

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Central/Southwest

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January 21, 2016

An Agenda Change Request (ACR) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.121(b) Intensive Management Plan, Unit 13 wolf predation control area.

With respect to the board's ACR acceptance criteria:

- (A) The Department is unaware of any conservation concerns, however it is possible that some harvest opportunity may be lost if the program is not re-authorized.
- (B) The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- (C) The regulation in question was adopted prior to the board going to a 3-year meeting cycle. It was not anticipated that the regulation would expire on a date that is 2 years prior to the next regularly scheduled board meeting for Unit 13.

The department recommends that the board accept this ACR. Unit 13 is an important area for producing high levels of moose for human consumptive use and to help meet subsistence needs.

The Unit 13 IM program has been in place since 2001. During this time, the moose populations have generally increased, and moose hunting opportunities have been liberalized. The department recommends that this program continue with the goal of reaching the IM objectives established by the board.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for Unit 13 will not occur until 2018, and the department does not want to lose this valuable tool for managing wildlife.

Sincerely,

Bruce Dale, Director Division of Wildlife Conservation