NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

The Alaska Board of Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the use and taking of game. Regulations subject to board action are in 5 AAC 84, 85, 92, and 99. The subject matter areas to be addressed concern Game Management Units 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 25, and 26; and all aspects of Nelchina Caribou subsistence hunting in Unit 13 and the remainder of the area identified in 5 AAC 92.074(d). The board will also address additional topics for other Game Management Units and statewide provisions as described below:

- A. TRAPPING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS including: black bear in Units 12, 16, 19, 20, & 25, including the definition of bucket foot snare
- B. HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS including: Tier I or Tier II subsistence hunting for Nelchina caribou in Unit 13 and the remainder of the area identified in 5 AAC 92.074(d); other hunting seasons and bag limits for Nelchina caribou; and brown bear in Unit 26.
- C. LICENSES, HARVEST TICKETS, HARVEST REPORTS, TAGS, FEES, AND PERMITS statewide, including but not limited to: discretionary and required permit hunt conditions and procedures; permits for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures; Tier I and Tier II subsistence permits and permit conditions for Nelchina caribou; Tier II subsistence hunting permit point system; community subsistence harvest hunt area and permit conditions; the Gulkana, Cantwell, Chistochina, Gakona, Mentasta, Tazlina, Chitina, and Kluti Kaah Community Harvest Area for moose and caribou.
- D. HUNTING AND TRAPPING METHODS AND MEANS statewide, including but not limited to: lawful methods of taking game, big game, and furbearers, black bear trapping requirements and discretionary trapping permit conditions and procedures including identification and checking requirements for bait and snare stations; nonresident and age requirements; taking bear using bait and scent lures; and taking bear with snares and with the use of artificial light.
- E. POSSESSION, TRANSPORTATION, AND USE OF GAME statewide, including but not limited to: sealing bear skins and skulls; salvage of meat and hides; taking cub bears and female bears with cubs; antler trophy destruction requirements and purchase and sale of game including the prohibition on selling black bear meat.
- F. CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL USES OF GAME POPULATIONS including: the amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence uses for Nelchina caribou and black bear statewide.
- G. INTENSIVE / PREDATOR MANAGEMENT including: reauthorization of the Unit 13 predation control implementation plan; control of predation by wolves and bears; and methods, means and bag limits for taking predators.

The Board of Game is also soliciting comments from the public on two Board of Game policies: 1) the Bear Conservation, Harvest, and Management Policy, and 2) the Wolf Population Control and Management Policy. Both polices are included in the October meeting proposal book for the public to review.

You may comment on the proposed regulations, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes by submitting written comments to the Alaska Board of Game

Boards Support Section at P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526. Comments may also be submitted by fax to (907) 465-6094.

Written comments may be submitted to the Board of Game at any time before the proposal is taken up by the board in deliberations, but as a practical matter, written comments should be submitted to the Boards Support Section office at the above address or fax number by **5:00 pm** <u>Thursday</u>, **September 30, 2010** to ensure inclusion in the board workbooks. Written comment over 100 single sided or 50 double sided pages in length from any one individual or group relating to proposals will not be accepted. Written comments submitted after September 30, 2010 will be limited to 10 single sided or 5 double sided pages in length from any one individual or group. Written comments that are submitted are public record and are subject to public inspection.

The public hearing portion of the meeting will begin immediately after staff reports and continue until everyone who has signed up and is present when called has been given the opportunity to be heard. The deadline to sign up to testify will be announced at the meeting. The board will take oral testimony only from those who register before the cut-off time. The length of oral statements may be limited to three to five minutes, or less. Additional public hearings may be held throughout the meeting just before consideration and adoption of proposed changes in the regulations. An agenda will be posted daily during the meeting.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE Nelchina Caribou & Black Bear Trapping Regulations <u>October 8 – 12, 2010</u> Coast International Inn 3333 West International Airport Road Anchorage, Alaska

A live audio stream of the Board meeting is intended to be available on the Boards Support Section website at: <u>http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us</u>. Any changes to meeting locations, dates or times, or rescheduling of topics or subject matter will be announced by news release. Please watch for these announcements in the news media or call (907) 465-4110.

If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodations in order to participate in this process, please contact Scott Crass at (907) 465-4110 no later than September 30, 2010 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact the Boards Support Section at the above address, or on the website at <u>http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/gameinfo/index.php</u>.

Anyone interested in or affected by subsistence and general hunting or trapping regulations is hereby informed that, by publishing this legal notice the Board of Game may consider any or all of the subject areas covered by this notice. THE BOARD IS NOT LIMITED BY THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OR CONFINES OF THE ACTUAL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC OR STAFF. Pursuant to AS 44.62.200, the board may review the full range of activities appropriate to any of the subjects listed in this notice. The board may make changes to the hunting and trapping regulations as may be required to ensure the subsistence priority in AS 16.05.258 including reexamining customary and traditional use findings and determinations for amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence use.

After the public hearing, the Board of Game may adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or amend, reject, supplement, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. You should comment during the time allowed if your interest could be affected.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.255; AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.270

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.255; AS 16.05.256; AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.407; AS 16.05.346; AS 16.05.340; AS 16.30.010 – .030; AS 16.05.330, and AS 16.05.783

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: September 7, 2010

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Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director Alaska Board of Game

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS NOTICE INFORMATION (AS 44.62.190(d))

- 1. Adopting agency: Alaska Board of Game
- 2. General subject of regulation: Nelchina Caribou subsistence hunting and black bear trapping.
- 3. Citation of regulations: <u>5 AAC 84, 85, 92, 98, and 99</u>
- 4. Reason for the proposed action:
 - () compliance with federal law
 - () compliance with new or changed state statute
 - (X) compliance with court order
 - () development of program standards
 - (X) other: Implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of Alaska Statue 16.05-16.30.
- 5. Program category and RDU: Natural Resources and all RDUs
- 6. Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding: It is not possible to estimate cost. However, this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.
- 7. The name of the contact person for the regulations:

Name:	Kristy Tibbles
Title:	Executive Director, Boards Game
Address:	Boards Support Section
	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
	PO Box 115526
	Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Telephone:	(907) 465-4110

- 8. The origin of the proposed action:
 - <u>X</u> staff of state agency
 - <u>X</u> federal government
 - <u>X</u> general public
 - _____ petition for regulation change
 - _____ other (please list)
- 9. Date: <u>September 7, 2010</u>

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Kristy Tibbles Executive Director, Board of Game 907-465-4110