NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN McNEIL RIVER AND WALRUS ISLANDS STATE GAME SANCTUARIES ACCESS PERMIT FEE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Department of Fish and Game proposes changes to regulations relating to fees for access permits to the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary and the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary.

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with fees for access permits to the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary and the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary:

- 5 AAC 93.030. Permit application procedures and fees for McNeil River State Game Sanctuary access permits, is proposed to be changed to update fees for access permits, which have not been updated since 2000, to offset operation and maintenance costs for the facility.
- **5 AAC 93.035. Fees for Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary access permits**, is proposed to be changed to update fees for access permits, which have not been updated since 1991, to offset operation and maintenance costs for the facility.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator, Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518. Additionally, the Department of Fish and Game will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 267-2859 and by electronic mail at joe.meehan@alaska.gov. The comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 19, 2018.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator, at Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, or by facsimile at (907) 267-2859, or by electronic mail at joe.meehan@alaska.gov. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Department of Fish and Game may, but is not required to, respond to written questions received after the 10-day cut-off date and before the end of the comment period. The Department of Fish and Game will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System (https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices) and the Department of Fish and Game website (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov).

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Joe Meehan at (907) 267-2281 or <u>joe.meehan@alaska.gov</u> no later than January 5, 2018, to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System (https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices) and by contacting Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator, at the mailing address, telephone number, or email address listed above.

After the public comment period ends, the Department of Fish and Game will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.05.050

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.05.050; AS 16.20.090; AS 16.20.092; AS 16.20.094; AS 16.20.160; AS 16.20.162

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: 12/11/17

Bruce Dale, Director

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Department of Fish and Game