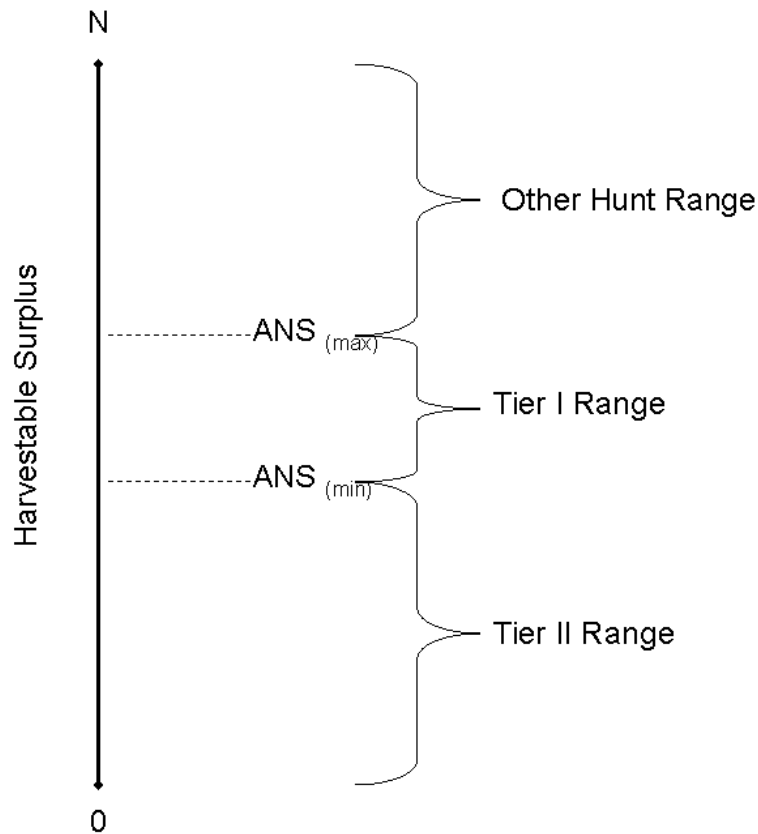


Potential Regulatory Approach for Management of Species With C&T Use and a Variable Harvestable Surplus



Steps:

1. Board of Game reviews the C&T use patterns and identifies characteristics (i.e. no use of aircraft, no trophy uses, etc.)
2. Board determines the amount necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence use.
3. DWC estimates Harvestable Surplus level on an annual basis.

Management Guidelines / Board Direction to the Department:

1. If Harvestable Surplus is between ANS_(min) and ANS_(max), the department may issue subsistence registration permits and apply discretionary conditions to the hunt consistent with the C&T use pattern (e.g. no use of aircraft, trophy value, must be destroyed, etc.)
2. If the Harvestable Surplus is less than ANS_(min) the department may issue Tier II subsistence permits and apply discretionary conditions to the hunt consistent with the C&T use pattern (e.g. no use of aircraft, trophy value must be destroyed, etc.)
3. If Harvestable Surplus is greater than ANS_(max) the department may issue subsistence registration permits and apply discretionary conditions to the hunt consistent with the C&T use pattern (e.g. no use of aircraft, trophy value, must be destroyed, etc.), and issue general drawing permits to take additional animals.

Structure of Regulations

<i>Units and Bag Limits</i>	<i>Resident Season Subsistence & General Hunt</i>	<i>Non-resident Season</i>
Unit A, Resident Hunters:		
x animal (s) by registration permit only if the harvestable surplus is greater than ANS _(min) or by Tier II permit only if the harvestable surplus is less than ANS _(max)	Start date – End date (Subsistence Hunt Only)	
y animal (s) by drawing permit only, provided that the harvestable surplus is greater than ANS _(max)	Start date – End date	
Nonresident Hunters:		
y animal (s) by drawing permit only, provided that the harvestable surplus is greater than ANS _(max)		Start date – End date

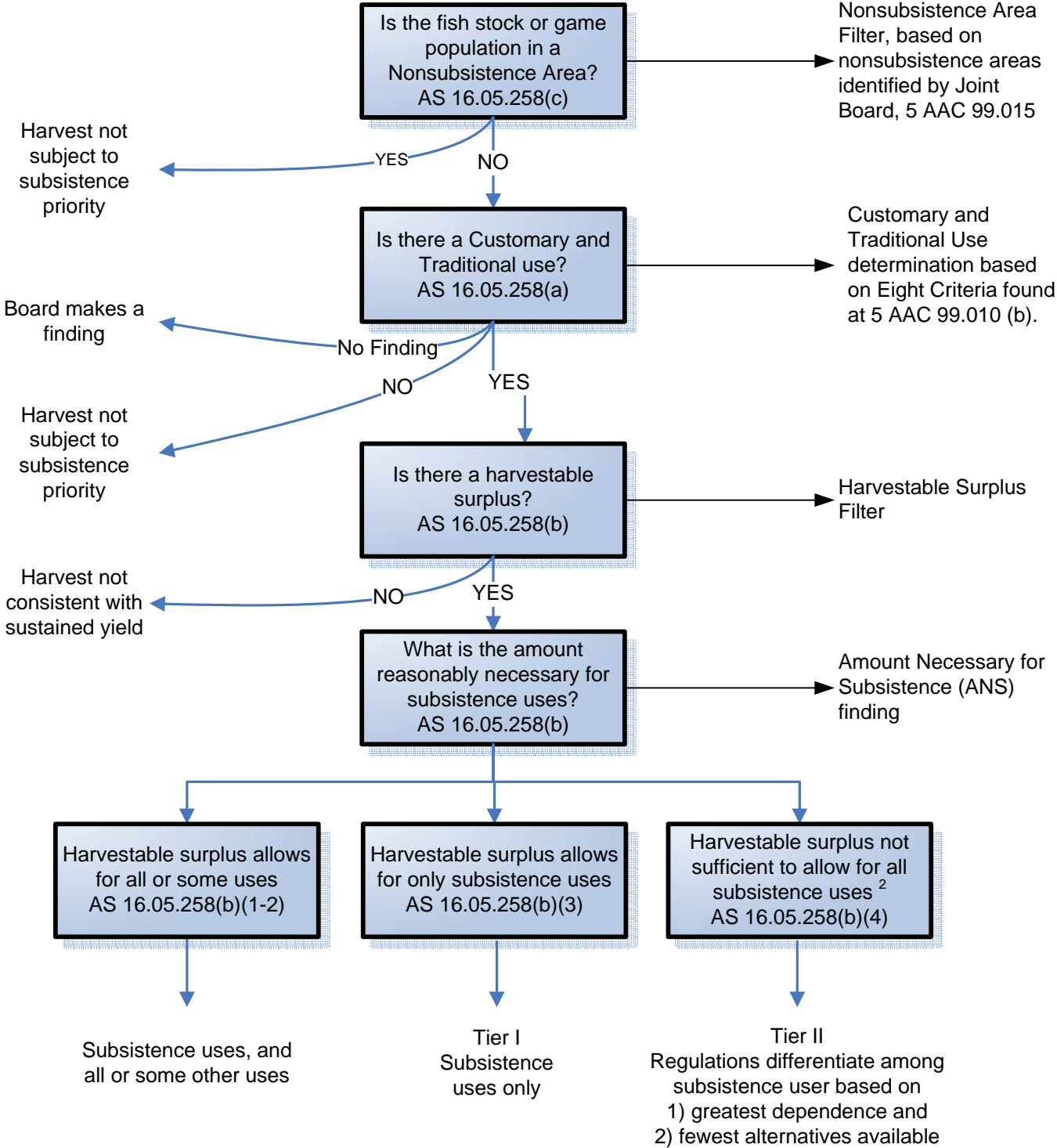
Rationale:

This regulatory structure would enable the department to issue the proper type and number of permits for both subsistence and non-subsistence hunting based on the estimated harvestable surplus from year-to-year. The total annual quota for any/all permits issued will be set each year by the department.

ANS_(max) is not set as the upper limit for subsistence take because total subsistence take should be allowed to exceed ANS_(max) if other hunters do not take these animals. Hence there is no “up to...” language in the regulation. Similarly, there is no upper limit on the number of drawing permits because we cannot predict what the proper total would be. The number of drawing permits does not have to be limited strictly to the number of animals in the harvestable surplus over and above ANS_(max) as long as the number of animals taken by drawing permittees does not reduce the allowable take under registration permits below ANS_(max).

Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game Steps When Considering Regulations that Affect Subsistence Uses

Alaska Statute 16.05.258 Subsistence Use and Allocation of Fish and Game



² Harvestable surplus below lower end of ANS range

AS 16.05.258. Subsistence use and allocation of fish and game.

(a) Except in nonsubsistence areas, the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game shall identify the fish stocks and game populations, or portions of stocks or populations, that are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence. The commissioner shall provide recommendations to the boards concerning the stock and population identifications. The boards shall make identifications required under this subsection after receipt of the commissioner's recommendations.

(b) The appropriate board shall determine whether a portion of a fish stock or game population identified under (a) of this section can be harvested consistent with sustained yield. If a portion of a stock or population can be harvested consistent with sustained yield, the board shall determine the amount of the harvestable portion that is reasonably necessary for subsistence uses and

(1) if the harvestable portion of the stock or population is sufficient to provide for all consumptive uses, the appropriate board

(A) shall adopt regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses of those stocks or populations;

(B) shall adopt regulations that provide for other uses of those stocks or populations, subject to preferences among beneficial uses; and

(C) may adopt regulations to differentiate among uses;

(2) if the harvestable portion of the stock or population is sufficient to provide for subsistence uses and some, but not all, other consumptive uses, the appropriate board

(A) shall adopt regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses of those stocks or populations;

(B) may adopt regulations that provide for other consumptive uses of those stocks or populations; and

(C) shall adopt regulations to differentiate among consumptive uses that provide for a preference for the subsistence uses, if regulations are adopted under (B) of this paragraph;

(3) if the harvestable portion of the stock or population is sufficient to provide for subsistence uses, but no other consumptive uses, the appropriate board shall

(A) determine the portion of the stocks or populations that can be harvested consistent with sustained yield; and

(B) adopt regulations that eliminate other consumptive uses in order to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses; and

(4) if the harvestable portion of the stock or population is not sufficient to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses, the appropriate board shall

(A) adopt regulations eliminating consumptive uses, other than subsistence uses;

(B) distinguish among subsistence users, through limitations based on

(i) the customary and direct dependence on the fish stock or game population by the subsistence user for human consumption as a mainstay of livelihood;

(ii) the proximity of the domicile of the subsistence user to the stock or population; and

(iii) the ability of the subsistence user to obtain food if subsistence use is restricted or eliminated.

(c) The boards may not permit subsistence hunting or fishing in a nonsubsistence area. The boards, acting jointly, shall identify by regulation the boundaries of nonsubsistence areas. A nonsubsistence area is an area or community where dependence upon subsistence is not a principal characteristic of the economy, culture, and way of life of the area or community. In determining whether dependence upon subsistence is a principal characteristic of the economy, culture, and way of life of an area or community under this subsection, the boards shall jointly consider the relative importance of subsistence in the context of the totality of the following socio-economic characteristics of the area or community:

(1) the social and economic structure;

(2) the stability of the economy;

(3) the extent and the kinds of employment for wages, including full-time, part-time, temporary, and seasonal employment;

- (4) the amount and distribution of cash income among those domiciled in the area or community;
- (5) the cost and availability of goods and services to those domiciled in the area or community;
- (6) the variety of fish and game species used by those domiciled in the area or community;
- (7) the seasonal cycle of economic activity;
- (8) the percentage of those domiciled in the area or community participating in hunting and fishing activities or using wild fish and game;
- (9) the harvest levels of fish and game by those domiciled in the area or community;
- (10) the cultural, social, and economic values associated with the taking and use of fish and game;
- (11) the geographic locations where those domiciled in the area or community hunt and fish;
- (12) the extent of sharing and exchange of fish and game by those domiciled in the area or community;
- (13) additional similar factors the boards establish by regulation to be relevant to their determinations under this subsection.

(d) Fish stocks and game populations, or portions of fish stocks and game populations not identified under (a) of this section may be taken only under nonsubsistence regulations.

(e) Takings and uses of fish and game authorized under this section are subject to regulations regarding open and closed areas, seasons, methods and means, marking and identification requirements, quotas, bag limits, harvest levels, and sex, age, and size limitations. Takings and uses of resources authorized under this section are subject to AS 16.05.831 and AS 16.30.

(f) For purposes of this section, “reasonable opportunity” means an opportunity, as determined by the appropriate board, that allows a subsistence user to participate in a subsistence hunt or fishery that provides a normally diligent participant with a reasonable expectation of success of taking of fish or game. (§ 6 ch 52 SLA 1986; am § 2 ch 1 SSSLA 1992)

Administrative Code. — For subsistence uses, see 5 AAC 99.

Editor’s notes. — Sections 3 and 12, ch. 1, SSSLA 1992, which provided for a delayed amendment of this section, were repealed by §§ 1 and 2, ch. 1, FSSLA 1998 before the delayed amendment took effect.

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Rural residency requirement unconstitutional. — The requirement contained in the 1986 subsistence statute (ch. 52, SLA 1986), that one must reside in a rural area in order to participate in subsistence hunting and fishing, violates Alaska Const., art. VIII, §§ 3, 15, and 17. *McDowell v. State*, 785 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1989).

Prohibition of subsistence permits for residents in nonsubsistence areas invalid. — The requirements of the equal access clauses apply to both tiers of subsistence users. Just as eligibility to participate in all subsistence hunting and fishing cannot be made dependent on whether one lives in an urban or rural area, eligibility to participate in Tier II subsistence hunting and fishing cannot be based on how close one lives to a given fish or game population. Subsection (b)(4)(B)(ii), which uses the proximity of the domicile of the Tier II subsistence permit applicant to the fish or game population which the applicant wishes to harvest as a basis for the applicant’s eligibility, violates sections 3, 15, and 17 of article VIII of the Alaska Constitution. *State v. Kenaitze Indian Tribe*, 894 P.2d 632 (Alaska 1995).

Creation of nonsubsistence areas not unconstitutional. — The statutory provision in subsection (c) mandating the creation of nonsubsistence areas does not violate sections 3, 15, and 17 of article VIII of the Alaska Constitution because the provision by itself without the proximity of domicile provisions does absolutely bar subsistence uses for certain residents. *State v. Kenaitze Indian Tribe*, 894 P.2d 632 (Alaska 1995).

Regulations adopted under former AS 16.05.257 had to be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62). *State v. Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Ass'n*, 583 P.2d 854 (Alaska 1978). While former AS 16.05.257, which authorized the Board of Game to adopt regulations providing for subsistence hunting, did not specifically refer to the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), it appeared clear that it merely set forth an additional purpose for which regulations might be promulgated. *State v. Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Ass'n*, 583 P.2d 854 (Alaska 1978).

Considerations in adopting regulations. — The boards of fisheries and game have the discretion to adopt regulations that recognize the needs, customs, and traditions of Alaska residents, but they are not mandated to do so when formulating their subsistence regulations. *State v. Morry*, 836 P.2d 358 (Alaska 1992).

Decision of the Alaska Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game to use the non-rural boundaries as starting points for their nonsubsistence determinations was not inconsistent with subsection (c) of this section. *State v. Kenaitze Indian Tribe*, 83 P.3d 1060 (Alaska 2004).

Decision of the Alaska Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game to use large nonsubsistence starting areas or even to combine two proposed areas did not exceed their discretion; although the boundaries encompassed relatively large areas, an “area or community” as the words are used in subsection (c) of this section may encompass several subdistricts grouped together. *State v. Kenaitze Indian Tribe*, 83 P.3d 1060 (Alaska 2004).

“Sustained yield”. — The term “sustained yield” in subsection (b) is potentially broad enough to include authority in the game board to restrict even subsistence hunting in order to rebuild a damaged game population. However, the board does not have absolute discretion in this area. There must be a balance of minimum adverse impact upon rural residents who depend upon subsistence use of resources and recognized scientific principles of game management. *Kwethluk IRA Council v. Alaska*, 740 F. Supp. 765 (D. Alaska 1990).

“Area or community.” — The term “area or community” is broad enough to encompass several subdistricts grouped together. *Native Village of Elim v. State*, 990 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1999).

The subsistence law leaves the determination of which geographic boundaries constitute a subsistence area or community to the discretion of the fisheries board. *Native Village of Elim v. State*, 990 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1999).

Familial relationship not required. — In evaluating a subsistence fishery proposal, the Board of Fisheries erroneously required users of salmon in an area to have a familial relationship with prior generations of subsistence users in the area; such interpretation of 5 AAC 99.010(b) was inconsistent with subsection (a) and the definition of “customary and traditional” in AS 16.05.940. *Payton v. State*, 938 P.2d 1036 (Alaska 1997).

Invalid regulations severable. — Invalid portions of regulations established pursuant to the mandate of this section are severable from the remaining regulations if, standing alone, the regulation can be given legal effect and the legislature intended the provision to stand. *State v. Palmer*, 882 P.2d 386 (Alaska 1994).

Issuance of permits based on verbal instructions to agents held improper. — Nothing in the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) authorizes the Board of Game to impose requirements not contained in written regulations by means of oral instructions to agents. Such verbal additions to

regulations involving requirements of substance are unauthorized and unenforceable. *State v. Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Ass'n*, 583 P.2d 854 (Alaska 1978).

Adoption of eligibility criteria. — All Alaskans are eligible to participate in subsistence hunting and fishing, and the board of game lacks the authority to adopt eligibility criteria when the resource is sufficiently abundant to satisfy all subsistence users. *State v. Morry*, 836 P.2d 358 (Alaska 1992).

The least intrusive standard applied by the superior court to board of game regulations for subsistence uses is not explicitly mentioned in the text of the subsistence preference laws nor can such a standard be reasonably implied from the fact that the subsistence law in this section accords a “preference” to subsistence users. The subsistence law provides a preference only by giving subsistence users “reasonable opportunity” to harvest the resource, and the superior court erred in its decision that the least intrusive standard was implied as a rule of construction for the term “reasonable opportunity.” *State v. Morry*, 836 P.2d 358 (Alaska 1992).

Grouping of stock. — Since manageability is the key element in the classification of a category of fish as a “stock,” it was not unreasonable for the fisheries board to group salmon stocks together where it determined that subsistence users themselves “customarily and traditionally” took the species interchangeably. *Native Village of Elim v. State*, 990 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1999).

Reasonable basis for Board of Game's quota of caribou to be killed under former AS 16.05.257. — See *State v. Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Ass'n*, 583 P.2d 854 (Alaska 1978).

Emergency caribou hunt allowed. — Native Alaskan villagers were granted injunctive relief permitting an emergency caribou hunt allowing the taking of 50 to 70 animals where the hunt was justified by economic conditions and would not adversely affect the herd. *Kwethluk IRA Council v. Alaska*, 740 F. Supp. 765 (D. Alaska 1990).

In affirming the grant of summary judgment to the state in a management team's challenge to 5 AAC 85.045, the court determined that the regulation violated neither the sustained yield principle of Alaska Const. art. VIII, § 4, nor AS 16.05.255 and this section; the Board of Game acted within its discretion in adopting the regulation that allowed for the issuance of “up to” 400 hunting permits in a controlled use area because creating a controlled use area did not necessarily amount to designating a relevant animal population for management purposes, and it was reasonable not to manage moose in the region as a distinct game population. *Koyukuk River Basin Moose Co-Management v. Bd. of Game*, 76 P.3d 383 (Alaska 2003).

Regulations held invalid. — Board of game regulations establishing seasons and bag limits on the taking of moose and caribou were arbitrary and invalid, where the board did not follow or articulate its use of the statutory analytical process for adopting bag limits as to subsistence hunting, and the regulations imposed seasons not consistent with the board's findings as to established village customs and thereby unacceptably restricted the statutory preference for subsistence uses. *Bobby v. Alaska*, 718 F. Supp. 764 (D. Alaska 1989).

Trophy hunting regulations adopted by the board of game do not constitute compliance with the requirement of subsection (c) that the board adopt subsistence hunting regulations for game. *State v. Morry*, 836 P.2d 358 (Alaska 1992).

Where no hearing was ever held regarding whether regulations of the board of game were consistent with the subsistence law prior to their adoption as subsistence regulations, the challenged tag/fee and sealing

regulations, as subsistence regulations applicable to the taking and use of brown/grizzly bears in the affected game management units, were invalid. *State v. Morry*, 836 P.2d 358 (Alaska 1992).

Remand. — Where defendant was erroneously barred from challenging regulations prohibiting hunting with the aid of an artificial light and applying the prohibition against subsistence hunters, the case was remanded to allow defendant to demonstrate that the regulations were adopted without compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act, AS 44.62. *Totemoff v. State*, 905 P.2d 954 (Alaska 1995), cert. denied, 517 U.S. 1244, 116 S. Ct. 2499, 135 L. Ed. 2d 290 (1996).
Cited in *Krohn v. State, Dep't of Fish & Game*, 938 P.2d 1019 (Alaska 1997).

AS 16.05.259. No subsistence defense.

In a prosecution for the taking of fish or game in violation of a statute or regulation, it is not a defense that the taking was done for subsistence uses. (§ 7 ch 52 SLA 1986)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 16.05.261. Renumbered in 1987.

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Power to challenge regulation. — A person charged with a subsistence hunting violation is not precluded by this section or by the federal Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act from challenging the regulation he is alleged to have violated. *Bobby v. Alaska*, 718 F. Supp. 764 (D. Alaska 1989).

Since *State v. Eluska*, 724 P.2d 514 (Alaska 1986) and this section prevent hunters who took game in the absence of any regulation authorizing them to do so from claiming a subsistence defense, a defendant was not prohibited from contesting the validity of a regulation which prohibits hunting with the aid of an artificial light. *Totemoff v. State*, 905 P.2d 954 (Alaska 1995), cert. denied, 517 U.S. 1244, 116 S. Ct. 2499, 135 L. Ed. 2d 290 (1996).

AS 16.05.940. Definitions. In AS 16.05 — AS 16.40,

- (1) "aquatic plant" means any species of plant, excluding the rushes, sedges, and true grasses, growing in a marine aquatic or intertidal habitat;
- (2) "barter" means the exchange or trade of fish or game, or their parts, taken for subsistence uses
 - (A) for other fish or game or their parts; or
 - (B) for other food or for nonedible items other than money if the exchange is of a limited and noncommercial nature;
- (3) "a board" means either the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game;
- (4) "commercial fisherman" means an individual who fishes commercially for, takes, or attempts to take fish, shellfish, or other fishery resources of the state by any means, and includes every individual aboard a boat operated for fishing purposes who participates directly or indirectly in the taking of these raw fishery products, whether participation is on shares or as an employee or otherwise; however, this definition does not apply to anyone aboard a licensed vessel as a visitor or guest who does not directly or indirectly participate in the taking; "commercial fisherman" includes the crews of tenders or other floating craft used in transporting fish, but does not include processing workers on floating fish processing vessels who do not operate fishing gear or engage in activities related to navigation or operation of the vessel; in this paragraph "operate fishing gear" means to deploy or remove gear from state water, remove fish from gear during an open fishing season or period, or possess a gill net containing fish during an open fishing period;
- (5) "commercial fishing" means the taking, fishing for, or possession of fish, shellfish, or other fishery resources with the intent of disposing of them for profit, or by sale, barter, trade, or in commercial channels; the failure to have a valid subsistence permit in possession, if required by statute or regulation,

is considered prima facie evidence of commercial fishing if commercial fishing gear as specified by regulation is involved in the taking, fishing for, or possession of fish, shellfish, or other fish resources;

(6) “commissioner” means the commissioner of fish and game unless specifically provided otherwise;

(7) “customary and traditional” means the noncommercial, long-term, and consistent taking of, use of, and reliance upon fish or game in a specific area and the use patterns of that fish or game that have been established over a reasonable period of time taking into consideration the availability of the fish or game;

(8) “customary trade” means the limited noncommercial exchange, for minimal amounts of cash, as restricted by the appropriate board, of fish or game resources; the terms of this paragraph do not restrict money sales of furs and furbearers;

(9) “department” means the Department of Fish and Game unless specifically provided otherwise;

(10) “domestic mammals” include musk oxen, bison, and reindeer, if they are lawfully owned;

(11) “domicile” means the true and permanent home of a person from which the person has no present intention of moving and to which the person intends to return whenever the person is away; domicile may be proved by presenting evidence acceptable to the boards of fisheries and game;

(12) “fish” means any species of aquatic finfish, invertebrate, or amphibian, in any stage of its life cycle, found in or introduced into the state, and includes any part of such aquatic finfish, invertebrate, or amphibian;

(13) “fish derby” means a contest in which prizes are awarded for catching fish;

(14) “fish or game farming” means the business of propagating, breeding, raising, or producing fish or game in captivity for the purpose of marketing the fish or game or their products, and “captivity” means having the fish or game under positive control, as in a pen, pond, or an area of land or water that is completely enclosed by a generally escape-proof barrier; in this paragraph, “fish” does not include shellfish, as defined in AS 16.40.199;

(15) “fish stock” means a species, subspecies, geographic grouping, or other category of fish manageable as a unit;

(16) “fish transporter” means a natural person who holds a fish transporter permit issued under AS 16.05.671;

(17) “fishery” means a specific administrative area in which a specific fishery resource is taken with a specific type of gear; however, the Board of Fisheries may designate a fishery to include more than one specific administrative area, type of gear, or fishery resource; in this paragraph

(A) “gear” means the specific apparatus used in the harvest of a fishery resource; and

(B) “type of gear” means an identifiable classification of gear and may include

(i) classifications for which separate regulations are adopted by the Board of Fisheries or for which separate gear licenses were required by former AS 16.05.550 — 16.05.630; and

(ii) distinct subclassifications of gear such as “power” troll gear and “hand” troll gear or sport gear and guided sport gear;

(18) “fur dealing” means engaging in the business of buying, selling, or trading in animal skins, but does not include the sale of animal skins by a trapper or hunter who has legally taken the animal, or the purchase of animal skins by a person, other than a fur dealer, for the person’s own use;

(19) “game” means any species of bird, reptile, and mammal, including a feral domestic animal, found or introduced in the state, except domestic birds and mammals; and game may be classified by regulation as big game, small game, fur bearers or other categories considered essential for carrying out the intention and purposes of AS 16.05 — AS 16.40;

(20) “game population” means a group of game animals of a single species or subgroup manageable as a unit;

(21) “hunting” means the taking of game under AS 16.05 — AS 16.40 and the regulations adopted under those chapters;

(22) “nonresident” means a person who is not a resident of the state;

(23) “nonresident alien” means a person who is not a citizen of the United States and whose permanent place of abode is not in the United States;

(24) “operator” means the individual by law made responsible for the operation of the vessel;

- (25) “person with physical disabilities” means a person who presents to the department either written proof that the person receives at least 70 percent disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or an affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state stating that the person is at least 70 percent physically disabled;
- (26) “personal use fishing” means the taking, fishing for, or possession of finfish, shellfish, or other fishery resources, by Alaska residents for personal use and not for sale or barter, with gill or dip net, seine, fish wheel, long line, or other means defined by the Board of Fisheries;
- (27) “resident” means
- (A) a person who for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the time when the assertion of residence is made has maintained the person’s domicile in the state and who is neither claiming residency in another state, territory, or country nor obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country;
- (B) a partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, or corporation that has its main office or headquarters in the state; a natural person who does not otherwise qualify as a resident under this paragraph may not qualify as a resident by virtue of an interest in a partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, or corporation;
- (C) a member of the military service, or United States Coast Guard, who has been stationed in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the time when the assertion of residence is made;
- (D) a person who is the dependent of a resident member of the military service, or the United States Coast Guard, and who has lived in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the time when the assertion of residence is made; or
- (E) an alien who for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the time when the assertion of residence is made has maintained the person’s domicile in the state and who is neither claiming residency in another state, territory, or country nor obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country;
- (28) “rural area” means a community or area of the state in which the noncommercial, customary, and traditional use of fish or game for personal or family consumption is a principal characteristic of the economy of the community or area;
- (29) “seizure” means the actual or constructive taking or possession of real or personal property subject to seizure under AS 16.05 — AS 16.40 by an enforcement or investigative officer charged with enforcement of the fish and game laws of the state;
- (30) “sport fishing” means the taking of or attempting to take for personal use, and not for sale or barter, any fresh water, marine, or anadromous fish by hook and line held in the hand, or by hook and line with the line attached to a pole or rod which is held in the hand or closely attended, or by other means defined by the Board of Fisheries;
- (31) “subsistence fishing” means the taking of, fishing for, or possession of fish, shellfish, or other fisheries resources by a resident domiciled in a rural area of the state for subsistence uses with gill net, seine, fish wheel, long line, or other means defined by the Board of Fisheries;
- (32) “subsistence hunting” means the taking of, hunting for, or possession of game by a resident domiciled in a rural area of the state for subsistence uses by means defined by the Board of Game;
- (33) “subsistence uses” means the noncommercial, customary and traditional uses of wild, renewable resources by a resident domiciled in a rural area of the state for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of nonedible by-products of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption, and for the customary trade, barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption; in this paragraph, “family” means persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the household on a permanent basis;
- (34) “take” means taking, pursuing, hunting, fishing, trapping, or in any manner disturbing, capturing, or killing or attempting to take, pursue, hunt, fish, trap, or in any manner capture or kill fish or game;

(35) “taxidermy” means tanning, mounting, processing, or other treatment or preparation of fish or game, or any part of fish or game, as a trophy, for monetary gain, including the receiving of the fish or game or parts of fish or game for such purposes;

(36) “trapping” means the taking of mammals declared by regulation to be fur bearers;

(37) “vessel” means a floating craft powered, towed, rowed, or otherwise propelled, which is used for delivering, landing, or taking fish within the jurisdiction of the state, but does not include aircraft. (§ 2 art I ch 95 SLA 1959; § 9 art III ch 94 SLA 1959; am §§ 1 — 4 ch 131 SLA 1960; am § 23 ch 131 SLA 1960; am § 1 ch 21 SLA 1961; am §§ 1, 2 ch 102 SLA 1961; am § 1 ch 160 SLA 1962; am §§ 13, 14 ch 31 SLA 1963; am § 2 ch 32 SLA 1968; am § 3 ch 73 SLA 1970; am § 1 ch 91 SLA 1970; am § 4 ch 110 SLA 1970; am § 1 ch 90 SLA 1972; am § 5 ch 82 SLA 1974; am §§ 26, 82 ch 127 SLA 1974; am §§ 18 — 20 ch 206 SLA 1975; am § 12 ch 105 SLA 1977; am §§ 14, 15 ch 151 SLA 1978; am § 1 ch 78 SLA 1979; am § 1 ch 24 SLA 1980; § 4 ch 74 SLA 1982; am § 24 ch 132 SLA 1984; am §§ 9 — 11 ch 52 SLA 1986; am § 5 ch 76 SLA 1986; am § 1 ch 114 SLA 1988; am § 9 ch 145 SLA 1988; am § 3 ch 6 SLA 1989; am § 15 ch 211 SLA 1990; am § 18 ch 30 SLA 1992; am § 2 ch 49 SLA 1992; am § 3 ch 90 SLA 1992; am § 4 ch 1 SSSLA 1992; am § 4 ch 9 SLA 1994; am § 3 ch 38 SLA 1997; am § 4 ch 112 SLA 2003)

Revisor’s notes. — Reorganized in 1983, 1986, 1989, 1992, 2003, and 2012 to alphabetize the defined terms and to maintain alphabetical order. Former paragraph (13) was renumbered as AS 16.05.662(b) in 1992.

Both § 2, ch. 49, SLA 1992, and § 3, ch. 90, SLA 1992 amended former paragraph (12), now paragraph (17) of this section, defining “fishery”. Because the latter amendment took effect first and included the former amendment, paragraph (17) is set out as amended by § 3, ch. 90, SLA 1992.

Editor’s notes. — Sections 5 and 12, ch. 1, SSSLA 1992, which provided for a delayed repeal of former paragraphs (36) and (37), now paragraphs (7) and (8) of this section, defining “customary and traditional” and “customary trade” respectively, were themselves repealed by §§ 1 and 2, ch. 1, FSSLA 1998 before the delayed repeal took effect.

Legislative history reports. — For report on ch. 32, SLA 1968 (HCSCSSB 50 am), see 1968 House Journal, p. 169. For report on the 1974 amendment of former paragraph (2), now paragraph (4) of this section, defining “commercial fisherman,” ch. 127, SLA 1974 (SCSHB 817 am S), see 1974 House Journal, p. 657.

For legislative letter of intent in connection with the amendment to (4) of this section, defining “commercial fisherman,” by § 1, ch. 114, SLA 1988 (CSSB 309 (Res)), see 1988 Senate Journal 2027. For an explanation of the 1994 amendment of (10) of this section, defining “domestic mammals,” see 1994 House Journal Supplement No. 12, February 22, 1994, page 2.

Opinions of attorney general. — The paragraph defining “resident” did not grant special resident privileges to military personnel. 1964 Op. Att’y Gen. No. 2.

Term “customary trade” as used in the definition of “subsistence uses” allows for limited exchanges for cash other than for purely personal or family consumption. 1981 Op. Att’y Gen. No. 11.

Definition of “subsistence uses” in terms of “customary and traditional uses of wild, renewable resources” reflects the equating of “subsistence use” with use by rural residents. 1981 Op. Att’y Gen. No. 11.

A domestic or nondomestic animal becomes feral when it returns to a wild state. In the case of a partially domesticated or captive wild animal such as a fox that escapes, this generally means when the animal is no longer under the control of its owner or the owner is not in direct pursuit. In the case of a domestic animal such as a cow or pig that escapes, it is “feral” when it is living as a wild creature, and this may take more or less time depending on the circumstances. In the case of a domestic animal trespassing upon public lands, it could be declared “feral” under statute or regulation. July 30, 1987 Op. Att’y Gen.

The statutory term “feral domestic animal” found in the definition of “game” now (19) is a contradiction in terms; any regulatory clarification should focus on what is a “feral animal” and explain that the term “feral domestic animal” is interpreted to mean a domestic or domesticated animal that has become feral. July 30, 1987 Op. Att’y Gen.

If factual information supported the proposition that it is “customary and traditional” to make handicraft articles from sea otter skins, and if sea otters are or have been taken customarily and traditionally for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, then skins of sea otters could be used for making handicrafts, even if the meat were not eaten. If sea otters were not customarily and traditionally taken for food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, it would arguably not be permissible to harvest the animals only for handicraft purposes under subsistence regulations. Mar. 14, 1988 Op. Att’y Gen.

A member of the military who claims Alaska residency, and who is transferred to another state, may be allowed to obtain a “resident” rather than a “nonresident” hunting or fishing license in that state, based upon the service member’s military status. Alaska statutes allow for such a limited availability of resident licenses for military personnel who are stationed in Alaska but claim residency elsewhere. Determination of each service member’s status must be made on a case by case basis, but where the licensing and residency laws of other jurisdictions mirror Alaska’s, a service member may obtain a “resident” license in the other jurisdiction without forfeiting Alaska residency. 2003 Op. Att’y Gen. 14.

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Rural residency requirement unconstitutional. — The requirement contained in the 1986 subsistence statute (ch. 52, SLA 1986), that one must reside in a rural area in order to participate in subsistence hunting and fishing, violates Alaska Const., art. VIII, §§ 3, 15, and 17. *McDowell v. State*, 785 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1989).

“Customary and traditional.” — In evaluating a subsistence fishery proposal, the Board of Fisheries erroneously required users of salmon in an area to have a familial relationship with prior generations of subsistence users in the area; such interpretation of 5 AAC 99.010(b) was inconsistent with AS 16.05.258(a) and the definition of “customary and traditional” in this section. *Payton v. State*, 938 P.2d 1036 (Alaska 1997).

Since manageability is the key element in the classification of a category of fish as a “stock,” it was not unreasonable for the fisheries board to group salmon stocks together where it determined that subsistence users themselves “customarily and traditionally” took the species interchangeably. *Native Village of Elim v. State*, 990 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1999).

Single and multiple fisheries distinguished. — Alaska fisheries board erred in finding that the differences in equipment the board authorized for open and cooperative fishers did not create two distinct fisheries under the definition of “fishery” in this section; the fishery at issue was a single fishery within the statutory definition, and the board did not alter that fact by making detail changes to the type of equipment used by the cooperative fishers. *Alaska Bd. of Fisheries v. Grunert*, 139 P.3d 1226 (Alaska 2006).

Regulation held invalid because inconsistent with statutory law. — See *Madison v. Alaska Dep’t of Fish & Game*, 696 P.2d 168 (Alaska 1985).

Quoted in *United States v. Skinna*, 915 F.2d 1250 (9th Cir. 1990); *Peninsula Mktg. Ass’n v. State*, 817 P.2d 917 (Alaska 1991); *Kodiak Seafood Processors Ass’n v. State*, 900 P.2d 1191 (Alaska 1995); *Koyukuk River Basin Moose Co-Management v. Bd. of Game*, 76 P.3d 383 (Alaska 2003).

Stated in *State v. Carlson*, 65 P.3d 851 (Alaska 2003).

Cited in *Starry v. Horace Mann Ins. Co.*, 649 P.2d 937 (Alaska 1982); *State v. Eluska*, 698 P.2d 174 (Alaska Ct. App. 1985); *Arkanakyak v. State, Com. Fisheries Entry Comm’n*, 759 P.2d 513 (Alaska 1988); *Jurco v. State*, 816 P.2d 913 (Alaska Ct. App. 1991); *West v. State*, 248 P.3d 689 (Alaska 2010).

5 AAC 99.010. Boards of fisheries and game subsistence procedures

(a) In applying a subsistence law, the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game will provide for conservation and development of Alaska's fish and game resources according to sustained yield principles.

(b) Each board will identify fish stocks or game populations, or portions of stocks or populations, that are customarily and traditionally taken or used by Alaska residents for subsistence uses by considering the following criteria:

(1) a long-term consistent pattern of noncommercial taking, use, and reliance on the fish stock or game population that has been established over a reasonable period of time of not less than one generation, excluding interruption by circumstances beyond the user's control, such as unavailability of the fish or game caused by migratory patterns;

(2) a pattern of taking or use recurring in specific seasons of each year;

(3) a pattern of taking or use consisting of methods and means of harvest that are characterized by efficiency and economy of effort and cost;

(4) the area in which the noncommercial, long-term, and consistent pattern of taking, use, and reliance upon the fish stock or game population has been established;

(5) a means of handling, preparing, preserving, and storing fish or game that has been traditionally used by past generations, but not excluding recent technological advances where appropriate;

(6) a pattern of taking or use that includes the handing down of knowledge of fishing or hunting skills, values, and lore from generation to generation;

(7) a pattern of taking, use, and reliance where the harvest effort or products of that harvest are distributed or shared, including customary trade, barter, and gift-giving; and

(8) a pattern that includes taking, use, and reliance for subsistence purposes upon a wide diversity of fish and game resources and that provides substantial economic, cultural, social, and nutritional elements of the subsistence way of life.

(c) When circumstances such as increased numbers of users, weather, predation, or loss of habitat may jeopardize the sustained yield of a fish stock or game population, each board will exercise all practical options for restricting nonsubsistence harvest of the stock or population and may address other limiting factors before subsistence uses are restricted below the level the board has determined to provide a reasonable opportunity. If all available restrictions for nonsubsistence harvests have been implemented and further restrictions are needed, the board will eliminate nonsubsistence consumptive uses, and reduce the take for subsistence uses in a series of graduated steps under AS 16.05.258 (b)(4)(B) - the "Tier II" distinction - by distinguishing among subsistence users through limitations based on

(1) the customary and direct dependence on the fish stock or game population by the subsistence user for human consumption as a mainstay of livelihood;

(2) the proximity of the user's domicile to the stock or population; and

(3) the ability of the subsistence user to obtain food if subsistence use of the stock or population is restricted or eliminated.

History: Eff. 5/30/82, Register 82; am 1/17/91, Register 117; am 5/15/93, Register 126

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 99.015. Joint Board nonsubsistence areas

(a) The following areas are found by the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game to be nonsubsistence use areas:

(1) The Ketchikan Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 1(A), as defined in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (A), all drainages of the Cleveland Peninsula between Niblack Point and Bluff Point, Revillagigedo, Gravina, Pennock, Smeaton, Bold, Betton, and Hassler Islands; all marine waters of Sections 1-C, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (3), 1-D, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (4), 1-E, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (5), that portion of Section 1-F, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (6), north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Mary Island and within one mile of the mainland and the Gravina and Revillagigedo Island shorelines; and that portion of District 2, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(b) , within one mile of the Cleveland Peninsula shoreline and east of the longitude of Niblack Point.

(2) The Juneau Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 1(C), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(1) (C), all drainages on the mainland east of Lynn Canal and Stephens Passage from the latitude of Eldred Rock to Point Coke, and on Lincoln, Shelter, and Douglas islands; within Unit 4, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(4) , that portion of Admiralty Island that includes the Glass Peninsula, all drainages into Seymour Canal north of and including Pleasant Bay, all drainages into Stephens Passage west of Point Arden, the Mansfield Peninsula, all drainages into Chatham Strait north of Point Marsden; all marine waters of Sections 11-A and 11-B, as defined in 5 AAC 33.200(k) (1) and (k)(2), Section 12-B, as defined in 5 AAC 33.200(l) (2), and that portion of Section 12-A, as defined in 5 AAC 33.200(l) (1), north of the latitude of Point Marsden and that portion of District 15, as defined in 5 AAC 33.200(o) , south of the latitude of the northern entrance to Berners Bay, and including Berners Bay.

(3) The Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: Units 7, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(7) (except the Kenai Fjords National Park lands), 14, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(14) , 15, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(15) (except that portion south and west of a line beginning at the mouth of Rocky River up the Rocky and Windy Rivers across the Windy River/Jakolof Creek divide and down Jakolof Creek to its mouth, including the islands between the eastern most point of Jakolof Bay and the eastern most point of Rocky Bay), 16(A), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(16) (A); all waters of Alaska in the Cook Inlet Area, as defined by 5 AAC 21.100 (except those waters north of Point Bede which are west of a line from the eastern most point of Jakolof Bay north to the western most point of Hesketh Island including Jakolof Bay and south of a line west from Hesketh Island; the waters south of Point Bede which are west

of the eastern most point of Rocky Bay; and those waters described in 5 AAC 01.555(b) , known as the Tyonek subdistrict).

(4) The Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 20(A), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (A), east of the Wood River drainage and south of the Rex Trail but including the upper Wood River drainage south of its confluence with Chicken Creek; within Unit 20(B), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (B), the North Star Borough and that portion of the Washington Creek drainage east of the Elliot Highway; within Unit 20(D) as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (D), west of the Tanana River between its confluence with the Johnson and Delta Rivers, west of the east bank of the Johnson River, and north and west of the Volkmar drainage, including the Goodpaster River drainage; and within Unit 25(C), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(25) (C), the Preacher and Beaver Creek drainages.

(5) The Valdez Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 6(D), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(6) (D), and all waters of Alaska in the Prince William Sound Area as defined by 5 AAC 24.100, within the March 1993 Valdez City limits.

(b) The provisions of this section do not apply during the period from April 28, 1994 until a final decision by the Alaska Supreme Court in State v. Kenaitze, No. S-6162, concerning the constitutionality of AS 16.05.258 (c).

History: Eff. 5/15/93, Register 126; am 4/28/94, Register 130

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 99.016. Activities permitted in a nonsubsistence area

(a) A nonsubsistence area is an area or community where dependence upon subsistence is not a principal characteristic of the economy, culture, and way of life of the area of community. In a nonsubsistence area, the following activities will be permitted if so provided by the appropriate board by regulation:

- (1) general hunting, including drawing and registration permit hunts;
- (2) personal use, sport, guided sport, commercial fishing, and other fishing authorized by permit.

(b) Subsistence hunting and fishing regulations will not be adopted for these areas and the subsistence priority does not apply.

History: Eff. 5/15/93, Register 126

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 99.021. Definition

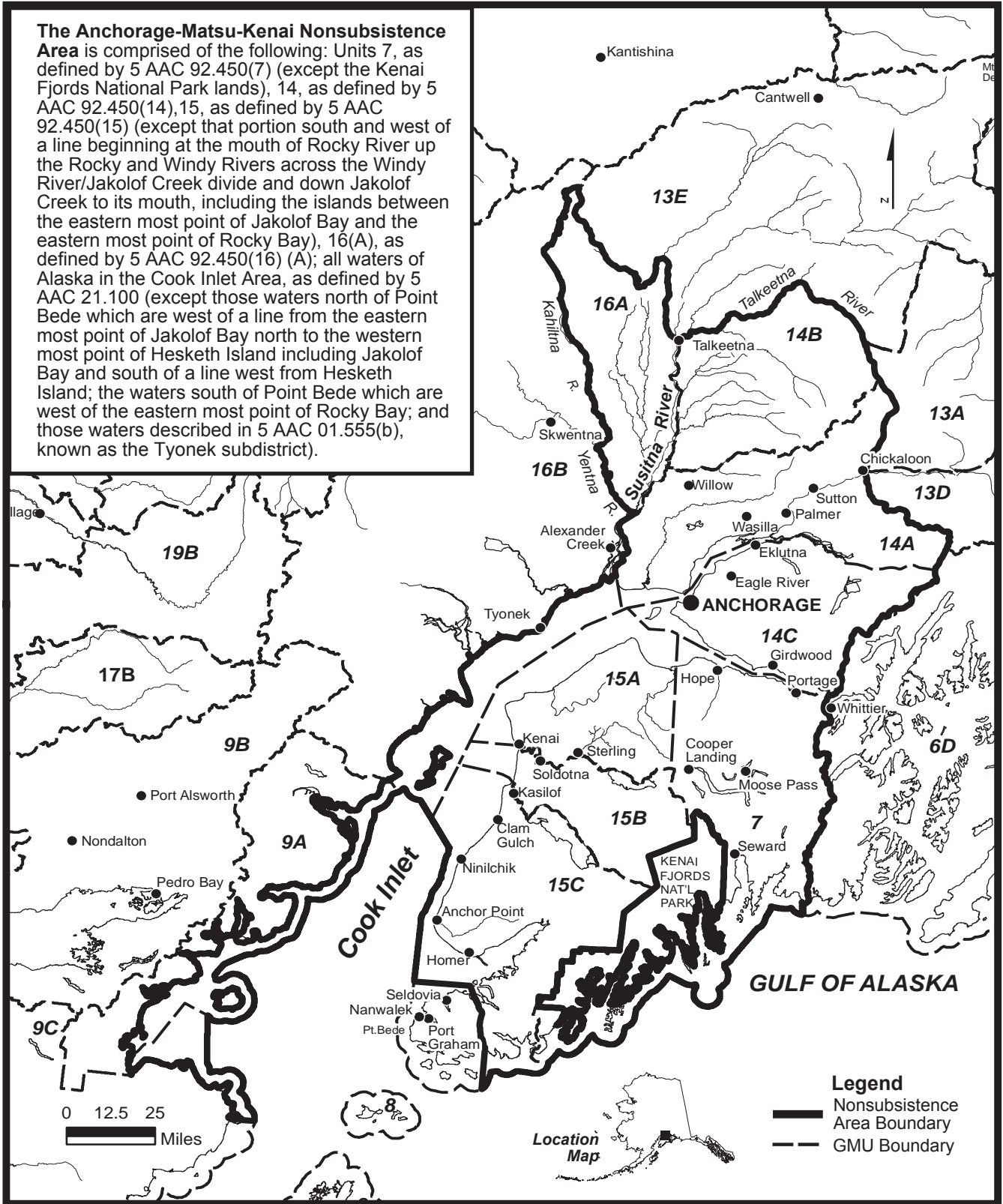
In addition to the definitions in AS 16.05.940 , in this chapter "road-connected area" means the location of domiciles that are normally accessed by motorized highway vehicles operating on constructed roads that connect to the main highway system in the relevant area, including roads that can be negotiated during all portions of the year; in this section, "normally accessed" means that it is reasonably feasible to transport persons, food, and other supplies to domiciles by motorized highway vehicles.

History: Eff. 7/31/87, Register 103

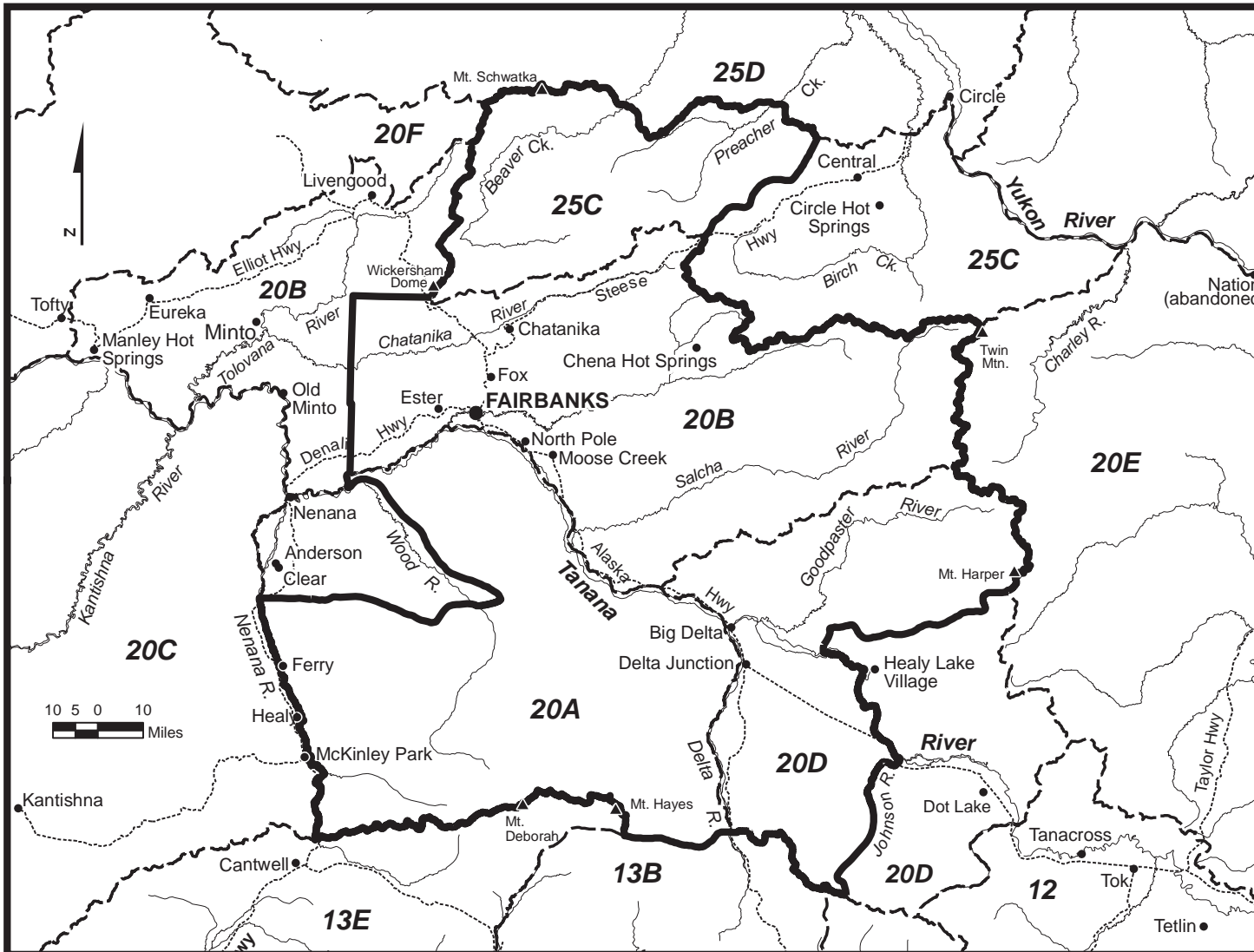
Authority: AS 16.05.258

Anchorage Nonsubsistence Area

The Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: Units 7, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(7) (except the Kenai Fjords National Park lands), 14, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(14), 15, as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(15) (except that portion south and west of a line beginning at the mouth of Rocky River up the Rocky and Windy Rivers across the Windy River/Jakolof Creek divide and down Jakolof Creek to its mouth, including the islands between the eastern most point of Jakolof Bay and the eastern most point of Rocky Bay), 16(A), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(16) (A); all waters of Alaska in the Cook Inlet Area, as defined by 5 AAC 21.100 (except those waters north of Point Bede which are west of a line from the eastern most point of Jakolof Bay north to the western most point of Hesketh Island including Jakolof Bay and south of a line west from Hesketh Island; the waters south of Point Bede which are west of the eastern most point of Rocky Bay; and those waters described in 5 AAC 01.555(b), known as the Tyonek subdistrict).



Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area



The Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 20(A), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (A), east of the Wood River drainage and south of the Rex Trail but including the upper Wood River drainage south of its confluence with Chicken Creek; within Unit 20(B), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (B), the North Star Borough and that portion of the Washington Creek drainage east of the Elliot Highway; within Unit 20(D) as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (D), west of the Tanana River between its confluence with the Johnson and Delta Rivers, west of the east bank of the Johnson River, and north and west of the Volkmar drainage, including the Goodpastor River drainage; and within Unit 25(C), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(25) (C), the Preacher and Beaver Creek drainages.

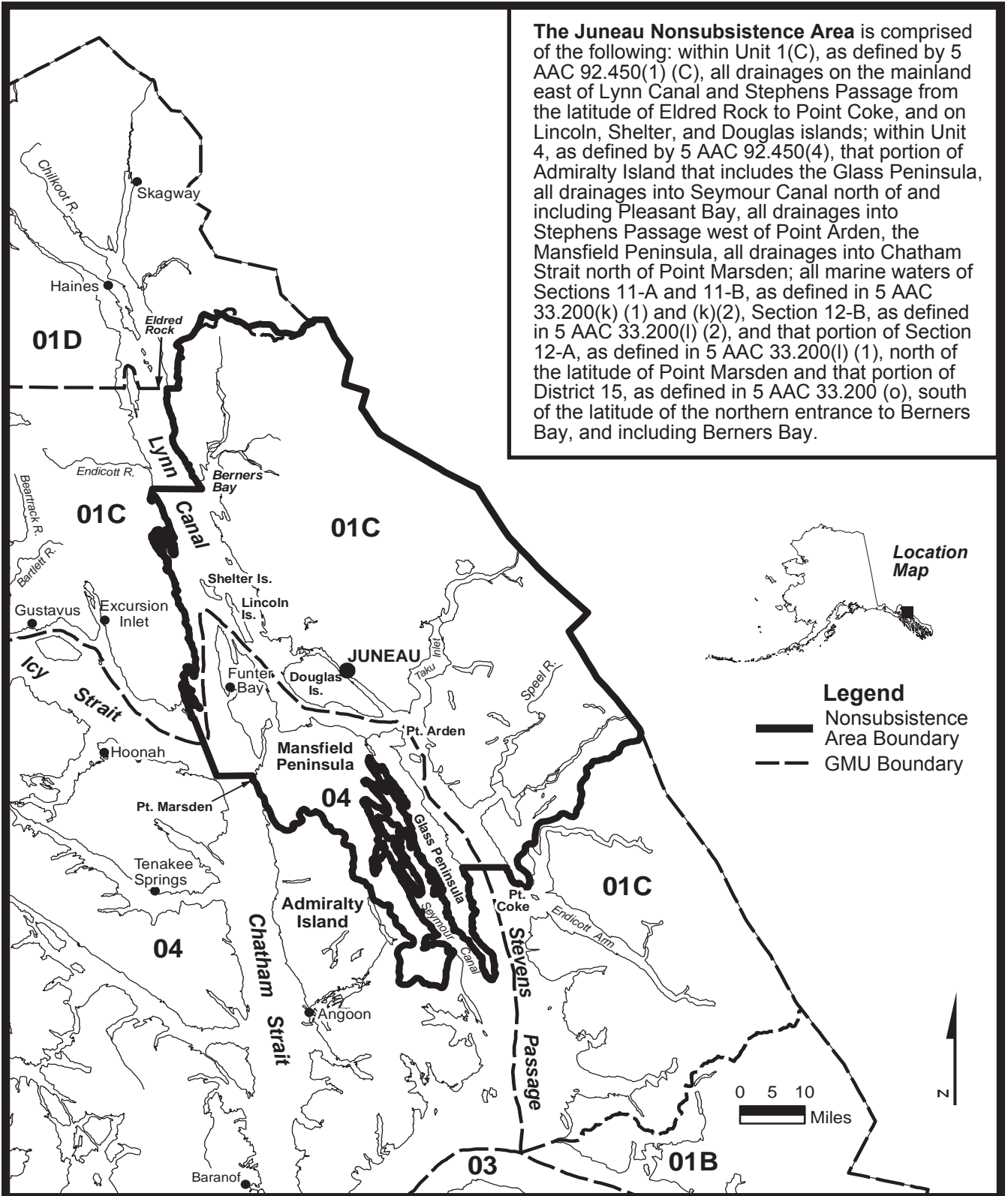


- Legend**
- Nonsubsistence Area Boundary
 - GMU Boundary
 - Roads

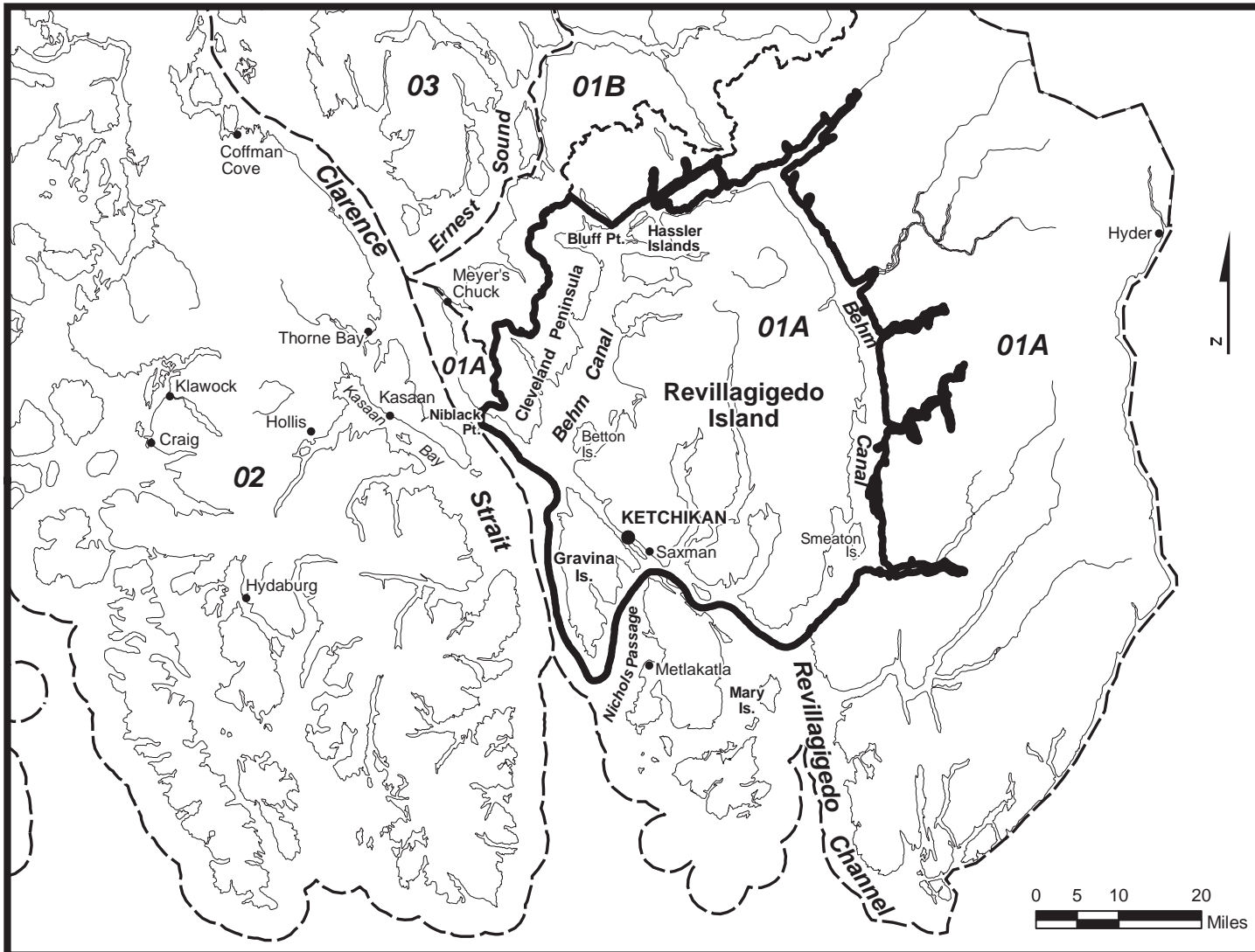


Juneau Nonsubsistence Area

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Ketchikan Nonsubsistence Area



The Ketchikan Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 1(A), as defined in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (A), all drainages of the Cleveland Peninsula between Niblack Point and Bluff Point, Revillagigedo, Gravina, Pennock, Smeaton, Bold, Betton, and Hassler Islands; all marine waters of Sections 1-C, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (3), 1-D, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (4), 1-E, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (5), that portion of Section 1-F, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(a) (6), north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Mary Island and within one mile of the mainland and the Gravina and Revillagigedo Island shorelines; and that portion of District 2, as defined by 5 AAC 33.200(b), within one mile of the Cleveland Peninsula shoreline and east of the longitude of Niblack Point.

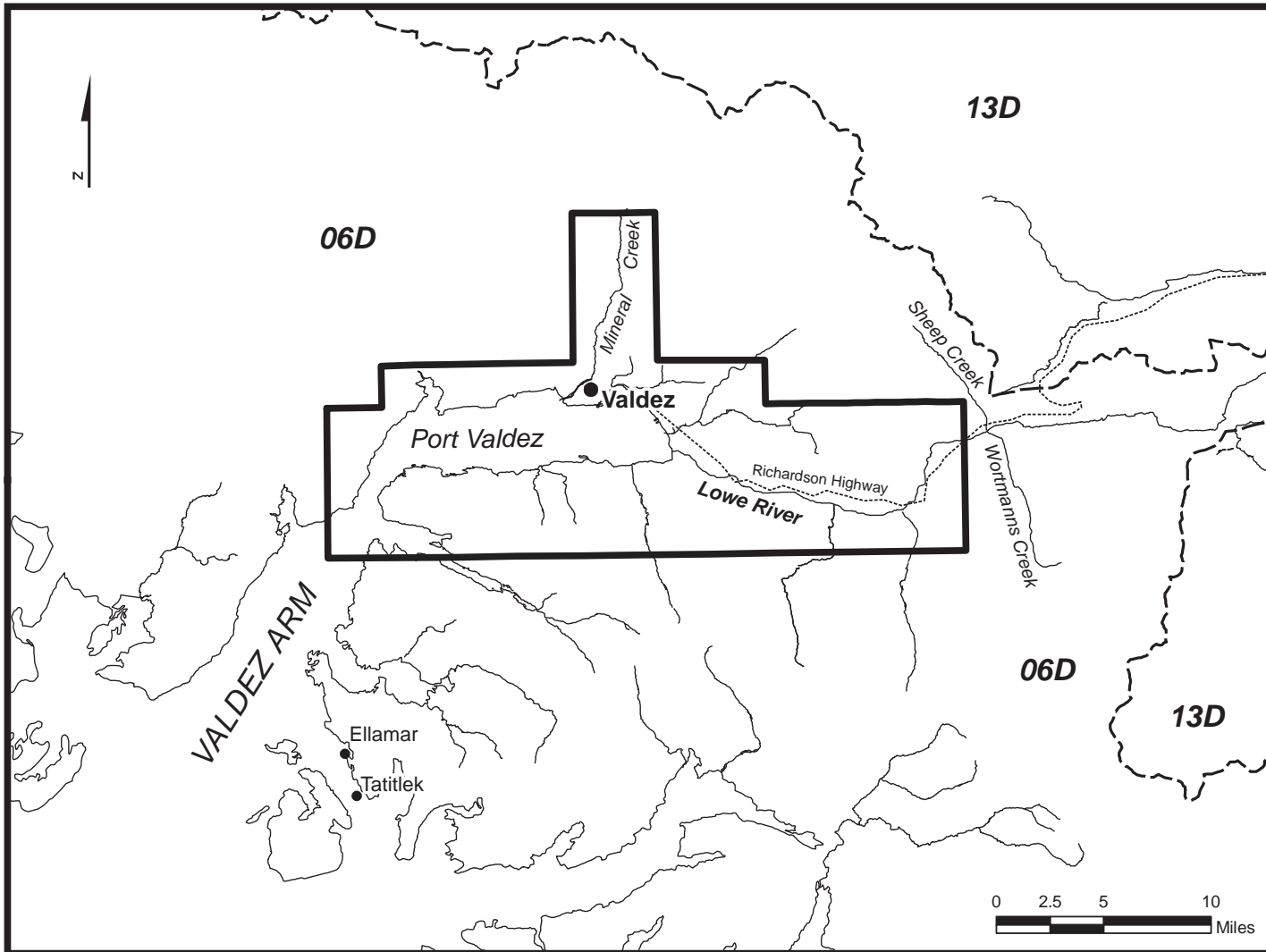


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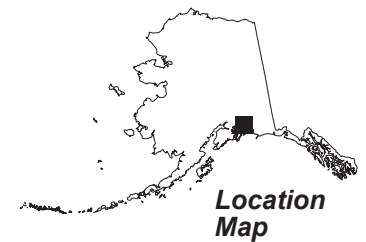
-  Nonsubsistence Area Boundary
-  GMU Boundary



Valdez Nonsubsistence Area



The Valdez Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 6(D), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(6) (D), and all waters of Alaska in the Prince William Sound Area as defined by 5 AAC 24.100, within the March 1993 Valdez City limits.



Legend

- Nonsubsistence Area Boundary
- - - GMU Boundary
- Roads



Steps When Considering Subsistence Uses and Proposals that Affect Subsistence Uses

1. Nonsubsistence Area Filter

Is the fish stock in the proposal in a nonsubsistence area? If all of the fish stock is in a nonsubsistence area, there is no need for the board to address subsistence uses—subsistence harvests are not allowed in a nonsubsistence area. If any portion of the fish stock is outside a nonsubsistence area, then the board goes to step 2.

2. Customary and Traditional Use Determination

The board determines if there is a customary and traditional use of the fish stock by applying the eight criteria (5 AAC 99.010), considering information about the use pattern. If there has been a previous positive finding, then this step is unnecessary, and the board goes to step 3. If there has been a previous negative finding, there is no need to address subsistence use further, unless the proposal is for reconsidering a negative finding. Also, the board may periodically reconsider previous customary and traditional use findings.

3. Harvestable Surplus Filter

Can a portion of the fish stock be harvested consistent with sustained yield, considering biological information? If there is no harvestable surplus, then the board authorizes no fishery on the stock, and there is no need to address subsistence uses further. If there is a harvestable surplus, then the board goes to step 4.

4. Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence

The board determines the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence uses, considering information about the subsistence use pattern. If there has been a previous determination on the amount, then the board goes to step 5. The board may periodically reconsider and update these determinations.

5. Sufficient Surplus for All or Some Uses

If the harvestable portion of the fish stock is sufficient for all consumptive uses, the board shall adopt regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses and for other (nonsubsistence) uses.

If the harvestable portion of the fish stock is sufficient to provide for subsistence uses and some, but not all, other consumptive uses, the board shall adopt regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses and may adopt regulations that provide for other uses.

6. Sufficient Surplus Only for Subsistence

If the harvestable portion of the fish stock is sufficient to provide for subsistence uses, but no other consumptive uses, the board shall adopt regulations that eliminate other consumptive uses in order to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses.

7. Subsistence Regulations and Reasonable Opportunity Finding

The board shall adopt subsistence regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses. When the board adopts subsistence regulations that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses, then adjustments to regulations governing nonsubsistence uses are not necessary. The board may adopt regulations providing for other uses as long as subsistence regulations are adopted that provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence. If there is a proposal to reduce subsistence opportunity, regulations must still provide a priority for

subsistence uses. If subsistence regulations do not provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses after eliminating all other uses, then the board goes to step 8.

8. Tier II Subsistence Regulations

If the harvestable surplus is not sufficient to provide a reasonable opportunity for all subsistence uses, the board adopts Tier II subsistence fishery regulations on the fish stock (cf., 5 AAC 92.062 for the procedures for game). Tier II regulations differentiate among subsistence users in order to provide opportunity to those most dependent on the resource and having the fewest alternatives other than that resource.

Prepared by: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence 01/03.