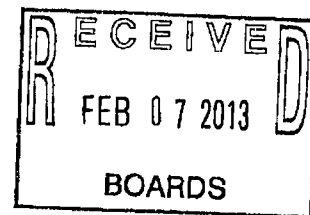


RC007

ATTN: Board of Game Comments  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526



January 31, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I write in *support* of Proposals 105 of and 86.

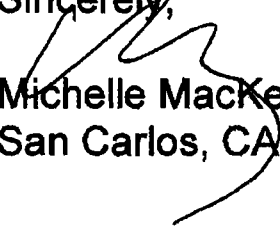
Proposal 105 would ban grizzly and black bear snaring in the Southwest and Central regions. First, bear snaring is an extremely controversial method of killing animals. Because bear snaring is indiscriminate, females with dependent cubs and cubs themselves are at risk. Indeed, bears have one of the lowest reproductive rates and it is for this reason modern scientific management principles discourage the harvest of females. Finally, living bears have a very high value as a tourism draw and a source of revenue. They are almost always cited as one of the "big three" species visitors come to Alaska to see. Our family is planning a trip to Alaska in the next two years and bears are definitely one of the big draws.

Proposal 86 would re-establish no-trapping buffer zones along Denali National Park, which would provide crucial protection for wolves that wander across the Park boundary in search of prey or mates. Wolf populations (and therefore viewing opportunities for tourists – an important source of revenue) have declined significantly in the Park due in part to trapping along the east and south Park boundary. Two or three recreational trappers targeting wolves habituated to the sight and smell of humans should not be allowed to negate

visitors' viewing opportunities (nor the millions of dollars they spend in the state).

Please vote in support of these two important economic and ecological measures.

Sincerely,

  
Michelle MacKenzie  
San Carlos, CA

