



## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

JULY 10 2024

FOREST SERVICE

In Reply Refer To  
OSM.A24081

Richard (Greg) Encelewski, Chair  
Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
c/o Office of Subsistence Management  
1011 E. Tudor Rd, M/S 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Chair Encelewski:

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) met on April 2-5, 2024, in Anchorage, AK to consider proposed changes to Federal subsistence management regulations for the harvest of wildlife on Federal Public Lands in Alaska and wildlife closure reviews. This letter is to provide a report on the actions taken by the Board on proposals and closure reviews affecting Federally qualified subsistence users.

Section 805(c) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) provides that the Board will accept the recommendations of a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council(s) (Council(s)) regarding take unless, (1) the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, (2) the recommendation violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife management, or (3) adopting the recommendation would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. When a Council(s)' recommendation is not adopted, the Board is required by Secretarial regulations to set forth the factual basis and reasons for the decision.

The Board acted on 36 proposals and 18 closure reviews during the 2024-26 wildlife regulatory cycle. The Board agreed with the recommendations of the Councils, in whole or with modifications, on 34 of 36 proposals. The Board deferred one proposal: WP24-01 until the August 2024 Board work session. The Board accepted the recommendations of the Councils on all the wildlife closure reviews, voting to maintain status quo on 15 of them. The Board also acted on fisheries request for reconsideration, RFR22-01, opposing the request.

Details of these actions and the Boards' deliberations are contained in the meeting transcriptions. Copies of the transcripts may be obtained by calling toll free number 1-800-478-1456 and are available online at the Federal Subsistence Management Program website, <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence>.

The Board uses a consensus agenda on those proposals where there is agreement among the affected Councils, a majority of the Interagency Staff Committee, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game concerning a proposed regulatory action. These proposals were deemed non-controversial and did not require a separate discussion. The consensus agenda contained 2 proposals and 4 closure reviews affecting the Southcentral Alaska Region, which the Board deferred to your Council's recommendations as follows: the Board *adopted* **WP24-08**, which established quarter mile trapping and hunting setbacks from wildlife crossing structures along the Sterling Highway, and the Board *rejected* **WP24-07**, which requested clarification of Federal trapping regulations that exempt federally qualified subsistence users from Municipality of Anchorage trapping closures in Unit 7 and 14C.

As for the four closure reviews on the consensus agenda, the Board voted to *rescind* **WCR24-41**, which reviewed the closure of Federal public lands in Unit 6C to the harvest of moose in November and December by non-federally qualified users, *retain status quo* on **WCR24-03**, which reviewed the closure of the Kings Bay area of Unit 7 to the harvest of moose by non-federally qualified users, *retain status quo* on **WCR24-35**, which reviewed the closure of the southeastern portion of Unit 12 to caribou hunting (Chisana Herd) by non-federally qualified users, and *retain status quo* on **WCR24-42**, which reviewed the closure of the southwestern portion of Unit 12 to caribou hunting (Mentasta Herd) by non-federally qualified users.

The remaining proposals affecting the Southcentral Alaska Region appeared on the non-consensus agenda. Board action on **WP24-01** and **WP24-09** differed from the Council's recommendations. The Board's actions on these proposals are explained in detail in the enclosed report.

The Board appreciates your Council's active involvement in and diligence with the regulatory process. The ten Councils continue to be the foundation of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and the stewardship shown by the Council chairs and their representatives at the Board meeting was noteworthy.

If you have any questions regarding the summary of the Board's actions, please contact Nissa Pilcher, Council Coordinator, at (907) 891-9054 or [nissa\\_pilcher@fws.gov](mailto:nissa_pilcher@fws.gov).

Sincerely,



Anthony Christianson, Chair  
Federal Subsistence Board

Enclosure: Federal Subsistence Board 2024 805c Report to Southcentral Alaska Regional Advisory Council

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council members  
Office of Subsistence Management

Interagency Staff Committee  
Administrative Record