside in the area they wish to represent and have knowledge of subsistence uses and needs. Each year the Office of Subsistence Management accepts applications and nominations for membership between August and January. If you are interested in applying for membership, please contact Katya Wessels or the council coordinator for your region.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinators

Council Coordinators facilitate communication between the Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board. Each Coordinator is responsible for one or two regions and serves as a contact for the Councils, Federal agency staff, and the public. Contact a Coordinator for more information on the activities of each Council.

Southeast and Southcentral Regions

DeAnna Perry
JUNEAU
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Bristol Bay and Kodiak/Aleutians Regions

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Western Interior and Seward Peninsula Regions

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Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and North Slope Regions

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Northwest Arctic Region

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Eastern Interior Region

Katerina "Katya" Wessels
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For information on Regional Advisory Council membership, contact:

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Proposal Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	General Description	Page
Statewide					
WP22-01	Statewide	Various	Statewide	Define who is/is not a participant in a community harvest program and effects on harvest limits	8
WP22-02	Statewide	Various	6, 9, 10, 22, 23, 26	Rescind restrictions for designated hunters in areas with community harvest systems in place	10
Southeast					
WP22-03	Statewide	Wolf	2	Modify sealing requirements	15
WP22-04	SE	Elk	1,2,3,4	Establish a hunt with a year round season	17
WP22-05	SE	Elk	3	Establish a hunt under a draw permit system	18
WP22-06	SE	Moose	3	Establish a quota and place restrictions on harvest limit	20
WP22-07	SE	Deer	4	Closure to non-Federally qualified users, Admiralty Island	22
WP22-08	SE	Deer	4	Place a harvest restriction on non-Federally qualified users, Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area	23
WP22-09	SE	Deer	4	Closure to non-Federally qualified users, Lisianski Strait	24
WP22-10	SE	Deer	4	Lower harvest limits for non-Federally qualified users, Lisianski Strait	26
WP22-11	SE	Goat	5A	Rescind the harvest quota	27
Southcentral					
WP22-12	Statewide	Deer	6D	Revise hunt areas and season dates	28
WP22-13	Statewide	Deer	6	Add deer to designated hunter list	29
WP22-14	SC, SE	Black bear	6	Increase harvest limit	31

Proposal Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	General Description	Page
WP22-15	SC	All furbearers	7	Establish trap set backs along trails, road, and campground	33
WP22-16	SC	Moose	7, 15A, 15B	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	41
WP22-17	SC	Moose	7	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	42
WP22-18	SC	Moose	15A, 15B	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	43
WP22-19	SC	Moose	15C	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	44
WP22-20	SC	Moose	15C	Add Cooper Landing to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	45
WP22-21	SC	Caribou	7	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	46
WP22-22	SC	Caribou	15B, 15C	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	47
WP22-23	SC	Goat	7	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	48
WP22-24	SC	Goat	15	Add Moose Pass to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	49
WP22-25	Statewide	Sheep	7	a. Establish Customary and Traditional Use Determination b. Establish hunt	50
WP22-26	Statewide	Sheep	7	a. Establish Customary and Traditional Use Determination b. Establish hunt	51
WP22-27	SC	Sheep	15	Add Cooper Landing to Customary and Traditional Use Determination	52
WP22-28	SC	Moose	7	Extend season	53
WP22-29	SC	Moose	7	Extend season	54

Proposal Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	General Description	Page
WP22-30	SC	Moose	15	Extend season	55
WP22-31	SC	Moose	15	Extend season	56
WP22-32	SC	Big Game	15	Establish Customary and Traditional Use in community of North Fork for: a. Black Bear, b. Brown Bear, c. Caribou, d. Goat, e. Moose, and f. Sheep	59
WP22-33	Statewide	Black Bear	11, 12	Eliminate sealing requirement	67
WP22-34	SC, EI	Sheep	11, 12	Modify salvage requirements	69
WP22-35	SC, EI	Caribou	11	Establish season and conduct §804 analysis	70
WP22-36	SC, EI	Moose, caribou	11, 12, 13	Establish community hunt in Unit 12, modify community hunts in Units 11, 13	71
Kodiak/Aleutians					
WP22-37	Statewide	Ptarmigan	9D	Establish Customary and Traditional Use Determination	78
WP22-38	KA, BB	Caribou	10	a. Add Cold Bay and Nelson Lagoon to Customary and Traditional Use Determination b. Modify closure	80
Bristol Bay					
WP22-39	Statewide	Hare	9, 17	Establish season/harvest limit for Alaska hare	82
WP22-40	Statewide	Wolf, Wolverine	9B, 9C, 17B, 17C	Allow use of snowmachines for positioning of animals	84
WP22-41	BB, YKD, WI, SP	Caribou	9, 17, 18, 19	Delegate authority to announce harvest limits, set sex restrictions, and open/close seasons	85
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta					
WP22-42	YKD, WI, SP	Moose	18 Remainder	Increase harvest limit	89
WP22-43	YKD, WI	Moose	18	Delegate authority to the Refuge manager to adjust harvest quotas based on water levels	90

Proposal Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	General Description	Page
WP22-44	YKD, WI	Moose	18	Extend fall season; establish winter hunt	92
WP22-45	Statewide	Hare	18, 22, 23	Establish season/harvest limit for Alaska hare	94
Western Interior					
WP22-46	WI	Brown bear	24B	Increase harvest limit	96
Seward Peninsula					
WP22-47	SP, NWA, WI, NS, YKD	Caribou	22	Allow calf harvest	97
WP22-48	SP	Moose	22A	Revise Hunt Area Boundaries	98
WP22-49	SP	Moose	22A	Rescind closure to non-Federally qualified users	99
Northwest Arctic					
WP22-50	Statewide	Beaver	23	Trapping: Increase harvest limit to “no limit”	101
Eastern Interior					
WP22-51	EI	Moose	20B	Remove Minto Flats registration hunt	103
WP22-52	EI	Moose	25A	Lengthen season	104
WP22-53	Statewide	Arctic Fox	25	Establish season/harvest limit	105
North Slope					
WP22-54	NS	Moose	26A	Revise hunt area	106
WP22-55	NS	Muskox	26A	Establish hunt	107
WP22-56	NS	Bown Bear	26A	Increase harvest limit	108

The proposals are published as submitted by the proponents and vary in color, format, size, and type.

WILDLIFE CLOSURE REVIEWS

The Office of Subsistence Management (OSM) is reviewing existing wildlife closures to determine whether the original justifications for closure continue to apply. These reviews are being conducted in accordance with guidance found in the Federal Subsistence Board's (Board) Policy on *Closures to Hunting, Trapping and Fishing on Federal public lands and waters in Alaska*, which was adopted in 2007, and amended in 2019. **Pursuant to the Policy, closure review analyses are being addressed by the Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and the Board in the same manner as regulatory proposal analyses.**

Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) establishes a priority for the taking of fish and wildlife on Federal public lands and waters for non-wasteful subsistence uses over the taking of fish and wildlife for other purposes (ANILCA Section 804). The Federal Subsistence Board is authorized to restrict or close the taking of fish and wildlife by nonsubsistence users on Federal public lands and waters (ANILCA Section 804 and 815(3)) when necessary for: 1) the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife; 2) for reasons of public safety, administration, or to assure the continued viability of such population; 3) to continue subsistence uses of such population; or 4) pursuant to other applicable law. In addition, the Board may also close Federal public lands and waters to any taking of fish and wildlife for reasons of public safety, administration, or to assure the continued viability of such population (ANILCA Section 816(b)).

Distribution and abundance of fish and wildlife populations are known to fluctuate based upon a variety of factors such as weather patterns, management actions, habitat changes, predation, harvest activities, and disease. Subsistence use patterns are also known to change over time in response to many factors including resource abundance and human population changes, among others. A Closure Review analysis contains a brief history of why a closure was implemented, along with a summary of the current resource condition and the OSM recommendation as to whether the closure should be continued or lifted.

The affected Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils are asked to consider the OSM recommendation and make recommendations to the Board about closures. Recommendations from Councils receive deference from the Board on the final action, unless they are: 1) not supported by substantial evidence; 2) violate recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation; or 3) would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. Closures remain in effect until changed by the Board.

Additional information on unit-specific wildlife closures can be found in the Federal Subsistence Management Regulations for the Harvest of Wildlife on Federal Public lands in Alaska.

A table of the existing wildlife closures for review this wildlife regulatory cycle is located on the following page.

Closure Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	Description
WCR22-01	SE	Deer	2	Prince of Wales closed Aug. 1-15, except by Federally qualified subsistence users; non-Federally qualified users may only harvest 2 bucks
WCR22-02	SE	Moose	5	Unit 5A, except Nunatak Bench - seasonal closures to non-Federally qualified users
WCR22-05	BB	Moose	9	9C, Naknek River - December closure to non-Federally qualified users
WCR22-07	BB, WI	Caribou	17	Nushagak Peninsula - closed to non-Federally qualified users unless population >900 caribou
WCR22-09a	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22A North- closed to non-Federally qualified users (closure covered by proposal WP22-49)
WCR22-09b	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22A Unalakleet drainage - closed except to Unalakleet residents
WCR22-09c	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22A remainder - seasonal closure to non-Federally qualified users
WCR22-11	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22B, W. Darby Mtns - Fall - closed to non-Federally qualified users
WCR22-12	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22B, W. Darby Mtns - Winter- closed except by White Mtn. and Golovin
WCR22-13	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22D, Kougarak, Kuzitrin, Pilgrim drainages - closed except by Unit 22C and 22D residents
WCR22-14	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22D, W. Tisuk and Canyon drainage - closed except by Unit 22C and 22D residents
WCR22-16	SP	Moose	22	Unit 22E - closed to non-Federally qualified users

Closure Number	Affected Region(s)	Species	Unit	Description
WCR22-18	NWA, NS	Sheep	23	Unit 23 - Baird Mtns - closed to non-Federally qualified users
WCR22-22	EI	Moose	25	Unit 25D west - closed except by 25D west residents
WCR22-25	NS	Muskox	26	Unit 26C - closed except by Kaktovik residents
WCR22-27	NWA, NS	Muskox	23	Unit 23 - Cape Krusenstern National Monument - closed to residents of Point Hope
WCR22-45	NWA, NS, WI, SP	Caribou	23	Unit 23 - Portions of Unit 23 - closed to non-Federally qualified users

WP22-01

Office of Subsistence Management
1011E Tudor Rd; MS121
Anchorage, AK 99654

What regulation do you wish to change?

General regulations (____.25(c) and (e)) to clarify who is or is not a participant in a community hunt.

Current Regulations:

§____.25(c)(2)

Fish, wildlife, or shellfish taken by a designated individual for another person pursuant to §100.10(d)(5)(ii) counts toward the individual harvest limit of the person for whom the fish, wildlife, or shellfish is taken.

§____.26(e)(2)

An animal taken under Federal or State regulations by any member of a community with an established community harvest limit for that species counts toward the community harvest limit for that species. Except for wildlife taken pursuant to §____.10(d)(5)(iii) or as otherwise provided for by this part, an animal taken as part of a community harvest limit counts toward every community member's harvest limit for that species taken under Federal or State of Alaska regulations.

Proposed Regulations*:

§____.25(c)(2)

Fish, wildlife, or shellfish taken by a designated individual for another person pursuant to §100.10(d)(5)(ii) counts toward the individual harvest limit of the person for whom the fish, wildlife, or shellfish is taken.

(i) Fish, wildlife, or shellfish taken by a participant in a community harvest system counts toward the community harvest limit or quota for that species as well as individual harvest limits, Federal or State, for each participant in that community harvest, however, the take does not count toward individual harvest limits, Federal or State, of any non-participant. Fish, wildlife, or shellfish taken by someone who is not a participant in a community harvest system does not count toward any community harvest limit or quota.

(ii) For the purposes of this provision, all residents of the community are deemed participants in the community harvest unless the Board-approved framework requires registration as a prerequisite to harvesting or receiving any fish, wildlife, or shellfish

pursuant to that community harvest, in which case only those who register are deemed participants in that community harvest.

§ _____.**26(e)(2)**

~~An animal taken under Federal or State regulations by any member of a community with an established community harvest limit for that species counts toward the community harvest limit for that species. Except for wildlife taken pursuant to § _____.10(d)(5)(iii) or as otherwise provided for by this part, an animal taken as part of a community harvest limit counts toward every community member's harvest limit for that species taken under Federal or State of Alaska regulations.~~

*Changes/additions are noted by **bold** text. Deletions to existing regulations are marked by ~~strikethrough~~.

Why is this regulation change needed?

To clarify the current regulations defining who is or is not a participant in a community harvest program. This need for clarification is based on the AITRC Community Harvest Program which has already been approved by the Board.

WP22-02

2022-24 Wildlife Proposal

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1011 E. Tudor Rd. M/S 121
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 786-3888 or (800) 478-1456
subsistence@fws.gov

What regulation do you wish to change?

Regulations prohibiting the use of a designated hunter if the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.

Current Regulations:

§____.25(e) *Hunting by designated harvest permit.*

If you are a Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient), you may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user to take deer, moose, and caribou, and in Units 1-5, goats, on your behalf unless you are a member of a community operating under a community harvest system or unless unit-specific regulations in §100.26 preclude or modify the use of the designated hunter system or allow the harvest of additional species by a designated hunter. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time except for goats, where designated hunters may have no more than one harvest limit in possession at any one time, and unless otherwise specified in unit-specific regulations in §100.26.

§____.26(n)(6)(ii) *Unit 6 specific regulations*

(D) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) who is either blind, 65 years of age or older, at least 70 percent disabled, or temporarily disabled may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take any moose, deer, black bear, and beaver on his or her behalf in Unit 6, and goat in Unit 6D, unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but may have no more than one harvest limit in his or her possession at any one time.

§____.26(n)(9)(iii) *Unit 9 specific regulations*

(E) For Units 9C and 9E only, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) of Units 9C and 9E may designate another federally qualified subsistence user of Units 9C and 9E to take bull caribou on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report and turn over all meat to the recipient. There is no restriction on the number of possession limits the designated hunter may have in his/her possession at any one time.

(F) For Unit 9D, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take caribou on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(10) Unit 10

(iii) In Unit 10—Unimak Island only, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take caribou on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(22)(iii) Unit 22 specific regulations:

(E) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take musk oxen on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients in the course of a season, but have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time, except in Unit 22E where a resident of Wales or Shishmaref acting as a designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(23)(iv) Unit 23 specific regulations:

(D) For the Baird and DeLong Mountain sheep hunts—A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for only one recipient in the course of a season and may have both his and the recipients' harvest limits in his/her possession at the same time.

(F) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take musk oxen on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(26)(iv) Unit 26 specific regulations:

(C) In Kaktovik, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep or musk ox on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a

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Statewide

member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

(D) For the DeLong Mountain sheep hunts—A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep on his or her behalf unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for only one recipient in the course of a season and may have both his and the recipient's harvest limits in his/her possession at the same time.

Proposed Regulations:

§ _____.25(e) Hunting by designated harvest permit.

If you are a Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient), you may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user to take deer, moose, and caribou, and in Units 1-5, goats, on your behalf unless ~~you are a member of a community operating under a community harvest system or~~ unless unit-specific regulations in §100.26 preclude or modify the use of the designated hunter system or allow the harvest of additional species by a designated hunter. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time except for goats, where designated hunters may have no more than one harvest limit in possession at any one time, and unless otherwise specified in unit-specific regulations in §100.26.

§ _____.26(n)(6)(ii) Unit 6 specific regulations

(D) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) who is either blind, 65 years of age or older, at least 70 percent disabled, or temporarily disabled may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take any moose, deer, black bear, and beaver on his or her behalf in Unit 6, and goat in Unit 6D, ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but may have no more than one harvest limit in his or her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(9)(iii) Unit 9 specific regulations

(E) For Units 9C and 9E only, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) of Units 9C and 9E may designate another federally qualified subsistence user of Units 9C and 9E to take bull caribou on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report and turn over all meat to the recipient. There is no restriction on the number of possession limits the designated hunter may have in his/her possession at any one time.

(F) For Unit 9D, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take caribou on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a~~

~~community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(10) Unit 10

(iii) In Unit 10—Unimak Island only, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take caribou on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(22)(iii) Unit 22 specific regulations:

(E) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take musk oxen on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients in the course of a season, but have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time, except in Unit 22E where a resident of Wales or Shishmaref acting as a designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more than four harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(23)(iv) Unit 23 specific regulations:

(D) For the Baird and DeLong Mountain sheep hunts—A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for only one recipient in the course of a season and may have both his and the recipients' harvest limits in his/her possession at the same time.

(F) A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take musk oxen on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

§ _____.26(n)(26)(iv) Unit 26 specific regulations:

(C) In Kaktovik, a federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep or musk ox on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.~~ The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated

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Statewide

hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time.

(D) For the DeLong Mountain sheep hunts—A federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) may designate another federally qualified subsistence user to take sheep on his or her behalf ~~unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system~~. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for only one recipient in the course of a season and may have both his and the recipient's harvest limits in his/her possession at the same time.

Why is this regulation change needed?

If you live in a community with a community harvest system, you cannot utilize a designated hunter to obtain your individual harvest limit, regardless of whether you choose to participate in the community harvest system. This provision has been perceived as unfair to members of rural communities who are not interested in participating in community harvest systems because their options for acquiring their individual harvest limit are curtailed involuntarily, i.e., by virtue of the actions of other users.

WP22-03**Proposal to Change****2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Regulations for the
Taking of Wildlife on Federal Public Lands**

Division: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation

Contact: Tom Schumacher

Phone: 907-465-4359

E-mail: tom.schumacher@alaska.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

Sealing requirements for wolves taken by hunting and trapping in Game Management Unit 2.

2: How would the new regulation read?

All wolves taken in Unit 2 shall be sequentially numbered/marked by the hunter or trapper, hunters and trappers shall call the department within 7 days of take to report the date and location of take for each wolf, and all hides must be sealed within 15 days of take.

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

Current federal sealing regulations no longer align with new state sealing regulations designed to gather more precise information from harvested wolves for use in ADF&G's annual GMU 2 wolf population estimates. Managing harvest of the Unit 2 wolf population to maintain the fall population within the objective range of 150-200 wolves relies on accurate and precise estimates of abundance. In 2019 when state and federal regulations were updated to implement ADF&G's new Unit 2 wolf harvest Management Strategy ADF&G neglected to consider the effect that changing the sealing requirement from within 14 days of harvest to within 30 days after the season closes would have on data used for population estimates. The purpose of this proposal is to correct that error by aligning federal subsistence sealing regulations for wolves harvested in GMU 2 with state sealing requirements updated by the Alaska Board of Game at its March 18, 2021 meeting.

ADF&G annually estimates the number of wolves in GMU 2 using a non-invasive DNA-based spatially explicit capture-recapture method where wolf DNA is acquired when wolves roll on an array of scented hair boards throughout northern and central Prince of Wales Island. The Hydaburg Cooperative Association and US Forest Service cooperate in this effort. For wolves detected at hair boards and subsequently harvested, harvest represents a "recapture" event that can be incorporated into population estimates. Recaptures are valuable for population estimates, particularly when users provide precise information on when and where individual wolves were harvested. The goal of this proposal is to ensure users can provide precise information for individual wolf hides at sealing. More precise data should result in more precise wolf population estimates. More precise estimates will allow managers to provide the greatest sustainable harvest opportunity while also maintaining the wolf population within the objective range.

Wolves sampled at hair board stations may be harvested on federally managed lands where federal subsistence regulations apply or on state, municipal, or private lands where state regulations apply. Aligning state and federal sealing requirements for wolves across GMU 2 would help ensure consistent data for ADF&G's population estimates are collected from all wolves harvested in the unit. Aligning state and federal sealing regulations would also eliminate confusion among users

over which regulations apply to harvested wolves and enhance the ability of enforcement agencies to enforce regulations across land management jurisdictions.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

More precise information on when and where each wolf is harvested should contribute toward a more accurate and precise Unit 2 wolf population estimates. More accurate population estimates will enable state and federal managers to better regulate the wolf population through harvest to meet the fall population objective of 150-200 wolves. Maintaining the population within that range is intended to balance the need for a sustainable wolf population with the effect of wolf predation on deer.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This change will not affect subsistence use of wolves, but it will eliminate confusion among users over which regulations apply to harvested wolves.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This change will not affect other uses of wolves, but it will eliminate confusion among users over which regulations apply to harvested wolves.

WP22-04**2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change**

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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

Phone: 907-209-7817

E-mail: deanna.perry@usda.gov

1: Existing Federal Regulation

Unit 3 – Elk

No Federal open season

2: Proposed Federal Regulation

Unit 3 - Elk

Etolin, Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevaroff Islands

No Federal open season

Units 1 – 4 and remainder of Unit 3 - 1 elk by Federal registration permit. Successful hunters are required to send a photo of their elk antlers to ADF&G and a 5-inch section of lower jaw with front teeth.

No Closed Season

3: Why this regulation should be changed:

Historically, the State offered a general season elk hunt (Aug. 1-Dec. 31, one elk) in Unit 3 outside of Etolin and Zarembo Islands. The season was closed by the State. Restoring a general season elk hunt under Federal regulations would present a meaningful subsistence opportunity to Federally qualified users while aiding in the control of non-native elk outside of the managed populations on Etolin and Zarembo Islands.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

Elk are managed by the State on Etolin and Zarembo Islands. The State closed the Zarembo Island elk season due to concerns over low elk numbers. Directed Federal harvest of elk outside of these islands will not likely affect the managed populations on Etolin and Zarembo Islands.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

There is currently no general elk season in Unit 3 under State or Federal regulations. This regulation change will provide harvest opportunity outside of the State Etolin Island draw/registration permit hunt.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

There would be no direct competition between this Federal harvest and other uses.

WP22-05

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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

Phone: 907-209-7817

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1: Existing Federal Regulation

None

2: Proposed Federal Regulation

Unit 3 - Elk

Hunt Area: that portion of Unit 3 bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Stikine Strait and Clarence Strait, running southeast following the midline of Clarence Strait, down to its intersection with Ernest Sound, then northeast following the midline of Ernest Sound, excluding Niblack Islands, to its intersection with Zimovia Strait, then northwest following the western shoreline of Zimovia Strait to its intersection with Chichagof Passage, then west along the midline of Chichagof Passage to its intersection with Stikine Strait, then southwest along the midline of Stikine Strait back to the point of beginning. Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevaroff islands are closed to elk hunting.

Oct. 1-Oct. 15

Oct. 16-Oct. 31

There will be a drawing for each hunt period. Harvest limit is one bull elk per Federal draw permit. Only one elk permit will be issued per household. A household receiving a State draw permit for elk may not receive a Federal permit. The annual harvest quota will be announced by the USDA Forest Service, Wrangell Ranger District office, in consultation with ADF&G. The Federal harvest allocation will be 25% (rounded up to the next whole number) of elk permits. Successful hunters are required to send a photo of their elk antlers to ADF&G and a 5-inch section of lower jaw with front teeth.

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

3: Why this regulation should be changed:

To provide a meaningful subsistence priority for the harvest of elk, for which a customary and traditional use determination has been made.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This proposal will not increase the annual harvest quota and therefore is not expected to cause any conservation concern for elk.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

It will reduce competition with non-Federally Qualified users and result in increased harvest for subsistence users.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

It will displace non-Federally Qualified users.

WP22-06

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
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Address: 1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199

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1: Existing Federal Regulation

Unit 3 - Moose

1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or 3 or more brow tines on either antler, or antlers with 2 brow tines on both sides by State registration permit only.

Sep. 15–Oct. 15

2: Proposed Federal Regulation

Unit 3 - Moose

*1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or 3 or more brow tines on either antler, or antlers with 2 brow tines on both sides by State registration permit only. **On Kupreanof and Kiui Islands up to 20 bull moose may be taken by Federal permit.***

Sep. 15–Oct. 15

*Harvest limit is one bull moose per Federal draw permit. **Only one bull moose permit will be issued per household. Recipients of a federal draw permit are not eligible for a State permit. The annual harvest quota will be announced by the USDA Forest Service, Petersburg Ranger District office, in consultation with ADF&G. Successful hunters are required to send a photo of their moose antlers to ADF&G and a 5-inch section of lower jaw with front teeth.***

3: Why this regulation should be changed:

Over the past years it has become more challenging for subsistence hunters to harvest sufficient moose under the antler restricted hunt and this would offer additional opportunities for harvest.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

Unknown since there are no population estimates for moose in Unit 3.

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

It will make it easier for Federally qualified residents of Units 1-5 to harvest moose on Kupreanof and Kiui Islands.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

May result in overharvest since the populations of moose in Unit 3 are unknown.

WP22-07

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
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Phone: 907-209-7817

E-mail: deanna.perry@usda.gov

1: Existing Federal Regulation

Unit 4 - Deer

Unit 4 – 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31. Aug. 1 – Jan. 31

2: Proposed Federal Regulation

Unit 4 - Deer

*Unit 4 — 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31. Aug. 1 – Jan. 31
Federal public lands of Admiralty Island draining into Chatham Strait between Point Marsden and Point Gardner are closed to deer hunting Sept. 15 – Nov. 30, except by Federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.*

3: Why this regulation should be changed:

Over the past years it has become more challenging for subsistence hunters in Angoon to harvest sufficient deer for their needs. As hunting pressure from non-subsistence hunters has increased, concern has risen for the future prospects for local subsistence hunters. Regulatory change is needed to prevent further depletion and to protect the resource.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This proposal is not expected to cause any conservation concern for deer.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

It will reduce competition with non-Federally Qualified users and result in increased harvest for subsistence users.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

It may displace non-Federally Qualified users for a portion of the deer season.

WP22-08**2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change**

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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Phone: 907-209-7817

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1: Existing Federal Regulation**Unit 4 - Deer**

Unit 4 – 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31. Aug. 1 – Jan. 31

2: Proposed Federal Regulation**Unit 4 - Deer**

Unit 4 — 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31. Aug. 1 – Jan. 31

Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area:

Non-Federally qualified users: 2 male deer

Federally qualified users: 6 deer

3: Why this regulation should be changed:

Over the past years it has become more challenging for subsistence hunters in Hoonah to harvest sufficient deer for their needs. As hunting pressure from non-subsistence hunters has increased, concern has risen for the future prospects for local subsistence hunters. Regulatory change is needed to prevent further depletion and to protect the resource.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This proposal is not expected to cause any conservation concern for deer.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

It will reduce competition with non-Federally Qualified users and result in increased harvest for subsistence users.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

It may displace non-Federally Qualified users for a portion of the deer season.

WP22-09

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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Existing Federal Regulation

Unit 4 - Deer

Unit 4 – 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31 Aug. 1 – Jan. 31

Proposed Federal Regulation

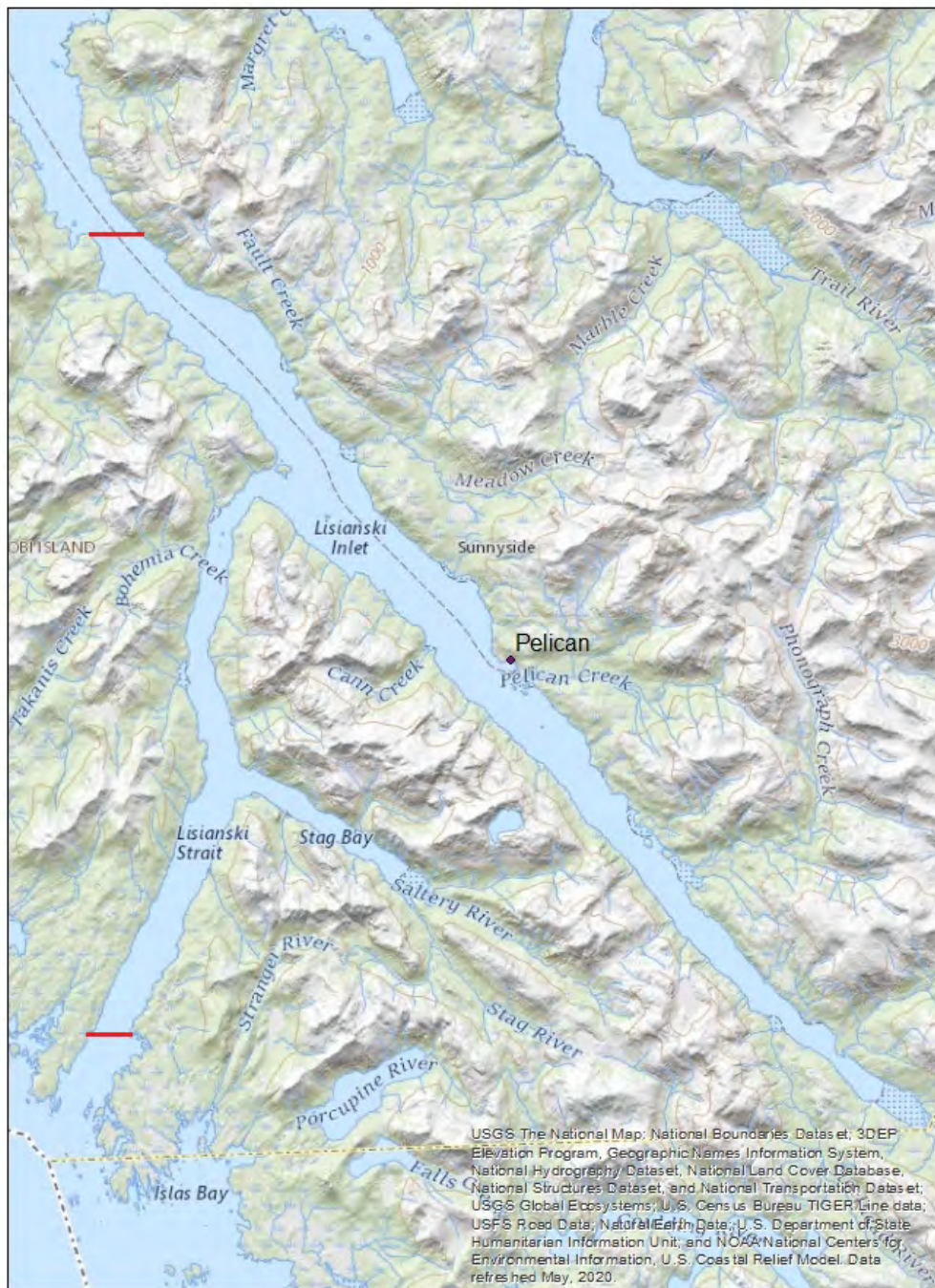
Unit 4 - Deer

Unit 4 — 6 deer; however, female deer may be taken only from Sept. 15 – Jan. 31. Federal public lands draining into Lisianski Inlet, Lisianski Strait, and Stag Bay south of the latitude of Mite Cove (58° 4' N) and north of the latitude of Lost Cove (57° 52' N) are closed to deer hunting Oct. 15 – Dec. 31, except by Federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations. Aug. 1 – Jan. 31

Why this regulation should be changed:

Over the past years it has become more challenging for subsistence hunters in Lisianski Inlet, Lisianski Straits and Stag Bay to harvest sufficient deer for their needs. As hunting pressure from non-subsistence hunters has increased, concern has risen for the future prospects for local subsistence hunters. Rather than wait for resources to become further depleted, we would like to propose a change in the regulations to further protect the resource.

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change



WP22-10

Organization: Patricia Phillips

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1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

Bag Limit for non federally qualified subsistence users

2: How would the new regulation read?

In Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Straits reduce bag limit for non-federally qualified subsistence harvesters to 4 deer bag limit.

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

Concern that federally qualified harvesters in Pelican, AK that their subsistence needs are not being met. Bear predation on deer populations have deer staying out of the beach fringe, this makes deer skittish when there is ongoing deer hunting pressure.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

Reduced harvest from non-federally qualified hunters

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

Will help meet the subsistence needs of federally qualified subsistence hunters who reside in Pelican, AK

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

Effect on non-federally qualified hunters will be minimal, the reduced bag limit to 4 deer still allow sport hunters a generous harvest.

WP22-11**2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change**

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator
Address: 1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: 907-209-7817
E-mail: deanna.perry@usda.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change? Unit 5A goat:

Unit 5A, remainder- 1 goat by Federal Registration Permit. The harvest quota will be announced prior to the season. A minimum of 4 goats in the harvest quota will be reserved for federally qualified subsistence users. Aug. 1-Jan. 31

2: How would the new regulation read?

Unit 5A, remainder- 1 goat by Federal Registration Permit. The harvest quota will be announced prior to the season. ~~A minimum of 4 goats in the harvest quota will be reserved for federally qualified subsistence users.~~ Aug. 1-Jan. 31

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

The current regulation is cumbersome and difficult for in-season managers to effectively implement. A static number (4) relative to a quota that fluctuates based on the current (most recent available) population data is not an appropriate management directive (does not reflect sound management practices). Effort and harvest are low by both Federally qualified subsistence users and non-subsistence users. Subsistence demand has been met without actively “reserving” animals for harvest. Subsequently, this regulation is not necessary and needlessly complicates regulations for both managers and users. The in-season manager (Yakutat District Ranger) has the authority/flexibility to manage the harvest without this regulation. Further, priority for subsistence users is provided by a longer season. This change will simplify the regulations for both subsistence users and managers.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

No impact is expected since the harvest will still be managed under a quota.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This change is not expected to affect subsistence uses. Demand has been low by both subsistence users and non-subsistence users. Subsistence users will still have an opportunity to harvest goats during the Federal season, including January when the State season is closed.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This change is not expected to affect other uses, since the harvest will still be managed under a quota.

WP22-12

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southcentral Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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1: What Regulation do you wish to change?**Unit 6 / Hunting – Deer**

All rural residents	5 deer; however, antlerless deer may be taken only from Oct. 1 – Dec. 31.	Aug. 1 – Dec. 31
	Unit 6D – 1 buck	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31

2: How would the new regulation read?

All rural residents	5 deer; however, <i>in Unit 6D</i> antlerless deer may be taken only from Oct 1 – Jan. 31. <i>In the remainder of Unit 6D antlerless deer may be taken only from Oct. 1 – Dec. 31.</i>	Aug. 1 – Dec. 31
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3: Why should this regulation change be made and how will this change affect subsistence uses?

Because so many families rely upon deer for their red meat, and because deer hunting, especially in the early season, can be extremely physically taxing, subsistence users harvesting deer in full foliage must cover large distances over rugged terrain, and is not suitable for all hunters. Hunters who are not able to cover this terrain must wait for opportunities later in the season when reduced foliage allows greater visibility, and heavy snowpack forces deer down towards the coast. Many hunters who do not meet disability thresholds can only harvest deer when they are on the beaches in the winter. Winters in Unit 6D have come later and later and these easier winter hunting conditions often do not come until later in January, and even February. We seek to extend the season for deer harvest in Unit 6D so that hunters may fill their full quota through the month of January.

WP22-13

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southcentral Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,

c/o DeAnna Perry, Coordinator

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E-mail: deanna.perry@usda.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

Unit 6 / Hunting – Special Provisions

- “A Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) who is either blind, 65 years of age or older, at least 70 percent disabled, or temporarily disabled, may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user (designated hunter) to take any moose, deer, black bear and beaver on their behalf in Unit 6, and goat in Unit 6D, unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but may have no more than one harvest limit in their possession at any one time.”

2: How would the new regulation read?

- “A Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient) who is either blind, 65 years of age or older, at least 70 percent disabled, or temporarily disabled, may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user (designated hunter) to take any moose, deer, black bear and beaver on their behalf in Unit 6, and goat in Unit 6D, unless the recipient is a member of a community operating under a community harvest system. *Any recipient may designate any federally qualified member of their household to take any deer in Unit 6.* The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients, but may have no more than one harvest limit in their possession at any one time.”

3: Why should this regulation change be made and how will this change affect subsistence uses?

Because so many families rely upon deer for their red meat, and because deer hunting, especially in the early season, can be extremely physically taxing, subsistence users harvesting deer in full foliage must cover large distances over rugged terrain, and is not suitable for all hunters. We wish to allow federally qualified users to effectively harvest deer for their family throughout the season under a household limit so that if one member of a household who is able to harvest deer during the early season fills their tags, they could easily continue to harvest deer for other members of their household who would otherwise have to wait for an opportunity later in the season. This would only extend to household members who are federally qualified, and no hunter

2022 Wildlife Proposed Regulation Change

would be allowed to be in possession of more than one limit of deer. This will give families greater opportunity to fill their harvest quota efficiently and economically throughout the deer season.

WP22-14

Proposal Request for 2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Hunting and Trapping

Proposal Change Requestors-

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Current Regulation-

Unit 6 Black Bear- Harvest Limits

1 bear. In Unit 6D a State registration permit is required.

Sept. 1-June 30

Proposed Amended Regulation-

Unit 6 Black Bear- Harvest Limits

2 bears. In Unit 6D a State registration permit is required.

Sept1- June 30

Justification-

Increasing the harvest limit to include an additional bear in Unit 6 will increase opportunity for qualified federal subsistence residents to harvest red meat. Cost of living continues to rise in Prince William Sound communities. Diminished ferry service and the pandemic have made residents focus more on local sustainable foods. Black bear populations throughout Unit 6 are healthy and stable. Currently subsistence hunters must forego being able to hunt a Spring bear if they choose to harvest a bear in the Fall. The addition of fresh red meat in the Spring would allow user's freezers to be filled with meat to bridge the gap till the Fall hunting season. Many Unit 6 residents do not have access to moose and deer because of limitations in access based on modes of transportation to hunting areas. Black bear hunting opportunity is easily accessed from the Copper River Highway and does not require a boat for users to harvest red meat.

Additional Information-

We would request that in Unit 6D if the RL065 (State) harvest quota was reached and the season was closed then the Federal Subsistence Harvest Limits would follow suit for conservation of black bear populations.

WP22-15

Organization: Cooper Landing Community Safe Trails Committee

Address: PO Box 652, Cooper Landing, AK 99572

Contact phone: (907)299-2855

Email: lthuskys@gmail.com

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

There are no current federal subsistence regulations regarding trap placement in Unit 7 on the Kenai Peninsula.

2: How would the new regulation read?

Add the Following Language to Trapping Regulations For Unit 7:

In Unit 7, trappers are prohibited from using a trap or snare within 1,000 feet of the following trails, roadways, and campgrounds.

Trails

Setback distance of 1,000ft. on both sides of the trails

- Crescent Creek Trail starting at the USFS Boundary on toward Crescent Lake
- Lower Russian Lake Trail to Barber Cabin & Russian River Falls
- West Juneau Bench Trail (first 1.5 miles)
- Devil's Creek Ski Loop

Roadways

Setback distance of 1,000ft. on both sides of roadways except for the designated Quartz Creek Road mile markers.

- All federal land south of Quartz Creek road between mile .3 to mile .6. This land lies between the road and Kenai Lake. It includes the last .1 mile of East Quartz Creek Rd.
- The Old Seward Highway (no longer maintained) that runs from Crescent Creek Trailhead to Tern Lake
- All pullouts on federal land along the Sterling Hwy from its junction with the Seward Hwy (Tern Lake) to Cooper Landing.

Campgrounds

No trapping in campgrounds and a setback distance of 1,000 ft. beyond campground borders if surrounding land is federal.

- Quartz Creek Campground
- Crescent Creek Campground
- Russian River Campground
- Cooper Creek Campgrounds, North & South

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

- This regulation would align Federal Subsistence trapping practices with the USFS Mission statement that requires management of USFS lands for multiple uses using a balanced approach.

- The Forest Service commits to manage between recreational and federal subsistence users through their “**Our Values**” statement, which cites managing for “***Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social.***” Implementing this regulation would be in line with this Forest Service “Value”.
- ANILCA Title I Sec 101 (b) states “It is the intent of congress in this Act to protect and preserve historic and archeological sites, rivers, and lands, and to preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities including but not limited to hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting, within large arctic and subarctic wildlands and on free-flowing rivers”. ANILCA Title V Sec 501 (b) states, “Multiple use activities shall be permitted in a manner consistent with the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitat as set forth in special regulations which shall be promulgated by the secretary.”
- Impacts would be negligible to subsistence trappers as they could continue to trap under State regulations in these regions. It is hoped Federal subsistence users would comply with the new regulation. If the regulation is adopted by the Federal Subsistence Program, then it is hoped that a simultaneous proposal submitted to the BOG would gain support for passage by recognizing:
 - 1) the requests of non-consumptive users when evaluating trapping regulations in this small region of the state
 - 2) the mission of the USFS is to manage their lands for a balance between all user groups
 - 3) a balanced approach will reduce conflict, and
 - 4) the willingness of the Federal Subsistence Program to make regulatory changes that do not significantly interfere with subsistence users’ opportunity to trap yet reduce long term user conflicts occurring in a high density multi-recreational use region of the State.
- These regulations, if adopted, would align with the intent of ANILCA as trappers would have considerable opportunity to subsistence trap on federal lands as this regulation would impact a minimal amount of federal land in Unit 7.
- Local residents are supportive of a more balanced approach to management of recreational uses as indicated in a local survey by Cooper Landing Community Safe Trails Committee.
- Incidents of abandoned or “ghost traps” near the areas described will be decreased for off-trapping seasonal activities. An active trap was spotted by the Russian Falls Trailhead 2 years ago in June that was approximately 15’ off the trail.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This change will have no effect on wildlife populations.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This change will likely have minimal or no effect on federal subsistence trapping harvest as it will restrict trapping on only a small portion of USFS federal lands in Unit 7. Subsistence trappers would be required to set traps at least 1,000 feet from the locations specified in the proposed regulations. The mandatory 1,000-foot setback may result in increased time and effort to set traps within these zones as

trappers would be required to set traps 1,000 feet away from designated trails, roads, and campgrounds.

If the BOG does not adopt similar regulations the Federal and State regulations will be different and may cause some regulatory confusion for federal subsistence trappers. If the BOG adopts these same regulations the possibility for regulatory confusion will be remedied.

Traps set by federal subsistence users that are 1,000 feet from specified trails may result in:

- 1) reduced risk of traps being physically disturbed by other recreational users,
- 2) possible increased harvest due to less disturbance (noise, scents, movements) by recreationist activities, given they are further from trails, and
- 3) reduced trapping of non-target species and dogs.

This restriction will be more restrictive than State regulations if the BOG does not adopt the same proposal; such a proposal will be submitted at the next BOG regulatory meeting. However, adoption of this proposal by the Federal Subsistence Board would be an initial step toward providing a balanced approach toward multi-use opportunities, and subsequently reduce user conflicts within a small region of the State that experiences a high and concentrated number of recreational users.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

The goal in submitting this proposal is to find a solution to a growing conflict between recreational users and subsistence trappers in a manner that minimizes disruption to subsistence trapping. In accordance with its mission statement, The US Forest Service (USFS) is required to manage its lands; to **balance the short and long-term needs of people and nature** by:

- Working in **collaboration** with communities and our partners;
- Providing access to resources and experiences that promote economic, ecological, and **social vitality**; and
- Connecting people to the land and one another.

This issue has a long local history, and it is experiencing increased interest as the nature of our community changes. Cooper Landing is experiencing a shift from being a residential community dependent on extraction of natural resources and distant jobs to a recreational community dependent on tourism and year-round recreational activities. Cooper Landing is also experiencing a shift to a younger population as indicated by the doubling of student enrollment over the last 18 years; this lends itself to more family winter outdoor adventures which necessitates safer areas for families and pets to recreate.

There is a growing interest by local community members to find a solution that is both compromising and positive for all users. News media has been covering the activity of effort to create Safe Trails in Cooper Landing (see Attachment 1, Sabine Poux article “Cooper Landing Committee Crafts Trap Setback Proposal”) Our proposal reflects what the residents are asking for.

A recent survey was sent to every landowner within the Cooper Landing census-designated area, as well as every post office box holder and business, 420 in total. (see Attachment 2, CLCST Survey 2-19-21) The survey requested feedback on which specific trails, campgrounds, roads, and beaches in Cooper Landing (if any) respondents wished to see no-trap setbacks, and if setbacks were requested, how far respondents wanted them to be. The survey saw a return of 135 responses and the results were

overwhelmingly supportive of creating trap setbacks close to highly used public areas. Ninety percent of the returned surveys stated it necessary and appropriate to have areas where families can ski, skijor, hike, snowshoe, snowmachine and enjoy winter recreation safe from the possibility of dogs or humans getting injured by a trap. There were many comments on the survey that indicated a half mile or mile setback would be best; committee members thought that distance excessive. Realizing there is still a vast backcountry for subsistence trappers to use, our goal is to request reasonable setbacks only in areas used regularly by the public. Several responses from local trappers indicated support for this regulation change.

A difficult to measure yet extremely important factor in the current situation is the emotional stress and fear associated with the threat of traps close to trails, roads, and campgrounds. In local meetings and in the survey, many people stated they simply do not go to their favorite places with their dogs for fear of a trap encounter. Another group affected are bird hunters with bird dogs. These dogs are typically well-behaved and under strict voice command yet there was a fatality in February of this year; on a highway pullout north of Anchorage an irresponsible trapper placed a trap 50 feet from the road and the 15-year-old boy watched his bird hunting dog die. User groups and land uses are expanding and changing and the need to change our trapping regulations is long overdue. The disproportionate number of recreational users to trappers is 99.6% versus 0.04% of the State's population. Excluding a minor amount of federal lands in Game Unit 7 for use by subsistence trappers would have minimal effect on subsistence trapping opportunities yet would resolve ongoing conflicts with other user groups.

Each of the places listed have reasons for being included. The trails were considered for their length and amount of winter usage; the roadways were included for their usage as rest stops and proximity to residential areas and buildings that are frequented by the public; the campgrounds because they are used for winter recreation. It is well understood that private property owners have the right to allow or disallow trapping activity on their own property.

A compromise between the user groups appears to be gaining support and we believe a respectful resolution is possible. Signs asking trappers to voluntarily set traps 400 yards (1,200 feet) were put up in 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the areas listed in this request, as well as other areas that are managed by the State. While one local trapper believes this may have had a positive impact, recreationists believe voluntary adherence is not enough; there needs to be well-understood boundaries that are enforceable. It is only through adopted regulations that recreationists may have peace of mind and certainty about trap locations.

There has been opposition to this proposed regulation relative to the need to remove nuisance animals, specifically beaver. Trapping of nuisance animals, ie: beavers, could be dealt with utilizing a special temporary permit system, notifying surrounding neighbors and identifying the trap as an active trap for that specific case. Other than a situation such as this, traps near residences were highly opposed in the survey results.

Cooper Landing committee crafts trap setback proposal

By

Sabine Poux, KDLL - Soldotna

-

April 20, 2021



Alaska Trappers Association Southcentral President Brad Christiansen shows the effect of a foot trap.
(Lex Treinen/Alaska Public Media)

Cooper Landing dog owners are hoping to implement stricter regulations on where traps for fur-bearing animals can be set in order to reduce the risk of catching dogs.

Trappers and recreationists have long been at odds over trapping restrictions in Cooper Landing.

Tensions came to a head several years ago when the Alaska Board of Game quashed a proposal to ban trailside trapping, citing a lack of compromise between activists on either side.

Now, several Cooper Landing residents are reigniting the conversation. They've surveyed locals on where they'd like to see trapping setbacks and will use the data to craft a proposal for the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Management Board.

"A setback is how far off a trail or road or beach that is required for the trapper to have set their trap, to keep it far away from high public-use areas," said Lorraine Temple of Cooper Landing, who's spearheading the initiative.

"Not going far back into the backcountry, way far away, but just to give those little slivers of land that we know we can be safe and go outside to ski, skijour our dogs, snowmachine, snowshoe, whatever in the winter," she said.

Recreationists say traps close to public-use areas can hurt or kill dogs who've wandered off trail. It's happened a number of times in the last several years.

Trappers largely agree it's a problem but say dog owners should be responsible for keeping their pets close.

Temple is trying to gauge what kind of setbacks would be acceptable to locals. She sent out over 400 surveys to residents and business owners and received a third of them back. 90% of responders said setbacks are necessary.

The survey proposed a slew of possible setback sites, including the Russian River Trail and the shores of Kenai Lake. Nearly 70% of respondents said they'd like to see setbacks extend a quarter-mile on either side of trails and roadways, while 18% said they'd like to see them 250 feet away. Respondents tended to favor larger setbacks from campgrounds and trailheads.

Despite the apparent consensus, several responses from trappers point to the broader dispute between user groups. Some said uncontrolled dogs can be dangerous, too. One respondent said they'd be more receptive to restrictions on trappers if "there was some give and take with dog owners."

Dianne MacLean of Soldotna, president of the Kenai Peninsula Chapter of the Alaska Trappers Association, said not all trappers think the same on setbacks.

"Large traps, I think it's worth talking about," she said. "I don't think there's any reason to talk about setbacks for little muskrat traps that are not going to hurt anybody's dog."

But she said it's a two-way street.

"I am concerned for trappers that things are becoming more and more difficult, partly because there are more and more people but partly because people want to allow their dogs to run off leash, and then wonder why they run into problems at certain times in the year," she said. "So I am concerned about that."

Temple said she's receptive to feedback about keeping dogs under sight and voice control. Like MacLean, she said she's willing to compromise and work with trappers.

"We wanted the best representation from the community of what the community wants," Temple said.

There are multiple federal land managers in the Cooper Landing area. The Kenai National Wildlife Refuge is the only one with specific trapping restrictions, including setbacks and a ban on trapping along Skilak Lake Road.

Much of the area falls under the purview of the Forest Service, whose trapping regulations generally fall in line with those of the Board of Game. There are some trails in the area that may be used by subsistence trappers.

It's hard to say if the committee's proposal will have what it needs to pass. Many attempts to regulate trapping in the area haven't stuck. Last year, the Safe Trails initiative placed signs on Cooper Landing trails discouraging traps within 400 yards of trails. The Alaska Legislature even considered a bill five years ago that would have banned trapping within 200 feet of public trails: The bill did not pass.

But advocates say as the area becomes more popular, clashes will happen more frequently. Some dog owners, put off by the lack of restrictions on neighboring trails, have made a habit of sticking to refuge trails.

MacLean said she's willing to sit down with dog owners and talk about what would make the most sense going forward. But she also wants to make sure trappers are still allowed to maintain their practice.

"Trapping is a heritage in Alaska that goes back to way before statehood and way before anybody was even here, other than the people who were born here," she said. "They trapped. They used fur. And to this day, we use fur, we eat a lot more of the animals than people think. They think we're just wasting meat, we're not."

Temple and the Safe Trails committee must submit a proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board by the end of May. Proposals to the Board of Game aren't due for another year, since COVID-19 pushed its upcoming meeting back to 2022.

COOPER LANDING COMMUNITY SAFE TRAILS COMMITTEE

Community Survey

As the population of our community and tourism grows, recreational use of local trails, beaches and other areas during winter has seen increased usage and potential encounters between people, their dogs, and traps. The fact that traps can be set in highly used public areas has raised fears that hamper recreational activity for many. Safety is important. We want to resolve this problem for the benefit of all and allow safe, equitable use of our public lands. While most trappers are responsible and respectful, the lack of trapping regulations has caused traps to be set next to, or on, the trails, beaches and roads used by hikers, skiers, other recreational users, and their dogs. We believe ethical trappers want to avoid trapping a dog or small child and avoid putting traps in a place where there could be a possible encounter. Our goal is to work with our community and decisive agencies to resolve this issue. Please help by completing the survey below.

You can help by reporting traps near highly used public areas and trails or just to share your thoughts on this issue at Map the Trap www.akwildlife.org/safetrails!

Please complete survey and return it to one of the options below by March, 19, 2021:

- Mail to Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee, PO Box 652, Cooper Landing, AK 99572
- Scan and email the completed survey to lthuskys@gmail.com
- Fax to (866)235-4232
- Deposit in drop box at Community Hall
- Complete an online survey found in the Cooper Landing Crier or the CL Announcements Facebook page

1. I feel setbacks for traps at trailheads, along trails, at campgrounds and along certain Cooper Landing beaches are necessary for the safety of all users. Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Areas that should be considered for trap setbacks are:

TRAILS

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| a. Crescent Creek Trail to Crescent Lake | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Lower Russian Lake Trail to Barber Cabin & Falls | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Bean Creek Trail to intersection w/ Resurrection Pass Trail | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. West Juneau Bench Trail | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Devil's Creek Ski Loop | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Safe setback distance <u>along Trails</u> on both sides: | 250 ft. <input type="checkbox"/> | 1/4 mile (1320 ft.) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Safe setback distance <u>from Trailheads</u> : | 250 ft. <input type="checkbox"/> | 1/4 mile (1320 ft.) <input type="checkbox"/> |

ROADWAYS:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Quartz Creek Road to Crescent Creek Trailhead | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Williams Road & East Quartz Creek Road | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Crescent Creek Trailhead to Tern Lake (Old Sterling Hwy) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Snug Harbor Road from highway to 1/4 mile past powerline | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Bean Creek Road | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Russian Gap Road | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. All pullouts on Sterling Hwy, Tern Lake to Mi 55 (Kenai-Russian River Ferry) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

2022–2024 Wildlife Proposals

Southcentral

Appropriate setback distance along Roadways: 250 ft. ☐ 1/4 mile (1320 ft.) ☐

CAMPGROUNDS:

- a. Quartz Creek Campground Yes ☐ No ☐
b. Crescent Creek Campground Yes ☐ No ☐
c. Russian River Campground Yes ☐ No ☐
d. Cooper Creek Campground Yes ☐ No ☐

Appropriate setback distance at Campgrounds: 250 ft. ☐ 1/4 mile (1320 ft.) ☐

BEACHES

a. Kenai Lake Beaches: on the North side from the Kenai River Bridge to 1/4 mile past the end of Williams Road and on the south side from the Kenai River Bridge to 1/4 mile past the powerline crossing (powerline is at mile 2.8 Snug Harbor Road). Yes ☐ No ☐

b. Kenai Lake Beach (Locally known as Waikiki Beach) 1/4 mile north to 1/4 mile south of the lake access road at mile 5.6 Snug Harbor Road. Yes ☐ No ☐

Appropriate setback distance along Beaches 250 ft. ☐ 1/4 mile (1320 ft.) ☐

COMMENTS: *We would like your input! Please suggest your ideas on area additions or deletions, different setback distances and relate other suggestions and comments in this area.*

Signature (optional)

Printed name

date

Please return no later than Friday, March 19, 2021



Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. We are submitting a proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board in June 2021 and to the Board of Game in 2022 to help mitigate this issue.

~The Cooper Landing Community Safe Trails Committee

Lorraine Temple, Kathy Recken, Sylve Montalbo, Yvette Galbraith, Mona Painter, Chris Degernas, Ed Holsten

WP22-16

Moose Pass moose C and T determination**Name:**

Seth Wilson
Po Box 647
Glennallen, ak 99588

Organization:

Self

What regulation do you wish to change:

I would like to see Moose Pass residents' customary and traditional use of moose recognized on the Kenai Peninsula.

Write the regulation:

- Units 15A and 15B—Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, Seldovia **And Moose Pass**
- Unit 7—Residents of Chenega Bay, Cooper Landing, Hope, Tatitlek **And Moose Pass**

Why should this regulation be changed:

In light of the recent rural determination for residents of the moose pass area, they need a C and T determination to participate in the local federal moose hunting opportunities. Moose Pass has a long tradition and history of moose hunting on the Kenai. Residents of the area currently participate in all available state moose hunting opportunities available locally. Harvested moose is shared and distributed to other households and family, as is custom in subsistence economies.

Additional information:

none

WP22-17

3

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

MOOSE

Unit 7—Residents of Chenega Bay,
Cooper Landing, Hope and Tatitlek

Unit 7 remainder—1 antlered bull
with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or
with 3 or more brow tines on either
antler, by Federal registration permit
(FM0004) only.

Aug. 10 - Sept. 20

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

MOOSE

Unit 7—Residents of
Chenega Bay, Cooper Landing,
Hope and Tatitlek, **and Moose Pass**

Unit 7 remainder—1 antlered bull
with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or
with 3 or more brow tines on either
antler, by Federal registration permit
(FM0004) only.

Aug. 10 - Sept. 20

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including moose. Competition with non-local Alaskans and non-residents makes it extremely difficult to draw tags in regular state hunts. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-18

6

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631
Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631
907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

MOOSE

Units 15A and 15B—Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia.	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area	No Federal open season
	Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
	Units 15B and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Oct. 20 - Nov. 10
	Unit 15C - 1 cow by Federal registration permit only. (FM1505)	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

MOOSE

Units 15A and 15B—Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia, and Moose Pass.	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area	No Federal open season
	Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
	Units 15B and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Oct. 20 - Nov. 10
	Unit 15C—1 cow by Federal registration permit only. (FM1505)	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including moose. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-19

7

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.

MOOSE

Unit 15C— Residents of Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia. <i>Federal permits are available from the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge office in Soldotna, or the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge office in Homer. (See directory at the end of this book for addresses.)</i>	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only. Units 15B and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike- fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only. Unit 15C - 1 cow by Federal registration permit only. (FM1505)	No Federal open season Aug. 10 - Sept. 20 Oct. 20 - Nov. 10 Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
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Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

MOOSE

Unit 15C— Residents of Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia, and Moose Pass. <i>Federal permits are available from the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge office in Soldotna, or the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge office in Homer. (See directory at the end of this book for addresses.)</i>	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only. Units 15B and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike- fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only. Unit 15C—1 cow by Federal registration permit only. (FM1505)	No Federal open season Aug. 10 - Sept. 20 Oct. 20 - Nov. 10 Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
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Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including moose. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-20

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

Michael Adams
PO Box 847 Cooper Landing, AK 99572
907-595-3336
bluewagon82@gmail.com

Your organization

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

Management Unit 15C Moose C&T Use Determination

Current Regulation: Unit 15 C – Residents of Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham and Seldovia

Proposed Regulation: Unit 15C - Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham and Seldovia

Explain why this regulation change should be made.

Subsistence opportunity is being denied to members of the Cooper Landing community in unit 15C. As rural residents of the Kenai Peninsula members of Cooper Landing have a history of harvest including customary and traditional use in Unit 15C. Cooper Landing should be included in the C&T determination and we have been left out of the C&T process for this hunt. Cooper Landing residents participate in all subsistence harvest opportunities available in our region including all of Unit 15. As rural residents we should be allowed the opportunity to participate in the subsistence activities in our own backyard.

Changes in this regulation will provide for the opportunity for the rural residents of Cooper Landing to have the opportunity to engage in the subsistence lifestyle and provide a meaningful preference for specific wildlife populations traditionally used by the residents of Cooper Landing.

You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) in evaluating the proposed change.

WP22-21

1

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

CARIBOU

Unit 7—Residents of Cooper Landing, and Hope	Unit 7—north of the Sterling Highway and west of the Seward Highway—1 caribou by Federal registration permit (FC0702) only. The Seward Ranger District will close the Federal season when 5 caribou are harvested by Federal registration permit.	Aug. 10 - Dec. 31
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Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

CARIBOU

Unit 7—Residents of Cooper Landing, and Hope, and Moose Pass.	Unit 7—north of the Sterling Highway and west of the Seward Highway—1 caribou by Federal registration permit (FC0702) only. The Seward Ranger District will close the Federal season when 5 caribou are harvested by Federal registration permit.	Aug. 10 - Dec. 31
--	---	-------------------

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including caribou. Competition with non-local Alaskans and non-residents makes it extremely difficult to draw tags in regular state hunts. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-22

4

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

CARIBOU

Unit 15A—All rural residents.	Unit 15B, within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Area—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit (DC1507).	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
Units 15B and 15C—Rural residents of Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia		
	Unit 15C, north of the Fox River and east of Windy Lake—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
	Unit 15 remainder	No Federal open season

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

CARIBOU

Unit 15A—All rural residents.	Unit 15B, within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Area—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit (DC1507).	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
Units 15B and 15C—Rural residents of Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia, and Moose Pass.		
	Unit 15C, north of the Fox River and east of Windy Lake—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit	Aug. 10 - Sept. 20
	Unit 15 remainder	No Federal open season

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including caribou. Competition with non-local Alaskans and non-residents makes it extremely difficult to draw tags in regular state hunts. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-23

2

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

GOAT

Unit 7 Remainder—Rural residents of Chenega Bay, Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, Seldovia, and Tatitlek

Unit 7—1 goat by Federal drawing permit (DG0703). Nannies accompanied by kids may not be taken.

Aug. 10 - Nov. 14

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

GOAT

Unit 7 Remainder—Rural residents of Chenega Bay, Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, Seldovia, ~~and~~ Tatitlek, **and**

Moose Pass.

Unit 7—1 goat by Federal drawing permit (DG0703). Nannies accompanied by kids may not be taken.

Aug. 10 - Nov. 14

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including mountain goats. Competition with non-local Alaskans and non-residents makes it extremely difficult to draw tags in regular state hunts. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-24

5

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

GOAT

Unit 15—Rural residents of Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia	1 goat by Federal drawing permit (DG1508). You may not take kids or nannies with kids.	Aug. 10 - Nov. 14
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Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations:

GOAT

Unit 15—Rural residents of Cooper Landing, Hope, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia, and Moose Pass.	1 goat by Federal drawing permit (DG1508). You may not take kids or nannies with kids.	Aug. 10 - Nov. 14
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Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including mountain goats. Competition with non-local Alaskans and non-residents makes it extremely difficult to draw tags in regular state hunts. Adding Moose Pass to the existing hunt would both re-establish the customary and traditional use of this resource and create a more meaningful opportunity for subsistence harvest.

WP22-25a/25b

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

Michael Adams
PO Box 847 Cooper Landing, AK 99572
907-595-3336
bluewagon82@gmail.com

Your organization

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

New Regulation

Management Unit 7 —1 Sheep by Federal registration permit. The season may be opened or closed by announcement of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge manager in consultation with ADF&G and the chair of the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.
Cooper Landing Residents - Open Season – Aug. 10 – Sept. 20

Explain why this regulation change should be made.

Under current regulation no meaningful priority exists for Cooper Landing resident sheep hunters in Unit 7. This regulation seeks to provide a meaningful priority opportunity for subsistence harvest.

While there are state issued permits available, not allowing federal subsistence to harvest on federal lands is not an acceptable practice under ANICLA. Changes in this regulation will provide for the opportunity for the rural residents of Cooper Landing to have the opportunity to engage in the subsistence lifestyle and provide a meaningful preference for specific wildlife populations traditionally used by the residents of Cooper Landing.

You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) in evaluating the proposed change.

WP22-26a/26b

8

Date: May 17, 2021

Name and contact information:

Lisa Slepetski - 30391 Seward Hwy, Moose Pass AK 99631

Mailing address: PO Box 51, Moose Pass AK 99631

907-288-2026

Your organization (if applicable): N/A

What regulation do you wish to change? Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.

NEW REGULATION

SHEEP - Unit 7. Open to residents of Moose Pass.

Explain why this regulation change should be made:

Moose Pass was recently recognized as a rural community. The research that went into the determination showed the residents of Moose Pass have customary and traditional use of a wide variety of resources for many years, including sheep. I understand that sheep populations can be delicate, requiring a good amount of flexibility in crafting harvest regulations, locations, and seasons in order to maintain a sustainable population, so I will not attempt to write them myself and am open to ideas and suggestions in order to allow Moose Pass residents the opportunity to sustainably engage in this subsistence harvest. “Alaska Nellie” Lawing, Andy Simons, Harry Johnson, and other historic resident journals/books/photos are good examples illustrating local utilization of sheep.

WP22-27

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

Michael Adams
PO Box 847 Cooper Landing, AK 99572
907-595-3336
bluewagon82@gmail.com

Your organization

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

Management Unit 15 Sheep C&T Use Determination
Current Regulation: Unit 15 – Residents of Ninilchik
Proposed Regulation: Unit 15 - Residents of Cooper Landing, and Ninilchik

Explain why this regulation change should be made.

Members of the community of Cooper Landing are rural residents of the Kenai Peninsula and we have been left out of the C&T process for this hunt. Cooper Landing residents participate in all subsistence harvest opportunities available in our region including all of Unit 15.

While there are state issued permits available, not allowing federal subsistence to harvest on federal lands is not an acceptable practice under ANICLA. As rural residents we should be allowed the opportunity to participate in the subsistence activities in our own backyard.

Changes in this regulation will provide for the opportunity for the rural residents of Cooper Landing to have the opportunity to engage in the subsistence lifestyle and provide a meaningful preference for specific wildlife populations traditionally used by the residents of Cooper Landing.

You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) in evaluating the proposed change.

WP22-28

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

Michael Adams
PO Box 847 Cooper Landing, AK 99572
907-595-3336
bluewagon82@gmail.com

Your organization

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

Management Unit 7 Moose
Current Regulation: Open Season – Aug. 10 – Sept. 20
Proposed Regulation: Open Season – Aug. 10 – Sept. 25

Explain why this regulation change should be made.

The Federal Subsistence hunting season should not be more restrictive than the State of Alaska hunting season. Currently non-subsistence opportunity exists until Sept. 25. The federal season should be extended to provide these additional 5 days of hunting opportunity for subsistence users.

You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) in evaluating the proposed change.

WP22-29

Unit 7 remainder Moose hunting season

Name:

Seth Wilson
Po Box 647
Glennallen, ak 99588

Organization:

self

What regulation do you wish to Change:

I would like to see the Unit 7 remainder moose hunt season end date aligned to the State general moose hunting season in unit 7. Currently the state moose general season ends on September 25th and the federal season ends on the 20th.

Write the regulation:

Unit 7 remainder—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM0004) only.

Aug. 10 - ~~Sept. 20~~ **September 25**

Why should this regulation be changed:

Federal subsistence users should have every reasonable opportunity to participate in and be successful in local moose hunts. The 20-25th of September are especially important days for moose hunting because they move more in the cooler days, and are more likely to respond to calling.

Additional information:

None

WP22-30

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

Michael Adams
PO Box 847 Cooper Landing, AK 99572
907-595-3336
bluewagon82@gmail.com

Your organization

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

Management Unit 15 Moose
Current Regulation: Open Season – Aug. 10 – Sept. 20
Proposed Regulation: Open Season – Aug. 10 – Sept. 25

Explain why this regulation change should be made.

The Federal Subsistence hunting season should not be more restrictive than the State of Alaska hunting season. Currently non-subsistence opportunity exists until Sept. 25. The federal season should be extended to provide these additional 5 days of hunting opportunity for subsistence users.

• You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) in evaluating the proposed change.

WP22-31

Federal Wildlife Proposal to be submitted by CRRC by the
May 24, 2021 proposal deadline

Name, address, telephone number of requestor:

Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC)
1840 Bragaw Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99508
(907) 334-0113

The issue we would like addressed:

Chugach Regional Resources Commission has been directed by its member tribes, including those of Port Graham and Nanwalek, to assist them in accessing more moose for tribal customary and traditional uses and protecting tribal ways of life throughout their traditional territories. Port Graham and Nanwalek have a positive customary and traditional use determination for moose in all subunits in Unit 15.

Federal and state moose regulations in Unit 15 currently have different hunting seasons. This can create confusion for hunters. In 2019, the Alaska Board of Game took action to standardize all state hunts in Unit 15 to address this confusion. We request the Board take similar action to standardize the Federal moose hunting season in Unit 15 by extending the fall hunting season to September 25 to match the state's closing date.

Additionally, a lengthening growing season makes it more difficult to harvest moose earlier in the hunting season. A longer hunting season on Federal lands would provide more opportunity for subsistence when there is a greater chance of hunter success.

Based upon the recent actions by the Alaska Board of Game in 2019 to standardize all state hunts in the subunit and on actions taken on Proposal 195 on March 18, 2021 to further clarify Unit 15 moose seasons for increased moose hunting opportunities, we submit this proposal to the federal subsistence management program to ensure continuation of a federal subsistence priority, to increase opportunities for federally qualified subsistence users, and to reduce hunter confusion caused by differing regulations on state and Federal land.

The regulation we wish to change:

Moose C&T Determination	Harvest Limits	Open Seasons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Units 15A and 15B – Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, 	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area	No Federal open season
	Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C – 1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either	Aug. 10 – Sept. 20

<p>Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 15C – Residents of Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia <p><i>Federal permits are available from the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge office in Soldotna, or the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge office in Homer.</i></p>	antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	
	Units 15B and 15C – 1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Oct. 20 – Nov. 10
	Unit 15C – 1 cow by Federal registration permit only (FM1505)	Aug. 10 – Sept. 20

The new regulation would be:

Moose C&T Determination	Harvest Limits	Open Seasons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Units 15A and 15B – Residents of Cooper Landing, Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia Unit 15C – Residents of Nanwalek, Ninilchik, Port Graham, and Seldovia <p><i>Federal permits are available from the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge office in Soldotna, or the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge office in Homer.</i></p>	Unit 15A Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area	No Federal open season
	Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C – 1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Aug. 10 – Sept. 25
	Units 15B and 15C – 1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit (FM1505) only.	Oct. 20 – Nov. 10
	Unit 15C – 1 cow by Federal registration permit only (FM1505)	Aug. 10 – Sept. 25

Statement explaining why proposed change is necessary:

Federally qualified rural residents, including Alaska Native tribal citizens, will have greater opportunity to successfully harvest a moose from federal public lands in Unit 15 if this proposal is adopted. The proposed regulatory change would help reduce confusion by hunters in Unit 15 by standardizing state and federal hunting seasons. An additional benefit for federally-qualified hunters is that, by extending the season, it will provide five additional days at the end of the season. Currently, residents of Port Graham and Nanwalek report that they are experiencing increasing difficulty obtaining moose during the fall hunting season due to the increasing abundance of vegetation later in the fall.

Tribal residents may have more of an opportunity to fulfill their cultural needs through harvested moose consumption if their area regulations were less restrictive when biological status of the population can support it. Alaska residents who have depended on such natural resources since before written history still rely on these same subsistence foods, but regulatory restrictions can sometimes have a negative effect on the continuation of these customary and traditional patterns of use across generations. Residents from places such as Port Graham and Nanwalek, who have a positive customary and traditional use determination throughout 15C, may be more inclined to use personal resources to travel farther to this area to hunt if the chances of success were increased by standardizing hunting across state and federal areas.

WP22-32

Cork Graham
POB 410
Anchor Point, AK
99556

EMAIL: cork1@corkgraham.com

Attn: Mr. Theo Matuskowitz
Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS-121
Anchorage, AK
99503-6199



Mr. Matuskowitz:

I am the originator of the accompanying proposal for designating our recognized rural residents area the "North Fork Rural Customary and Traditional Subsistence Use Community." I did so at the suggestion of Fish & Wildlife Biologist (Subsistence) Todd Eskelin and Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinator Deanna Perry.

Originally, I had been receiving my subsistence tags from Mr. Eskelin the previous three years, until he realized that though my residence classified my wife and I as rural residents on the Kenai Peninsula, we were not considered part of the nearby Ninilchik community. He said that I was not the only one as there was a resident of the Nikolaevsk area who had been receiving FM1505 subsistence moose tags for a much longer time period and was also not part of the Ninilchik rural community area.

I first lived in Alaska from 1990 to 1991, and was introduced to the hunting and fishing customary and traditional lifestyle then. Ten years ago, I returned to Alaska to enjoy hunting and fishing as a food subsistence activity, and consider it a customary and traditional part of my life as an Alaskan living on a homestead. For the last five years, I've resided at the present rural residence that had originally led Mr. Eskelin to think I was eligible to receive the various federal subsistence tags for the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Our locality does still qualify my wife and our neighbors to hunt in other areas, such as caribou in Unit 16 and 7/8 curl or better sheep in Unit 19; shouldn't we be able to hunt such game and moose under a subsistence tags locally on the Kenai Peninsula federal lands, especially since we can show a traditional and customary history of hunting and fishing on the Kenai Peninsula and other parts of Alaska?

In closing I hope my proposal is found compelling and we can move forward to the next evolution resolving in full C&T status given to our community.

Best Regards,


Cork Graham

Cork Graham
POB 410
Anchor Point, AK
99556
Email: cork1@corkgraham.com

Attn: Theo Matuskowitz
Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199

North Fork Rural Community Subsistence Proposal

Summary

The purpose of this document is to modify Federal subsistence hunting and trapping seasons, harvest limits, methods of harvest, and customary and traditional use determinations by creating a New Federal Subsistence Regulation, introducing a new subsistence community to ensure food security for the rural community of North Fork by federally recognizing the customary cultural rural subsistence activities the peoples within the area to be defined in this document.

Proposed Changes to the Federal Subsistence Regulations

New Area defined

The new area to be defined resides in Unit 15, outside the boundaries of the present subsistence regulations definition of the nonrural Homer Area, and includes the rural residences along the North Fork Road, that starts and ends at the Sterling Highway on the Kenai Peninsula, and circles to the east of said boundary, and includes the non-incorporated Nikolaevesk Russian Village, residences along Cottonwood Lane and the upper reaches of the Chakok River and Epperson's Knob/Hidden Hills Area.

NOTE: This area is more or less described by the accompanying map and with the highlighted redline boundary.

Customary and Traditional Use Determination

Unit 15—Residents of the North Fork Community

Annual Big Game Harvest Limits

4 black bear

1 brown bear

1 bull caribou

1 sheep—7/8 curl or better

1 goat—any billy

1 bull moose by Federal registration permit only (FM1505)

Open seasons: Aug 10 – Sept. 25; Oct. 20-Nov. 10

Or;

1 cow moose by Federal registration permit only (FM1505)

Open Seasons: Aug. 10-Sept. 25.

Reason for Proposal Submission

The area defined in this proposal has already been recognized as affording residents the subsistence hunting opportunity for a variety of wildlife, but most of those are in far distant federal land areas, or are only small game within federal lands on the Kenai Peninsula. This seems contrary to subsistence hunting by definition; being able to provide food security through the game and fish opportunities closest to the residence.

The residents in the area described above are living in an area already defined as rural in the 2018-2020 FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS. The intent of this document is to complete the process for a Customary and Traditional Use Determination of the North Fork Rural Community, and afford said community wildlife subsistence harvest on Federal Lands in Alaska, namely the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge big-game opportunities.

Considering the truly rural lifestyle of many residents of the North Fork Rural Community that includes solid off-grid living, and subsistence growing of produce and raising of livestock in the traditional form of homesteading, augmented by food security options such as a hunting moose, bear, grouse, waterfowl and other types of land based wildlife, and along with fresh and saltwater fish species according to the ADFG regulations; the importance of Federal recognition for increased opportunities, such as those given nearby Ninilchik, who now not only have a variety of gas stations, restaurants, and stores, but even a new Three Bears, cannot be ignored.

As the American value of the dollar drops as a result of the continued unrestrained spending (evidenced by sharply increasing prices on such products as lumber), caused by the increase of value-diluting money printing, the extreme importance of being able to be totally self-sufficient in Alaska, free from having to rely on the increasingly more expensive imports from outside, becomes of the upmost importance.

If we are soon to be in the same dire economic conditions as hit the United States during the 1930s, or more like Germany during the 1920s, when it took a wheelbarrow of Deutschmarks to buy a loaf of bread, shouldn't we be planning to be ahead of the curve—isn't that the Alaskan way, to be prepared for anything? This used to be the creed of the Alaskan bush pilot, when were legally required to carry a firearm in our planes for defense and gathering of food in case we went down in a remote area.

By providing at least the same customary and traditional use opportunities to the North Fork Rural Community already afforded other such roadway-connected communities, as Ninilchik, Glennallen, Cooper Landing, Hope, and Copper Center, the Federal Subsistence Board of the Office of Subsistence Management, will be doing just that: Alaskans providing food security for Alaskans, while recognizing traditional and customary local subsistence hunting and fishing practices.

NOTE: Due to the possibility of accompanying statements of customary and traditional fishing and hunting by fellow local rural residents of the North Fork Rural Community being made public, their specific address, phone numbers and email addresses have been removed. These can be made available directly and privately to representatives of the Federal Subsistence Board upon request for verification purposes.



Hello,

05-20-2021

My name is Mark Cocke' I am an individual that has paid property taxes in the Kenai Peninsula Borough I have owned property here in Anchor Point since 1984.

Ninth five percent of our diet is what we grown, fished for, or hunted for. We do not buy groceries at a distant grocery store on a regular basis. Only when we have to, which is not very often.

Should we have subsistent harvest of fish and game as we grow older? Of course. Are we rural? Yes we are just like Ninilchik, Glenallen, and Coper Center. These communities have had rights to harvest their fish and game under the regulations, before the start of the regular hunting season. How is it that there are drawing hunts for anybody in game management 15C? We need to take care of our own before this mindset continues. I agree that any subsistence hunt should be conducted under the rules set by Alaska Dept. of fish and game, and we should be involved like other communities in Alaska are.

We do not have quick access to Safeway, Fred Myers, Save-U-More, etc.

Think about it. If you lived here you would agree.

Thank you,
Mark Cocke'

Jason Deaton

Anchor Point, AK

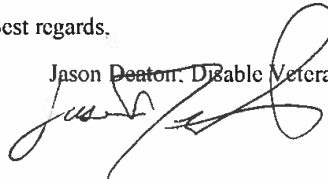
5/19/2021

To whom it may concern:

I purchased my first Alaska resident hunting and fishing license in 2018. I was issued my first disabled veteran's hunting and fishing license in 2020. My family and I hunt and fish to augment our food supply, and will benefit from a subsistence program, especially with increasing national and local concerns about food security. We are totally off-grid, in a home powered by solar with well water, which supports our vegetable field. We live remote enough that the only way to arrive at our home is on an ATV. We reside in the rural section outlined in the Federal Subsistence Management Regulations, out past the end of Cottonwood Lane, off North Fork Road.

Best regards,

Jason Deaton, Disabled Veteran Fish

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Deaton', written over the printed name.

Mr. Vincent J. Mercadante, Jr.

Anchor Point, AK 99556

5/18/2021

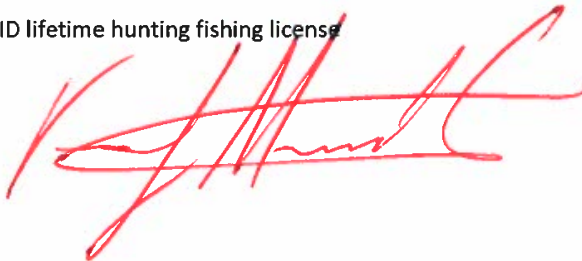
To whom it may concern,

I have been residing in Alaska since the late 1980s. During this time I've obtained a hunting and fishing license in order to augment my food stores every year. My family and I, and our local rural community along North Fork Road, would benefit greatly from a program similar the well-known federal subsistence program provided residents of the Ninilchik community.

Sincerely,

Vincent Mercadente

PID lifetime hunting fishing license

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'V. Mercadente', is written over the printed name and license information.

WP22-33

Eliminate the sealing requirement for black bear in Unit 11 and Unit 12

1. Your name, organization, address, phone, fax, and E-mail address.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission, c/o Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, P.O. Box 439, Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy, Copper Center, AK 99573, 907 822-7236; WRST_subsistence@nps.gov.

2. The regulation you wish to change, including management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”

The proposal is to eliminate the sealing requirement for black bear for Federal Subsistence hunters in Unit 11 and Unit 12. The current regulation reads as follows: “Sealing requirements apply to brown bear taken in all Units (except as specified below) and black bear of all color phases taken in all Units except Units 8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26” (2020-2022 Federal Subsistence Regulations, Page 19, Information for All Bear hunters).

3. The regulation as you would like to see it written.

Eliminating the sealing requirement for black bear in Unit 11 and in Unit 12 adds Units 11 and 12 to the list of Units excepted from sealing, so the revised regulation would read: “Sealing requirements apply to brown bear taken in all Units (except as specified below) and black bear of all color phases taken in all Units except Units 8, 9, 10, **11, 12**, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.”

4. An explanation of why the regulatory change should be made.

The goal of this proposal is to reduce the burden on subsistence users by eliminating an unnecessary requirement to seal black bears harvested in Unit 11 and Unit 12. Salvaging the edible meat and hide is generally required for black bears, but sealing also requires that the skull be packed out/removed from the field.

People living in remote locations would need to drive to an ADF&G office to have the bear sealed. For one Subsistence Resource Commission member this is roughly 260 miles or more round-trip. The extra salvage necessary to seal subsistence black bears in Unit 11 and Unit 12 is an undue hardship for subsistence hunters who are mainly interested in harvesting the meat.

The Federal regulation is more stringent than the state regulation: under Federal regulations subsistence hunters of black bear in Unit 11 and Unit 12 must both possess a harvest ticket and also seal black bears, while those hunting under State of Alaska regulations are only required to possess a state harvest ticket, with no sealing requirement.

The general season harvest ticket required for black bear in Unit 11 and Unit 12 provides sufficient harvest information to monitor and protect black bear populations without sealing. There is not currently a conservation concern for black bear. One Subsistence Resource Commission member noted that numerous sightings from flights in the fall indicate Unit 11 has a robust black bear population. A Subsistence Resource Commission member has personally

harvested 2 bears in one year out of a small bowl and within a couple days new bears have moved in and started subsisting off the unguarded berries.

5. You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.

There is an additional action that could be taken to clarify the Unit 11 and 12 bear regulations and make them easier for subsistence users to understand. The current layout of the Federal Subsistence Management Regulations booklet is confusing for bear hunters. It would be clearer if harvest ticket and sealing requirements were included in the Unit specific regulations, instead of with the general provisions in the front of the regulations booklet.

WP22-34

Unit 11 and 12 sheep salvage**Name:**

Seth Wilson
Po Box 647
Glennallen, ak 99588

Organization:

self

What regulation do you wish to change: NEW REGULATION

Change the salvage requirements for sheep taken in Unit 11 and 12 as follows:

I would like to see a meat-on-bone salvage requirement for the two front quarters and two rear quarters and ribs for all sheep taken from Unit 11.

Write the regulation:

Special Provisions: Meat from sheep harvested in Units 11 and 12 must remain attached to the front quarters and hind quarters, and ribs until taken out of the field.

Why should this regulation be changed:

There should be a meat-on- bone salvage requirement for sheep coming from the Wrangell Mountains. Through casual conversations with enforcement personnel and personal observation, I fear there might be a trend towards light sheep in the Wrangell Mountains. A stricter salvage requirement would aid enforcement activities and ensure that the resource is adequately used.

Boning out sheep meat in the field is a very common practice for sheep hunters. It saves the hunter weight and space in their pack for the hike out of the field. Unfortunately, careless or novice hunters can do a poor job removing all the edible meat from the bones. If they are inspected, the enforcement officer has to recreate a full sheep from a bag of scraps. It seems that it would be hard to issue a citation for a light bag without locating the kill site.

Furthermore, meat on the bone is easier to keep dry and cool. Alaska mountain weather is unpredictable and wet, particularly later in the season. Hunters also have a long trip out. Keeping the meat on the bone would ensure that it is in good quality when it arrives to the place it will be processed.

Additional information:

This is a companion regulation to proposal 67 submitted to the Board of Game. The BOG proposal only lists Unit 11, because they are not taking up Unit 12 this cycle.

WP22-35

Name, address, telephone number of requestor:

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC)
Attn: Karen Linnell, Executive Director
PO Box 613, Mile 187 Glenn Hwy
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
(907) 822-4466

The issue we would like addressed:

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States Department of the Interior and the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) commits to pursuing opportunities for cooperative management on Federal public lands with the eight Federally recognized tribes of the Ahtna region.

AITRC understands that recent scientific research and assessment has determined that the Mentasta caribou herd population has stabilized at a level lower than that envisioned by the now outdated Mentasta caribou herd management plan as necessary in order to resume subsistence caribou hunting opportunities in Game Management Unit 11. We understand that the population status of the Mentasta caribou herd is not limited by the condition of the habitat within Unit 11 but has stabilized at its current population level most likely because of high levels of predation.

AITRC also understands from ADF&G Area Management Biologist that recent genetic analysis of mitochondrial DNA has demonstrated that the Mentasta caribou herd consists of genetically discrete population of cow caribou that have a high fidelity to the Mentasta range, but that the bull caribou cannot be distinguished genetically from those of the adjacent and often overlapping Nelchina caribou herd. Furthermore, AITRC understands that Nelchina bull caribou collar data demonstrate that Nelchina bull caribou frequent the Mentasta herd such that a bulls-only caribou hunt in Unit 11 during times the Nelchina herd is present in Unit 11 would not affect the biological status of the Mentasta caribou herd because Mentasta-distinct cow caribou would not be open to hunting.

With this scientific information in mind, and to resume and continue subsistence uses of caribou in Unit 11 within the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory after more than a generation of no hunting, AITRC proposes to establish a limited bull-only caribou hunt in Unit 11 during times when the Nelchina caribou herd is present in Unit 11. Because the harvestable surplus of bull caribou may be insufficient to support all federal subsistence users with a customary and traditional use determination for caribou in Unit 11, AITRC specifically requests that a limited bulls-only caribou hunt be limited through an ANILCA Section 804 Subsistence User Prioritization Analysis to reduce the pool of eligible federal subsistence users such that only those federally qualified rural residents most customarily and traditional dependent upon caribou in Unit 11 are provided the opportunity to receive a Unit 11 federal permit for a bull caribou.

Existing Federal Regulation we wish to change:

50 CFR § 100.26(n)(11)

Caribou No open season

The new regulations would be:

§ _____.26(n)(11) —Unit specific regulations

Caribou Season may be announced when Nelchina caribou are present in Unit 11 1 bull caribou by federal permit for federally qualified subsistence users identified through a Section 804 subsistence user prioritization analysis.

WP22-36**Name, address, telephone number of requestor:**

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC)

Attn: Karen Linnell, Executive Director

PO Box 613, Mile 187 Glenn Hwy

Glennallen, Alaska 99588

(907) 822-4466

The issue we would like addressed:

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States Department of the Interior and the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) commits to pursuing opportunities for cooperative management on Federal public lands with the eight Federally recognized tribes of the Ahtna region. The recently established AITRC-administered community harvest system for moose in Unit 11 and caribou and moose in Units 12 and 13 on federal public lands open for subsistence hunting is one initial component of the management partnership between the federal government and the federally recognized tribes of the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory.

Pursuant to this cooperative management partnership, AITRC proposes to make permanent those temporary and emergency regulations adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) establishing the AITRC-administered federal community harvest system for moose and caribou in the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory in Game Management Units 11, 12, and 13 through June 30, 2022 by Board actions associated with April 2020 action on deferred WP18-19 and subsequent Board actions on WSA20-02, WSA20-07, and WSA20-09.

Background:

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) adopted deferred WP18-19, as modified in April 2020, which created a federal community harvest system for moose and caribou in Unit 13 and for moose in Unit 11 for the 8 Ahtna traditional communities of Cantwell, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, subject to final approval of an AITRC-administered community harvest system framework.

In July 2020, the Board approved WSA20-02 with modification. WSA20-02 included that portion of Unit 12 located within the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory within the AITRC-administered federal community harvest system for moose and caribou established through adoption of WP18-19 to be in effect through June 20, 2022. WSA20-02 also defined the geographic boundaries of eligible communities as the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) established by the US Census Bureau; specified that harvest reporting would take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and OSM, rather than through Federal registration permits, joint State/Federal registration permits, or State harvest tickets; and set the community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system as the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system. The Board also authorized designated hunters in this community harvest system so that residents of communities operating under a community harvest system may serve as a Federal designated hunter for a Federally qualified subsistence hunter who lives in a community that is not operating under a community harvest system, subject to applicable regulatory requirements.

In January 2021, the Board approved WSA20-07, which provided an exception to 50 CFR 100.26(e)(2) for the AITRC-administered community harvest system for moose and caribou in Units 11, 12, and 13 through June 30, 2022. Adoption of WSA20-07 established that harvests by those opting to participate in the AITRC-administered community harvest system will not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in that community harvest system. This allows AITRC to administer the community harvest system as approved by the Board without impacting residents of these communities who choose not to participate in the community harvest system.

The Board also approved the finalized AITRC-administered Community Harvest System Framework at its January 2021 regulatory meeting.

Existing Federal Regulation we wish to change:

50 CFR § 100.25(e) Hunting by designated harvest permit currently reads, “If you are a Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient), you may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user to take deer, moose, and caribou, and in Units 1-5, goats, on your behalf **unless you are a member of a community operating under a community harvest system or unless unit-specific regulations in § 100.26 preclude or modify the use of the designated hunter system** or allow the harvest of additional species by a designated hunter. The designated hunter must obtain a designated hunter permit and must return a completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt for any number of recipients but may have no more than two harvest limits in his/her possession at any one time except for goats, where designated hunters may have no more than one harvest limit in possession at any one time, and unless otherwise specified in unit-specific regulations in § 100.26.”

50 CFR 100.26(e)(2) currently reads, “An animal taken under Federal or State regulations by any member of a community with an established community harvest limit for that species counts toward the community harvest limit for that species. Except for wildlife taken pursuant to §____.10(d)(5)(iii) or as otherwise provided for by this part, an animal taken as part of a community harvest limit counts toward every community member’s harvest limit for that species taken under Federal or State of Alaska regulations.”

The way this regulation currently reads, all residents in a community are affected whether or not they choose to participate in the community harvest system. This was not the intent of this regulation. People should not have additional restrictions placed on them just because they live in a community with a community harvest system in which they do not want to participate.

AITRC would like to provide a permanent exception to 50 CFR § 100.26(e)(2) for the AITRC-administered community harvest systems for moose and caribou in Units 11, 12, and 13 as reflected in proposed unit-specific regulatory changes below.

50 CFR § 100.26(n)(11)(i)(C) Unit 11—Unit specific regulations

- (A) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, a community harvest system for moose is authorized on Federal public lands within Unit 11, subject to a framework to be established by the Federal Subsistence Board.

Unit 11—Moose

Unit 11—that portion draining into the east bank of the Copper River upstream from and including the Slana River drainage—I antlered bull by joint State/Federal registration permit. Aug. 20–Sept. 20

Unit 11— that portion south and east of a line running along the north bank of the Chitina River, the north and west banks of the Nizina River, and the west bank of West Fork of the Nizina River, continuing along the western edge of the West Fork Glacier to the Aug. 20–Sept. 20
Nov. 20–Dec. 20

summit of Regal Mountain – 1 bull by Federal registration permit. However, during the period Aug. 20–Sept. 20, only an antlered bull may be taken.

Unit 11 remainder—1 antlered bull by Federal registration permit only Aug. 20–Sept. 20

§____.26(n)(12)(i) Unit 12 – Unit specific regulations

Unit 12—Caribou

Unit 12—that portion within the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park that lies west of the Nabesna River and the Nabesna Glacier. All hunting of caribou is prohibited on Federal public lands *No open season*

Unit 12—that portion east of the Nabesna River and the Nabesna Glacier and south of the Winter Trail running southeast from Pickerel Lake to the Canadian border—1 bull by Federal registration permit only *Aug. 10–Sept. 30.*

Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of caribou except by Federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.

Unit 12, remainder—1 bull *Sept. 1–20.*

Unit 12, remainder—1 caribou may be taken by a Federal registration permit during a winter season to be announced. Dates for a winter season to occur between Oct. 1 and Apr. 30 and sex of animal to be taken will be announced by Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge Manager in consultation with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve Superintendent, Alaska Department of Fish and Game area biologists, and Chairs of the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council and Upper Tanana/Fortymile Fish and Game Advisory Committee *Winter season to be announced.*

Unit 12—Moose

Unit 12, that portion within the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge and those lands within the Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve north and east of a line formed by the Pickerel Lake Winter trail from the Canadian border to Pickerel Lake—1 antlered bull by Federal registration permit *Aug. 24–Sept. 20.
Nov. 1–Feb. 28.*

Unit 12, that portion east of the Nabesna River and Nabesna Glacier, and south of the Winter Trail running southeast from Pickerel Lake to the Canadian border—1 antlered bull *Aug. 24–Sept. 30.*

Unit 12, that portion within the Nabesna River drainage west of the east bank of the Nabesna River upstream from the southern boundary of Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge—1 antlered bull by joint Federal/State registration permit only *Aug. 20–Sept. 20.*

Aug. 24–Aug. 28.

Unit 12, remainder – one bull

Sept. 8–Sept. 20.

§ _____.26(n)(13)(iii) Unit 13—Unit specific regulations

(C) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Cantwell, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, a community harvest system for caribou and moose is authorized on Federal public lands within Unit 13, subject to a framework to be established by the Federal Subsistence Board.

Unit 13— Caribou

Unit 13A and 13B – 2 caribou by Federal registration permit only. Aug. 1 – Sept. 30
The sex of animals that may be taken will be announced by the Oct. 21 – Mar. 31
Glennallen Field Office Manager of the Bureau of Land
Management in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish
and Game area biologist and Chairs of the Eastern Interior
Regional Advisory Council and the Southcentral Regional
Advisory Council

Unit 13, remainder – 2 bulls by Federal registration permit Aug. 1 – Sept. 30
only Oct. 21 – Mar. 31

Unit 13—Moose

Unit 13E—1 antlered bull moose by Federal registration permit Aug. 1–Sept. 20
only; only one permit per household.

Season may be announced
Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

Unit 13, remainder —1 antlered bull moose by Federal Aug. 1–Sept. 20
registration permit only.

Season may be announced
Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

The new regulations would be:

§ _____.26(n)(11)(i)(C) Unit 11—Unit specific regulations

(C) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, a community harvest system for moose is authorized on Federal public lands within Unit 11, subject to a framework established by the Federal Subsistence Board. Animals taken by those opting to participate in this community harvest system do not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in this community harvest system.

- 1) the boundaries of the communities are the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;

- 2) designated hunters are authorized in this community harvest system;
- 3) community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system is the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system;
- 4) to specify that harvest reporting will take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and the office of subsistence management, rather than through federal registration permits, joint state/federal registration permits, or state harvest tickets.

§____.26(n)(12)(i) Unit 12—Unit specific regulations

(D) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Chistochina and Mentasta Lake, a community harvest system for caribou is authorized on Federal public lands within the customary and traditional use determination area of Unit 12, subject to a framework established by the Federal Subsistence Board. Animals taken by those opting to participate in this community harvest system do not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in this community harvest system.

- 1) the boundaries of the communities are the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- 2) designated hunters are authorized in this community harvest system;
- 3) community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system is the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system; and
- 4) to specify that harvest reporting will take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and the office of subsistence management, rather than through federal registration permits, joint state/federal registration permits, or state harvest tickets.

(E) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, a community harvest system for moose is authorized on Federal public lands within the customary and traditional use determination area of Unit 12 remainder, subject to a framework established by the Federal Subsistence Board. Animals taken by those opting to participate in this community harvest system do not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in this community harvest system.

- 1) the boundaries of the communities are the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- 2) designated hunters are authorized in this community harvest system;
- 3) community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system is the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system; and
- 4) to specify that harvest reporting will take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and the office of subsistence management, rather than through federal registration permits, joint state/federal registration permits, or state harvest tickets.

(F) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Chistochina and Mentasta Lake, a community harvest system for moose is authorized on Federal public lands within the customary and traditional use determination area of Unit 12, that portion within the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge and those lands within the Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve north and east of a line formed by the Pickerel Lake Winter Trail from the Canadian border to Pickerel Lake and Unit 12, that portion east of the Nabesna River and Nabesna Glacier, and south of the Winter Trail running southeast from Pickerel Lake to the Canadian Border, subject to a framework established by the Federal Subsistence Board. Animals taken by those opting to participate in this community harvest system do not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in this community harvest system.

- 1) the boundaries of the communities are the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- 2) designated hunters are authorized in this community harvest system;
- 3) community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system is the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system; and
- 4) to specify that harvest reporting will take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and the office of subsistence management, rather than through federal registration permits, joint state/federal registration permits, or state harvest tickets.

§ _____.26(n)(13)(iii) Unit 13—Unit specific regulations

(D) For Federally qualified subsistence users living within the Ahtna traditional communities of Cantwell, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Gakona, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina, a

community harvest system for caribou and moose is authorized on Federal public lands within Unit 13, subject to a framework established by the Federal Subsistence Board. **Animals taken by those opting to participate in this community harvest system do not count toward the harvest limits of any individuals who do not opt to participate in this community harvest system.**

- 1) **the boundaries of the communities are the most recent Census Designated Places (CDPs) as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;**
- 2) **designated hunters are authorized in this community harvest system;**
- 3) **community harvest quota for the species and units authorized in the community harvest system is the sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to participate in the system; and**
- 4) **to specify that harvest reporting will take the form of reports collected from hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land managers and the office of subsistence management, rather than through federal registration permits, joint state/federal registration permits, or state harvest tickets.**

Why are these regulation changes needed?

These proposed permanent regulatory changes are necessary to fully implement the AITRC-administered community harvest system for caribou and moose in Units 11, 12, and 13.

WP22-37

A call for proposals to change hunting and trapping regulations is issued in January of odd numbered years. The period during which proposals are accepted is 45 days; a proposal must be submitted during this time.

Include the following in your proposal submission:

1. *Your name, organization, address, phone, fax, and E-mail address.*

Della Trumble
P.O. Box 161
King Cove, Alaska 99612
dellat@arctic.net
907-497-2312

2. *The regulation you wish to change, including management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”*

Unit 9D Ptarmigan

Current Regulation

Ptarmigan	All rural residents	10 ptarmigan per day, 20 in possession	Aug 10 - last day of Feb
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3. *The regulation as you would like to see it written. **New Regulation.***

Ptarmigan	Residents of Cold Bay, King Cove, Sand Point, Belkofski, Sanak, Pauloff Harbor, Unga, Nelson Lagoon	10 ptarmigan per day, 20 in possession	Aug 10 - last day of Feb
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4. *An explanation of why the regulatory change should be made.*

The Ptarmigan population has been declining in Unit 9D. Federal and State biologists currently do not have population estimates. The status of the ptarmigan population are currently based on hunter reports and observations. Ptarmigan are an important resource for the residents of Unit 9D. Establishing a regional Customary and Traditional Use Determination for ptarmigan will allow managers to restrict harvest when the ptarmigan population has reached a level of conservation concern. Restrictions could close the season for nonresidents and allow for subsistence harvest by residents that have a Customary and Traditional Use Determination for ptarmigan.

5. *You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.*

Local rural residents of Unit 9D have reported that ptarmigans are rare in the area during the month of October. Rural residents rely on ptarmigan as a subsistence resource.

Submit proposals:

- **By mail or hand delivery**
Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
Attn: Theo Matuskowitz
1011 E. Tudor Rd., MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503
- **On the Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>**
Search for docket number FWS-R7-SM-2016-0049.
You may call the Office of Subsistence Management at 800-478-1456 or email subsistence@fws.gov with questions.

WP22-38

A call for proposals to change hunting and trapping regulations is issued in January of odd numbered years. The period during which proposals are accepted is 30 days; a proposal must be submitted during this time.

Include the following in your proposal submission:

1. *Your name, organization, address, phone, fax, and E-mail address.*

Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

2. *The regulation you wish to change, including management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”*

Current Regulation

Caribou

Unit 10 Unimak Island-Residents of Akutan, False Pass, King Cove, and Sand Point. 1 bull by Federal registration permit. Federal public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by residents of False Pass. Aug. 1 – Sept 30

3. *The regulation as you would like to see it written. **New Regulation.***

Caribou

Unit 10 Unimak Island-Residents of Akutan, **Cold Bay**, False Pass, King Cove, **Nelson Lagoon**, and Sand Point. 1 bull by Federal registration permit. **Annual harvest quota for hunt to be established by Delegated Official in consultation with the State of Alaska as outlined in the letter of delegation.**

Federal public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by ~~residents of False Pass~~

Federally qualified subsistence users unless the population estimate exceeds (a threshold to be recommended by State and Federal management). Aug. 1 – Sept 30

4. *An explanation of why the regulatory change should be made.*

The Unimak Caribou population has reached its population threshold on Unimak Island. Federal and State wildlife biologist agree that it is necessary for more harvest to occur and is needed to maintain a healthy population.

5. *You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.*

Submit proposals:

- **By mail or hand delivery**
Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
Attn: Theo Matuskowitz
1011 E. Tudor Rd., MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503
- **On the Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>**
Search for docket number FWS-R7-SM-2016-0049.
You may call the Office of Subsistence Management at 800-478-1456 or email subsistence@fws.gov with questions.

WP22-39

Proposal to Change**2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Regulations for the
Taking of Wildlife on Federal Public Lands**

Division: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation

Contact: Rick Merizon

Phone: (907) 746-6333

E-mail: richard.merizon@alaska.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

This proposal seeks to create specific regulations for Alaska hare (*Lepus othus*) in Game Management Units (Unit) 9 and 17.

Unit 9 and Unit 17

Hare	No Limit	July 1 – June 30
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2: How would the new regulation read?***Unit 9 and Unit 17***

Hare:		
Snowshoe Hare	No Limit	July 1 – June 30

Alaska Hare	1 hare per day / 4 per season	Nov. 1 – Jan. 31
*Create a ‘human use’ salvage requirement.		

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

The once abundant Alaska hare in units 9 and 17 as recently as the 1980s is now at a very low density and has a patchy distribution throughout Bristol Bay and the Alaska Peninsula. In Alaska, the species resides only throughout extreme Western and Southwestern portions of the state. Very little is known about the Alaska hare, but the apparent decrease in abundance may have been caused by changes in habitat, predation, human harvest, or other natural cyclical events. There are infrequent observations of Alaska hare and sign near King Salmon, Dillingham, and other communities throughout the Bristol Bay.

The Department does not currently monitor Alaska hare populations annually and has no estimates of abundance. However, research and public outreach efforts that began in 2017 throughout units 9 and 17 have further confirmed sparse, low density populations. A component of the current research project is to develop a long-term monitoring strategy that will be employed regionally within two to three years.

Alaska hares are not highly productive; they have only one, relatively small-sized litter of leverets per year. The Department believes that the limited-management approach of the last 50 years no longer sufficiently addresses appropriate conservation of this species. Also, due to the location of the species in Western and Southwestern Alaska, the majority of human harvest is believed to occur by federally qualified subsistence users on federal land.

While the restriction of season dates for Alaska hare would result in a slight decrease in hunting

opportunity, snowshoe hare hunting opportunity would remain open in the area with no closed season. Nearly all local hunters consulted in units 9 and 17 are aware of the differences between the species while many non-hunters are surprised by the existence of the larger Alaska hare. If climatic or habitat conditions are favorable for Alaska hares return to the Alaska Peninsula and Bristol Bay, a low hunter harvest could protect localized populations for quicker recovery and recolonization.

In 2018, the State of Alaska Board of Game (BOG) adopted an identical management structure (season dates, harvest limits, and salvage requirement) in Unit 9. In January 2020, the BOG also adopted a similar management structure in units 18, 22, and 23 for Alaska hare. The Department has also submitted a proposal that will be heard by the BOG (January 2022) to include Unit 17 with an identical management structure. The BOG adopted a salvage requirement of ‘human use’ for Alaska hare that would allow hunters to use the animal for human consumption, fur sewing, dog food, trapping bait, etc.

This proposal seeks to align current state hunting regulations with Federal Subsistence hunting regulations for Alaska hare.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

If adopted, this proposal would reduce human harvest which may assist hare populations to increase throughout units 9 and 17.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This proposal would reduce hunting opportunity for this species both in terms of season duration and harvest limits. However, some hunters report only seeing four or fewer Alaska hares during the typical hunting period in the winter months. As a result, overall impact to some hunters may be minimal.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This regulation already exists under state management (ADF&G) in Unit 9 and a similar proposal has been submitted to the BOG for Unit 17. As a result, the Department believes the proposed change would have little to no effect on recreational hunters that typically hunt Alaska hares under state (ADF&G) regulations.

WP22-40

A call for proposals to change hunting and trapping regulations is issued in January of odd numbered years. The period during which proposals are accepted is 30 days; a proposal must be submitted during this time.

Include the following in your proposal submission:

1. *Your name, organization, address, phone, fax, and E-mail address.*

Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

2. *The regulation you wish to change, including management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”*

New regulation.

3. *The regulation as you would like to see it written. **New Regulation.***

Allow the use a snowmachine to position wolves, and wolverines for harvest on Federal managed lands in Units 9B, 9C, 17B, and 17C, provided the animals are not shot from a moving snowmachine.

4. *An explanation of why the regulatory change should be made.*

The use of snowmachines to position wolves and wolverines is a traditional practice in rural areas, and the proposed regulation will mirror Federal regulations in Unit 23.

5. *You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.*

In April 2020, the Federal Subsistence Board addressed WP20-26 to position wolves and wolverines on BLM managed lands in Unit 17B and C. The Board deferred the proposal to a working group of the Council and Federal/State staff to develop and recommend language to define positioning of animals for the Board to consider.

Submit proposals:

- **By mail or hand delivery**
Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
Attn: Theo Matuskowitz
1011 E. Tudor Rd., MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503
- **On the Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>**
Search for docket number FWS-R7-SM-2016-0049.

You may call the Office of Subsistence Management at 800-478-1456 or email subsistence@fws.gov with questions.

WP22-41

**REQUEST to change
Federal Subsistence Regulations for the
Taking of Wildlife on Federal Public Lands**

DATE: *April 29, 2021*

REQUESTER'S NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER:

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 270, Dillingham, AK 99576
and
Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 346 Bethel, AK 99559

PHONE NUMBER: Togiak NWR: *(907) 842-1063*
Yukon Delta NWR: *(907) 543-3151*

REGULATION AFFECTED:

Federal Subsistence Regulations Booklet:

Year: *2020-2022*

Pages: *52, 81, 86, 90*

1. What regulation do you wish to change?

Units 9A, 9B, 9C--Caribou

Unit 9A—2 caribou by State registration permit *Aug 1 – Mar 15*

Unit 9B—2 caribou by State registration permit *Aug 1 – Mar 31*

*Unit 9C--that portion within the Alagnak River
drainage-2 caribou by State registration permit* *Aug 1—Mar 15*

Unit 9C--that portion draining into the Naknek River *Aug 1—Mar 15*
from the north, and Graveyard Creek and Coffee Creek-
2 caribou by State registration permit

Units 17A, 17B, 17C--Caribou

Unit 17A— all drainages west of Right Hand Point—2 caribou by State *Aug 1 – Mar 31*
registration permit

Unit 17B and 17C—that portion of 17C east of the Wood River and Wood *Aug 1 – Mar 31*
River Lakes—2 caribou by State registration permit

Unit 18—Caribou

Unit 18—that portion to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River—2 *Aug 1 – Mar 15*
caribou by State registration permit

Unit 18 remainder—2 caribou by State registration permit *Aug 1 – Mar 15*

2022–2024 Wildlife Proposals
Bristol Bay

Unit 19—Caribou

*Unit 19A and 19B (excluding residents of Lime Village)—2 caribou by
State registration permit*

Aug 1 – Mar 15

Proposed Federal Regulation**Unit 9–Caribou**

Unit 9A—up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

Unit 9B— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 31
Season may be announced

Unit 9C, that portion within the Alagnak River drainage— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

Unit 9C, that portion draining into the Naknek River from the north, and Graveyard Creek and Coffee Creek— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit. Public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by residents of Unit 9C and Egegik Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

Unit 17–Caribou

Unit 17A-all drainages west of Right Hand Point— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 31
Season may be announced

Units 17B and 17C-that portion of 17C east of the Wood River and Wood River Lakes— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 31
Season may be announced

Unit 18–Caribou

Unit 18-that portion to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

Unit 18, remainder— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

Unit 19–Caribou

Units 19A and 19B (excluding rural Alaska residents of Lime Village)— up to 2 caribou by State registration permit Aug. 1 – Mar. 15
Season may be announced

2. How should the new regulation read?

See language in “Proposed Federal Regulation”, and to delegate authority to the Togiak NWR manager to open/close seasons, announce harvest limits and set sex restrictions via delegation of authority letter.

3. Why should this regulation change be made?

The summer 2019 and 2020 population estimates of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd was approximately 13,500, which is approximately half of the estimated herd size from the previous five years. This population estimate is well below the Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s minimum population objective of 30,000.

The 2019-2020 Mulchatna Caribou Herd hunting season was shortened by federal (FSB delegated in-season manager) and state managers due to concerns over the population levels and its sustainability with historic hunting pressure. The 2020-2021 hunting season only provided for a short, BULL only season in August and September with the remainder of the season closed. The population is expected to not recover to 30,000 and remain well under minimum objectives within the next few years. In anticipation of the need to adjust Federal subsistence regulations beyond the 2021-2022 hunting seasons, we request that in-season management authority be granted to a federal manager: This will help ensure harvest decision making can be made in a time critical manner.

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This change is designed to conserve and recover caribou populations in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This change will diminish/restrict harvest opportunity in the short run, but by conserving caribou will provide an opportunity for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to increase, and thus ultimately increase subsistence opportunity

6. How will this change affect other uses?

This change may increase harvest on other resources, such as moose.

WP22-42

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Wildlife Proposals

Unit 18 remainder moose: Increase the harvest limit of moose from 2 to **3** in Unit 18 remainder Aug. 1 – April 30: **3** moose only one of which may be antlered. Antlered bulls may not be harvested from October 1 through November 30. (see proposed regulations below).

Justification: This request to increase the harvest limit by one additional moose in Unit 18 remainder is needed to continue subsistence uses and increased opportunity for sharing of moose throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region. Increasing the harvest will help to ensure long-term sustainability of the Lower River area moose population which is currently too high to be supported by the local environment. If this moose population is not reduced it is at risk of crashing due to over browsing of available forage.

Additional harvest opportunity of one extra moose in Unit 18 remainder will support the Lower Yukon River communities' ability to provide not only for their own families and community but also increase sharing opportunities with subsistence communities in other areas of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta that do not have as abundant moose population and are in need of subsistence food support. Especially in these times of low salmon returns on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers and recent closures to the harvest of Mulchatna caribou greatly affecting the region. Expanded harvest opportunity of the super-abundant moose in the lower Yukon River will help support sharing with those in need throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region.

Proposed Regulation: Moose Unit 18, that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W 162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line 1/2 mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage

Unit 18, south of the Eek River drainage and north of the Goodnews River drainage.

Unit 18, Goodnews River drainage and south to the Unit 18 boundary.

Unit 18, remainder - **2 3** moose, only one of which may be antlered. Antlered bulls may not be harvested from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30

Aug. 1-
Apr. 30.

WP22-43

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council 2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Wildlife Proposals

Unit 18 moose Kuskokwim Hunt Area Zone 1 and 2: If the river water levels are too low to access the Zone 2 hunt area, then: Increase the moose harvest quota in Zone 1 of the Unit 18 moose Kuskokwim Hunt Area.

Justification: The Council voted to submit this proposal on behalf of Kwethluk resident Cheriton Epchook. After much Council discussion with Mr. Epchook and other area residents, it became clear that in recent years the water levels in the river tributaries* used to access the Zone 2 moose hunt area have often been too low to successfully reach the hunting grounds. Increasingly low snow pack winters and hot dry summers have exacerbated this challenge for local area communities to use prop boats to travel up the tributary rivers and to the foothills of the Kilbuck Mountains where the Zone 2 moose hunt is area is established. When this low water situation occurs it is imperative to provide for other subsistence opportunity. This could be achieved by expanding the moose hunt quota in Zone 1, which parallels the main stem of the Kuskokwim River and is more easily accessible by boat even at low water.

*The drainages include upper regions of the Tuluksak, Fog River, Kisaralik, Kasigluk, and the Kwethluk River up-stream of Three Step / Magic Creek area, and Eek River, upstream of the forks.

Proposed Regulation: Unit 18—that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line ½ mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage — 1 antlered bull by State registration permit; quotas will be announced annually by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager. **If river water levels are too low to access the Zone 2 moose hunt area, then the Refuge Manager may expand the moose harvest quota for Zone1.** Sept. 1 - 30

Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of moose except by residents of Akiachak, Akiak, Atmautlauk, Bethel, Eek, Kalskag, Kasigluk, Kwethluk, Lower Kalskag, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, Tuluksak, and Tuntutuliak.

State registration permit information:

Zone 1 Detailed zone description and zone maps can be found online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> and at vendors within the hunt area. Refer to Registration permit RM615 hunt conditions for more details. One bull excluding male calves, by permit, available in person in Bethel and villages within the hunt area Aug 1-25 and online at [http:// hunt.alaska.gov](http://hunt.alaska.gov) Aug 1-Oct 7. RM615 Sept 1-Sept 11

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Wildlife Proposals

Zone 2 Detailed zone description and zone maps can be found online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> and at vendors within the hunt area. Refer to Registration permit RM615 hunt conditions for more details. Sept 1-Oct 7

WP22-44

DATE: *May 12, 2021*

REQUESTER'S NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER:

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 346 Bethel, AK 99559

PHONE NUMBER:

Yukon Delta NWR: (907) 543-3151

REGULATION AFFECTED:

Federal Subsistence Regulations Booklet:

Year: *2020-2022*

Pages: *86*

New hunt

1. What regulation do you wish to change?

Unit 18—that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line ½ mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage — 1 antlered bull by State registration permit; quotas will be announced annually by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager.

Sept. 1 - 30

2. How should the new regulation read?

*Unit 18—that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line ½ mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage — 1 antlered bull by State registration permit; quotas will be announced annually by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager. *Up to one antlered bull by Federal registration permit may be announced.**

Sept.1- **Oct. 15**

**Season may be
announced Between
Dec.1-Jan.31**

3. Why should this regulation change be made?

Since 2017, the quota for moose on RM615 Zone 2, which is predominantly federal public land has been set by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager at 110 moose. Harvest data from 2017 to present indicate an average harvest of 78 moose per year in zone 2 (2017:80, 2018: 70, 2019: 72 2020: 90 moose). Extending the moose hunting season in zone 2 of the RM 615 hunt to October 15 will allow federally qualified users an extended opportunity to harvest moose on federal land. The date of October 15 was chosen so that managers can assess how much harvest increases in a two-week longer season.

A winter season is being proposed with the remaining quota from fall hunt. The Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager may announce a season between Dec.1-Jan 31 with a harvest limit of one antlered bull.

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

Will increase harvest within a sustainable level. Populations wont decrease long term because of limited bull only harvest.

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

Increase opportunity for residents to hunt moose in zone 2. Will create a 2 week longer hunt and possibly an additional hunt in the winter.

6. How will this change affect other uses?

This change would not affect other uses.

WP20-45

Proposal to Change**2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Regulations for the
Taking of Wildlife on Federal Public Lands**

Division: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation

Contact: Rick Merizon

Phone: (907) 746-6333

E-mail: richard.merizon@alaska.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

This proposal seeks to create specific regulations for Alaska hare (*Lepus othus*) in Game Management Units (Unit) 18, 22, and 23.

Units 18 and 23

Hare	No Limit	July 1 – June 30
------	----------	------------------

Unit 22

Hare	No Limit	Sept. 1 – April 15
------	----------	--------------------

2: How would the new regulation read?***Units 18 and 23***

Hare:

Snowshoe Hare	No Limit	July 1 – June 30
----------------------	----------	------------------

Alaska Hare	2 hare per day / 6 per season	Sept. 1 – April 15
*Create a ‘human use’ salvage requirement.		

Unit 22

Hare:

Snowshoe Hare	No Limit	Sept. 1 – Apr. 15
----------------------	----------	-------------------

Alaska Hare	2 per day / 6 per season	Sept. 1 – April 15
*Create a ‘human use’ salvage requirement.		

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

The once abundant Alaska hare in units 18, 22, and 23 as recently as the 1980s is now at a very low density and has a patchy distribution throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (YKD), Seward Peninsula, and Northwestern Alaska. In Alaska, the species resides only throughout extreme Western and Southwestern portions of the state. Very little is known about the Alaska hare, but the apparent decrease in abundance may have been caused by changes in habitat, predation, human harvest, or other natural cyclical events. Although seemingly more abundant in Units 22 and 23, there are infrequent observations of Alaska hare sign throughout the YKD and Seward Peninsula.

The Department does not currently monitor Alaska hare populations annually and has no estimates of

abundance. However, research and public outreach efforts that began in 2017 throughout units 18, 22, and 23 have further confirmed sparse, low density populations. A component of the current research project is to develop a long-term monitoring strategy that will be employed regionally within two to three years.

Alaska hares are not highly productive; they have only one, relatively small-sized litter of leverets per year. The Department believes that the limited-management approach of the last 50 years no longer sufficiently addresses appropriate conservation of this species. Also, due to the location of the species in Western and Southwestern Alaska, the majority of human harvest is believed to occur by federally qualified subsistence users on federal land.

While the restriction of season dates for Alaska hare would result in a slight decrease in hunting opportunity, snowshoe hare hunting opportunity would remain open in the area with no closed season. Nearly all local hunters consulted in units 18, 22, and 23 are aware of the differences between the species while many non-hunters are surprised by the existence of the larger Alaska hare. If climatic or habitat conditions are favorable for Alaska hares return to the YKD and Western Alaska, a low hunter harvest could protect localized populations for quicker recovery and recolonization.

In January 2020, the BOG adopted an identical management structure in units 18, 22, and 23 for Alaska hare. In 2018, the State of Alaska Board of Game (BOG) adopted a similar management structure (season dates, harvest limits, and salvage requirement) in Unit 9. The Department has also submitted a proposal that will be heard by the BOG (January 2022) to include Unit 17 with an identical management structure. The BOG adopted a salvage requirement of ‘human use’ for Alaska hare that would allow hunters to use the animal for human consumption, fur sewing, dog food, trapping bait, etc.

This proposal seeks to align current state hunting regulations with Federal Subsistence hunting regulations for Alaska hare.

4: What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

If adopted, this proposal would reduce human harvest and may assist in increasing hare populations in Units 18, 22, and 23.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This proposal would reduce hunting opportunity for this species both in terms of season duration and harvest limits. However, some hunters report only seeing six or fewer Alaska hares during the typical hunting period in the winter months. As a result, overall impact to hunters will be minimal.

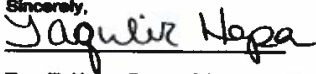
6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This regulation already exists under state management (ADF&G) in units 18, 22, and 23. As a result, the Department believes the proposed change would have little to no effect on recreational hunters that typically hunt Alaska hares under state (ADF&G) regulations.

WP22-46

Federal Subsistence Wildlife Regulatory Proposal

Name: Taqulik Hepa, Chair and Jack Reakoff, Vice-Chair

Sincerely,


Taqulik Hepa, Gates of the Arctic SRC Chair



Jack Reakoff, Gates of the Arctic SRC Vice-Chair



Organization: Gates of the Arctic National Park Subsistence Resource Commission

4175 Geist Road

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

nps_gaar_src@nps.gov

This proposal suggests a change to:

☐ Harvest season ☐ Methods and Means of Harvest

☒ Harvest limit(s) ☐ C&T Use Determination(s)

1. What regulation do you wish to change. Include management unit number and species.
Brown bear – Game Management Unit 24B, the portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park, 1 bear, August 10 – June 30.
2. Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations.
Brown bear – Game Management Unit 24B, the portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park, 2 bears, August 10 – June 30.
3. Explain why this regulation change should be made.
This regulation change would affect Anaktuvuk Pass which is surrounded by corporation lands under state regulation and Gates of the Arctic lands under federal regulation. The Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) submitted a proposal to the Board of Game to increase the bag limit to 2 brown bears. The Board of Game passed the proposal at their meetings in 2020. In order to line up the state regulations with the federal regulations, the SRC is submitting a proposal to increase the federal harvest limit to 2 brown bears.
4. You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.

Resident hunters in Anaktuvuk Pass feel the brown bear population is continuing to grow and therefore believe the harvest of brown bears in Game Management Unit 24B is far below sustained yield. Only few resident hunters take brown bears and should be afforded additional harvest opportunity with a 2 brown bear limit.

WP22-47

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group

Goal: To work together to ensure the long-term conservation of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd and the ecosystem on which it depends, to maintain traditional and other uses for the benefit of all people now and in the future.

Chair: Vern Cleveland, Sr.

Vice-Chair: Cyrus Harris

P.O. Box 175, Nome, AK 99762

Proposal to Change Federal Subsistence Regulations (Wildlife)

Name and contact information

Vern Cleveland, Chair

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group

Submitted on behalf of the WACH Working Group by:

Jan Caulfield, Coordinator

525 W. 9th St.

Juneau, AK 99801

907-209-8604

janc@gci.net

Organization

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species.

Unit 22 – Caribou

Change regulations to allow calf harvest on federal lands in Unit 22.

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations.

Delete the sentence, “Calves may not be taken”, from each of the regulations related to Unit 22 caribou harvest on federal lands.

Explain why these regulations change should be made.

The Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group unanimously approved a Motion on December 9, 2020, to submit this regulatory proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board. The intent of removing the calf harvest prohibition is to allow for calves to be harvested in those circumstances where they have lost their mothers and are wandering unattached to the herd. This regulation change will also resolve the current situation, in which it is legal to take caribou calves on state land in Unit 22, but not on federal land in that Unit.

WP22-48

Originally submitted as a special action request. The FSB deferred action and directed this change to be addressed during the normal wildlife cycle.

Jacob Ivanoff
Southern Norton Sound Advisory Chair
PO Box 337
Unalakleet, AK 99684

January 24, 2020

Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, Mail Stop 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

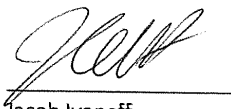
To: Federal Subsistence Board,

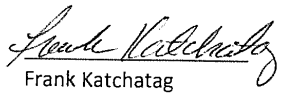
The moose hunting regulations in Unit 22A has been a topic of discussion between the residents of Unalakleet and Shaktoolik in the past few years. The Shaktoolik hunters have been wondering why they have not been able to hunt at the foothills since 2008 or earlier. The current regulation states:


Unit 22A—that portion in the Unalakleet River drainage and all drainages flowing into Norton Sound north of the Golsovia River and south of the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik river drainages—1 bull by Federal registration permit (FM2201). Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of moose except by residents of Unalakleet. The BLM Anchorage Field Office has the authority to close the season in consultation with ADF&G.
Aug. 15 - Sept. 14

The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee amended a proposal submitted to the State of Alaska Board of Game to change the boundary lines to the Egavik Creek (attached is the changed regulations). We are asking that the Federal Subsistence Board align their regulations with the state regulations for the Unit 22A moose hunt. The foothills near Shaktoolik has always been a traditional hunting area for the residents of Shaktoolik and not Unalakleet.

Thank you for your consideration,


Jacob Ivanoff
Southern Norton
Sound Advisory Chair


Frank Katchatag
Native Village of Unalakleet
President


Gail Evan
Native Village of Shaktoolik
Vice President

WP22-49

5/24/2021

Mail - AK Subsistence, FW7 - Outlook

[EXTERNAL] Proposed Regulation Change

Nikki Kronberger <freelanceoa@mac.com>

Fri 5/21/2021 2:26 PM

To: AK Subsistence, FW7 <subsistence@fws.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Proposal to Change Federal Subsistence Board Regulation

Name: Lance Kronberger

Address: 4005 Delores Drive

Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Phone: 907-854-2822

Email: FreelanceOA@mac.com

Proposed Regulation Change:

22A North of and Including Tagoomenik & Shaktoolik River Drainages

Remove the Federally Qualified restriction for moose hunting in "22A North of and Including Tagoomenik & Shaktoolik River Drainages" from Sept 1-20. The federal lands within this area are currently closed to non-qualified users. This area has a larger portion of federal land that is very remote and very hard to access. Most of the lands that surround the native communities are selected by the state and has concentrated all the moose hunting activities into a small area. By lifting this

<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/subsistence@fws.gov/inbox/id/AAQkADZiNDE2M2RhLWVvOTgtNDQ1OS04YjQxLWE0YzY0NWl3MDNjZQAQACac...> 1/2

2022–2024 Wildlife Proposals

Seward Peninsula

5/24/2021

Mail - AK Subsistence, FW7 - Outlook

restriction there would be more opportunity for users to spread out and reduce the chance of in the field conflicts. The "22A North of and Including Tagoomenik & Shaktoolik River Drainages" moose hunting seasons should match the "Resident & Nonresident" season dates that are established by the Alaska Board of Game.

Thank you,
Lance Kronberger

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."
Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)

Lance & Nikki Kronberger
4005 Delores Drive
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907)854-2822 Lance's Cell
(907)841-5663 Nikki's Cell
(907)622-0630 Home
FreelanceOA@mac.com
www.FreelanceOutdoorAdventures.com

Master Guide: Lance Kronberger #221 & Registered Guide: John Rydeen #1269



WP22-50**Request to Change Harvest Limits for Beaver in Unit 23 from the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council****Contact:**

Thomas Baker, Chair, Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
 c/o Zach Stevenson, Subsistence Council Coordinator
 Federal Office of Subsistence Management
 1110 East Tudor Lane, Mail Stop 121
 Anchorage, AK 99503

TRAPPING - EXISTING REGULATIONS**Presently the Federal trapping regulations for beaver in Unit 23 read:**

A firearm may be used to take beaver with a trapping license from Nov. 1 - June 10.

Customary & Traditional Use Determinations	Harvest Limits	Open Seasons
All rural residents (continued) Units 22A, 22B, 22D, and	50 beaver	July 1 - June 10
22E 50 beaver Nov. 1 - June 10 Unit 23 Kobuk and Selawik	50 beaver	July 1 - June 30
River drainages 50 beaver July 1 - June 30 Unit 23 remainder	30 beaver	July 1 - June 30

See: <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/subsistence/regulation/wildlife/upload/Trapping-Regulations-276-KB.pdf>: page 127, 2014/2016 Federal Subsistence Wildlife Regulations, Trapping.

Concurrently, the Alaska trapping regulations for beaver in Unit 23 read:

ARCTIC/WESTERN ALASKA

UNITS 18, 22, 23, and 26A

BEAVER

- You may not disturb or destroy any beaver house or den.
- It is against the law to take beaver by any means other than a steel trap or snare except that you may shoot up to the established bag limit in Units 18, 22, and 23 throughout the season provided that either the meat or hide is salvaged.
- In Unit 22 from June 11 - Sept 15, taking beaver by any means other than a firearm is prohibited.

Area	Harvest Limit	Open Seasons
Unit 23 Kobuk and Selawik River drainages	50 beaver	July 1 - June 30 Unit 23 remainder

2022–2024 Wildlife Proposals

Northwest Arctic

Units 18, 22, and 23No closed season.....No limit

Unit 26A.....No open season

See: 2020-2021 Alaska Trapping Regulations, page, 41 of 48.

Requested change:

During the Council’s winter 2021 meeting, a unanimous motion was passed to change the Federal Trapping Regulations during the Federal Wildlife Regulatory Cycle, to allow for the unlimited harvest of beaver in Unit 23 with no closed season.

RATIONALE

Such changes would provide more opportunity for Federally qualified subsistence users consistent with the intent of Title VIII of the Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) while promoting clarity and equity between State and Federal regulations.

WP22-51

Organization: Bureau of Land Management

Address: 222 University Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99709

Phone: (907) 474-2358

Email: ejulianus@blm.gov

1. What regulation do you want changed?

Remove the Minto Flats Management Area registration hunt language on pages 96-97.

2. How would the new regulation read?

~~Unit 20B Minto Flats Management Area—Residents of Minto and Nenana~~

~~Unit 20B—that portion within the Minto Flats Management Area—1 bull by Federal registration permit only.~~

~~September 1—20; January 10—February 28.~~

3. Why should this regulation be changed?

Tanana Chiefs Conference submitted this proposal and it was adopted by the Board in 1990. Since 1990, the majority of the Federal lands in the Minto Flats Management Area have been conveyed to the State of Alaska. The Federal lands remaining within the Minto Flats Management Area are encumbered by Native selections, and wildlife harvest is no longer regulated by Federal hunting regulations and therefore, outside the regulatory authority of the Federal Subsistence Board.

Federally qualified subsistence users periodically enquire about this hunt because it suggests that there is a Minto Flats winter registration hunt opportunity. This regulation causes confusion because the public lands to which it would apply do not exist. Removing the regulation would eliminate this confusion.

4. How will this change affect wildlife populations?

This change would not affect moose populations.

5. How will this change affect subsistence users?

Harvest under this registration hunt does not occur. This change would not affect Federally qualified subsistence users. It will eliminate confusion for residents of Minto and Nenana.

6. How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This change would not affect other uses.

WP22-52

HEIMO KORTH

Box 82

FT. YUKON, ALASKA 99740 (COLEEN RIVER)

907-446-7008 (MID APRIL - 1st AUGUST)

OCCUPATION - RURAL SUBSISTENCE USER
UNIT 25ANEED TO CHANGE FEDERAL MOOSE
SEASON IN UNIT 25A FROM
DEC 1 - DEC 10 TO DEC 1 - DECEMBER 20

THE REASON FOR THIS IS 10 DAYS
SOMETIMES IS NOT ENOUGH TO GET
MOOSE, AS SOME YEARS THE MOOSE
DO NOT COME ALONG THE RIVER
DUE TO LACK OF SNOW AND THIN
ICE. BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF SNOW
I CANNOT GO INLAND MUCH DUE
TO THE TUSsockS ARE EXTREMELY
HARD TO TRAVEL. WITH A 20 DAY
SEASON IT WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL
TO GET A MOOSE FOR OUR FOOD
SOURCE. ALSO MOOSE SEASON IN UNIT
25 D ALSO RUNS FROM DEC 1 - DEC 20.
THIS WOULD MAKE IT SIMPLER FOR
THE PAPER WORK INVOLVED IF UNIT
25A WAS THE SAME.

WP22-53

RURAL SUBSISTENCE USER
HEIMO KORTH (COLEEN RIVER)
Box 82
FORT YUKON, ALASKA 99740
907-662-5263

REGULATION TO HAVE AN ARCTIC FOX
TRAPPING SEASON IN GAME MANAGEMENT
UNIT 25

A ARCTIC FOX TRAPPING SEASON IS NEEDED
IN UNIT 25 AS ARCTIC FOX ARE CAUGHT
IN THIS UNIT, ESPECIALLY IN HIGH CYCLES
OF ARCTIC FOX. I PERSONALLY SOME YEARS
CATCH MORE ARCTIC FOX THAN I DO REDS,
CROSS OR SILVER FOX. THE STATE
ALREADY HAS A SEASON AND I BELIEVE
THE FEDERAL SHOULD ALSO HAVE A SEASON.

IT SHOULD BE WRITTEN UP AS ~~THE~~ THE
SAME AS THE EXISTING RED FOX
SEASON. (DATES AND BAG LIMIT).
NOV 1 - FEB 28(29). NO LIMIT (BAG LIMIT).

THERE SHOULD BE A SEASON (FEDERAL)
TO MAKE IT LEGAL TO CATCH ARCTIC FOX
IN UNIT 25 AS MANY ARE CAUGHT ALREADY
PURPOSELY AND ACCIDENTALLY.

WP22-54

**North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
2022-2024 Wildlife Proposals**

Unit 26A Moose: Expand the hunt area for antlerless moose in 26A west of 156 west longitude and excluding the Colville River drainage. The Council requests a modification to expand the current moose hunt area further to the east by one degree longitude as follows:

Unit 26A—that portion west of 156°00'W. Long. west of the Alaktak River following 155°00'W. Longitude and excluding the Colville River drainage—1 moose; however, you may not take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf. July 1 - Sept. 14

Justification: This Unit 26A moose hunt is a very important subsistence resource for several North Slope region communities to be able to harvest a few moose that migrate into this area. The Council fully supports the continuation of this moose hunt opportunity, which is particularly beneficial to the communities of Atkasuk and Utqiagvik that have the closest access to this hunt area. Council members noted that to reach the hunt area west of 156 west longitude from Utqiagvik they need to travel a very long way by boat up the Ikpikpuk River over 70 miles, which requires a lot of time, gas, and resources. An expanded hunt area allowing moose harvest west of the Alaktak River would be very beneficial to local community hunters that have to travel so far by providing easier access to be successful once reaching the hunt area. The Council recommends establishing this new moose hunt boundary to follow the natural landscape feature of the Alaktak River, which is a tributary of the Ikpikpuk River and runs south-north to Admiralty Bay. The Alaktak River is well known by local communities and will provide a natural hunt boundary that is easy to identify rather than the current abstract 156 W. Longitude line on a map which is very difficult to locate on the ground. The Ikpikpuk River runs in close parallel to 155 W. longitude. Establishing the hunt area west of the Alaktak River will help local communities and families that hunt and have cabins on the Chipp River to be able to be included within and have access to this moose hunt area. Council members relayed their experiences that encountering a moose in this area is opportunistic and therefore harvest is anticipated to still be low. However, it will provide expanded subsistence opportunity to harvest a moose if one is encountered on the Chipp or Alaktak Rivers, which are more frequently used by local subsistence residents than the current 156W longitude boundary.

WP22-55**North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council****2022-2024 Federal Subsistence Wildlife Proposals**

Unit 26A muskox: Establish a hunt for musk ox within a portion of Unit 26A as follows: Open a hunt in that portion of Unit 26A west of the Alaktak River following W155 south to the Unit 26A border with season dates of August 1 – March 15 and a bag limit of one musk ox.

Justification: The Council fully supports this opportunity to hunt musk ox in Unit 26A now that the musk ox population has grown to a sustainable level. North Slope communities in this area are seeing more musk ox nearby and some even coming close to subsistence hunting cabins. Musk ox are good eating and would be an important additional source of subsistence food and fur. It is known through local and traditional knowledge that caribou will avoid musk ox and may be deflected from areas based on just the smell. This can shift the migration route of caribou, potentially impacting communities' access to caribou which are a critically important subsistence resource. The opportunity to hunt musk ox will support the ability to help prevent deflection of caribou on their migration route near North Slope communities and provide additional source of meat at the same time.

The Council recommends establishing this new musk ox hunt boundary to follow the natural landscape feature of the Alaktak River, which is a tributary of the Ikpihpuk River and runs south-north to Admiralty Bay. The Alaktak River is well known by area communities and will provide a good hunt area boundary that is easy to identify. The Ikpihpuk River runs in close parallel to 155 W. longitude. Establishing the hunt area west of the Alaktak River will help local communities and families that hunt and have cabins on the Chipp River to be able to be included within and have access to this musk ox hunt area. While this hunt area boundary will be beneficial to local area subsistence users it should still be sufficiently west / distant from Unit 26B to avoid any risk to that Unit's musk ox population.

The Council also voted to make this same recommendation for the Alaska Board of Game 2021-2022 proposal 193. Establishing a federal subsistence hunt for musk ox in Unit 26A will provide for a subsistence priority in this area.

WP22-56

Federal Subsistence Wildlife Regulatory Proposal

Name: Taqulik Hepa, Chair and Jack Reakoff, Vice-Chair

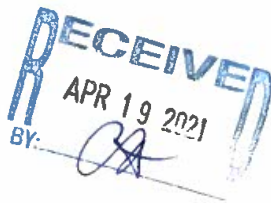
Sincerely,

Taqulik Hepa

Taqulik Hepa, Gates of the Arctic SRC Chair

Jack Reakoff

Jack Reakoff, Gates of the Arctic SRC Vice-Chair



Organization: Gates of the Arctic National Park Subsistence Resource Commission

4175 Geist Road

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

nps_gaar_src@nps.gov

This proposal suggests a change to:

☐ Harvest season ☐ Methods and Means of Harvest

☒ Harvest limit(s) ☐ C&T Use Determination(s)

1. What regulation do you wish to change. Include management unit number and species.
Brown bear – Game Management Unit 26A, the portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park, 1 bear, July 1 – June 30.
2. Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations.
Brown bear – Game Management Unit 26A, the portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park, 2 bears, July 1 – June 30.
3. Explain why this regulation change should be made.
This regulation change would affect Anaktuvuk Pass which is surrounded by corporation lands under state regulation and Gates of the Arctic lands under federal regulation. The Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) submitted a proposal to the Board of Game to increase the bag limit to 2 brown bears. The Board of Game passed the proposal at their meetings in 2020. In order to line up the state regulations with the federal regulations, the SRC is submitting a proposal to increase the federal harvest limit to 2 brown bears.
4. You should provide any additional information that you believe will help the Federal Subsistence Board in evaluating the proposed change.

Resident hunters in Anaktuvuk Pass feel the brown bear population is continuing to grow and therefore believe the harvest of brown bears in Game Management Unit 26A is far below sustained yield. Only few resident hunters take brown bears and should be afforded additional harvest opportunity with a 2 brown bear limit.

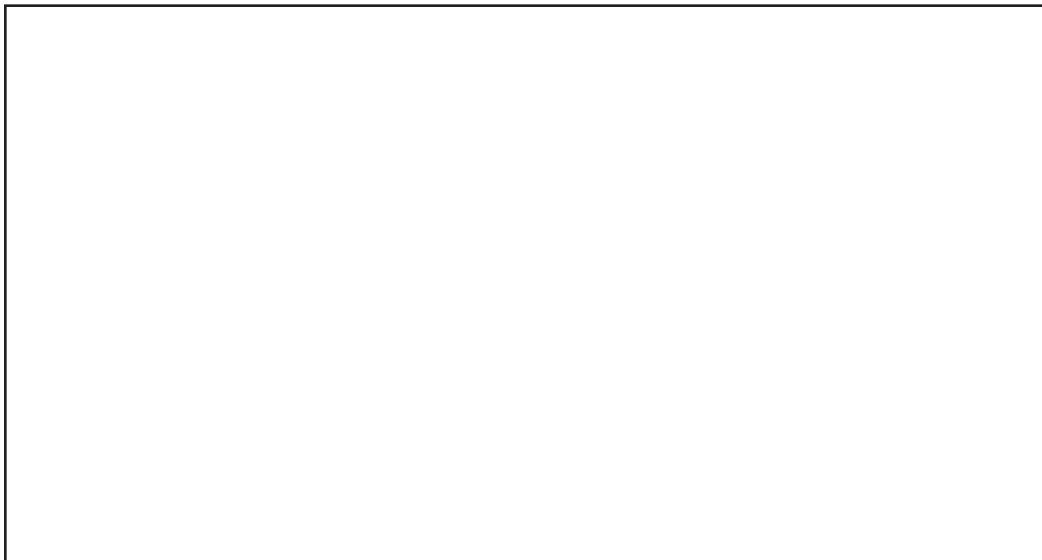


FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

Federal Subsistence Board
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