

**LAW OFFICE OF KNEELAND TAYLOR, P.C.**

425 "G" Street, Suite 610  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-276-6219 telephone  
907-258-7329 FAX  
e-mail: [kneelandtaylor@ak.net](mailto:kneelandtaylor@ak.net)

RC 043

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Board of Game  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811  
by FAX: 907-465-6094  
and e-mail: [dfg.bog@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.bog@alaska.gov)  
Re: Southcentral Region Meeting: March 13 - 17, 2015

To the Members of the Board of Game:

Please consider these comments at your meeting:

Proposals 178 and 179: Support. The identification of traps and snares with a numbering system will encourage those trappers who lack ethics to obey the regulations which apply to their trapping. In particular, identification will encourage the timely checking of traps so that trapped animals will not be wasted, and will encourage the removal of traps, and snares at the end of trapping seasons.

Proposals 180 and 181: Support. These proposals would establish set backs from identified roads and trails in areas of the Kenai Peninsula with high recreational value for hikers and skiers. I frequently visit these areas but stay away during trapping season because I have a small dog. It is irresponsible for a pet owner to take his dog out in these areas due to the substantial possibility of injury or death. As a practical matter, trapping close to trails closes those trails to me. That translates to loss of recreation for me, and loss of income to local lodge owners, and restaurants.

Of course, I could keep my dog on a short leash when hiking or skiing in the back country. But this is not fun, and it is an imposition that is unnecessary in light of the fact that trappers can easily place their traps at a reasonable distance from roads and trails. Opposition by trapping organizations to proposals such as these does not represent the views of the trappers I know: people who respect the interests of their fellow Alaskans.

Very truly yours,

