



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
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An Agenda Change Request (ACR 3) has been submitted by the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.450(21) Description of game management units. The proponent is asking the board to align the 21C and 21D GMU boundary to match current Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge's boundaries for their Refuge Designated Guide Use Areas.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- A. The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- B. The department is unaware of any effects of regulations that were unforeseen when the regulation was adopted.
- C. The department is unaware of a biological concern that is caused by existing regulations.
- D. The department is unaware of any unforeseen or unexpected events that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses as defined in AS 16.05.258(f).
- E. The department is unaware of any unexpected resource situation that would cause a biologically allowable resource harvest to be precluded by delayed regulatory action.

The existing boundary between 21C and 21D has been in place since 1980. The current extent of Unit 21C includes the Dulbi River upstream from and including Cottonwood Creek. This proposed change would move the Cottonwood Creek drainage into Unit 21D to match current refuge boundaries.

This proposal and related boundary have not been discussed in recent board meetings.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting for Game Management Unit regulations is during winter/spring of 2021/2022 and 2024/2025. If the board accepts this ACR, the department recommends the proposal come before the board at its March 2022 meeting in Fairbanks to allow for more public input.

Sincerely,

Ryan Scott

Ryan Scott
Assistant Director
Division of Wildlife Conservation