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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Kari Winkel, Executive Director
Board of Game
Department of Fish and Game

FROM: April Simpson, Alaska Administrative Code Coordinator 
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

DATE: April 3, 2026

RE: Filed Permanent Regulations: Board of Game

Board of Game regulations re: Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management (5 AAC 92.111)

Attorney General File:	2025200331
Regulation Filed:	4/3/2026
Effective Date:	5/3/2026
Print:	258, July 2026

cc with enclosures: Beth Parsons, Paralegal
Department of Law

Lisa Gorman, Alaska Legal Analyst
LexisNexis



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

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April 3, 2026

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom
Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110015
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Re: Approval and Submission of Regulations for Filing
5 AAC 92.111: Board of Game, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation
Management Area
Our file: 2025200331

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

Pursuant to AS 44.62.060, the Department of Law has reviewed the enclosed regulations adopted by the Board of Game concerning intensive management and predator control in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area. The regulations concern changes to 5 AAC 92.111(c) initially adopted by the Board of Game at its July 15 – 16, 2025 meeting and subsequently readopted on March 25, 2026. The regulation changes expand the intensive management plan to incorporate black and brown bears into the existing predator control program for the area.

Our review examined each regulation for legality, existence of statutory authority, clarity, compliance with the Drafting Manual for Administrative Regulations, and conformance with the procedural requirements of AS 44.62.010 – 44.62.290. Based upon this review, the Department of Law approves each regulation. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to accept the regulations for filing.

In the course of review, the regulations attorney made technical and conforming changes under AS 44.62.125. The corrections are incorporated into the enclosed copy of the regulations. We have also enclosed a copy of a memorandum with instructions to the publisher that relate to court-ordered changes to 5 AAC 92.111(c) effective May 9, 2025.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. COX
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Chief Assistant Attorney General
Legislation, Regulations, and
Legislative Research Section

Digitally signed by
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Date: 2026.04.03
10:57:24 -08'00'

RCP/AHR/bhp

Enclosures: Two

CC w/enclosures: Kari Winkel, Executive Director
Board of Game
Department of Fish and Game

Arthur N. Nelson, Executive Director
Board of Fisheries
Department of Fish and Game

Ryan Scott, Division Director
Department of Fish and Game

Natalie Weber, Program Coordinator
Department of Fish and Game

Kimberly Del Frate, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

Amy H. Robinson, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO
REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

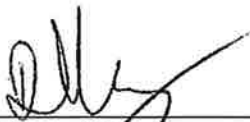
The attached 3 pages of regulations, dealing with the use and taking of game in Game Management Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, and 19B, are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Board of Game readopted on March 25, 2026, under the authority of AS 16.05.255 after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

On the record on July 14-15, 2025, in considering public comments, the Alaska Board of Game paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

Date: 3/27/26



Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game

April Simpson for

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on April 3, 2026 at 11:07 a.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.


for Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor

Effective: May 3, 2026.

Register: 258, July 2026.

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

I, NANCY DAHLSTROM, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:

April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed and affixed the Seal of the State of Alaska, in Juneau, on May 15th, 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Dahlstrom", is written over a horizontal dotted line.

**NANCY DAHLSTROM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Title 5. Fish and Game.

Part 3. Game.

Chapter 92. Statewide Provisions.

Article 5. Intensive Management and Predator Control.

5 AAC 92.111(c)(1) is amended to read:

(1) this is a continuing control program that was first established by the Board of Game (board) in 2011 for wolf control that was expanded in 2026 to include black and brown bear control; it is designed to increase the caribou herd's population size and human harvest by reducing wolf and bear predation on caribou and is expected to make a contribution to achieving the IM objectives for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 92.111(c)(2) is amended to read:

(2) caribou, black bear, brown bear, and wolf objectives are as follows:

...

5 AAC 92.111(c)(2) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(D) the black bear and brown bear population objective for the MCH Predation Management Area is to annually reduce the number of bears in the predator control areas to a level that results in increased calf survival and recruitment while maintaining the viability of the bear population;

5 AAC 92.111(c)(3) is amended by adding new subparagraphs to read:

(G) bears are a major predator of caribou in the range of the MCH and are an important factor in failing to achieve caribou population and harvest objectives;

(H) a reduction of bear predation in certain areas such as calving areas can reasonably be expected to aid in achieving the objectives;

(I) reducing bear predation is likely to be effective and feasible using recognized and prudent active management techniques and based on scientific information;

(J) reducing bear predation is likely to be effective given land ownership patterns;

(K) reducing bear predation is in the best interests of subsistence users;

5 AAC 92.111(c)(4)(A) is amended to read:

(A) hunting and trapping of wolves **and bears** by the public in the MCH Predation Management Area during the term of the program will occur as provided in the hunting and trapping regulations set out elsewhere in this title, including the use of motorized vehicles as provided in 5 AAC 92.080;

5 AAC 92.111(c)(4)(C) is amended to read:

(C) notwithstanding any other provisions in this title, the commissioner may allow department employees to conduct aerial, land-and-shoot, or ground-based lethal removal of wolves, **black bears, and brown bears** using state-owned, privately-owned, or chartered equipment, including helicopters, under AS 16.05.783;

5 AAC 92.111(c)(5)(A) is amended to read:

(A) through **June 30** [JULY 1], 2028, the commissioner may authorize the removal of **bears and** wolves in the MCH Predation Management Area;

5 AAC 92.111(c)(6) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(G) if, after three years, the harvest of bears is not sufficient to make progress towards the IM population objectives for bears. (Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 8/18/95, Register 135; am 7/1/96, Register 138; add'l am 7/1/96, Register 138; am 7/27/97, Register 143; am 2/22/2000, Register 153; am 7/1/2000, Register 154; am 7/19/2000, Register 155; am 1/3/2001, Register 156; am 7/1/2001, Register 158; am 8/22/2001, Register 159; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 7/1/2004, Register 170; am 1/1/2005, Register 172; am 7/1/2005, Register 174; am 1/26/2006, Register 177; am 6/24/2006, Register 178; am 9/1/2006, Register 179; am 7/1/2007, Register 182; am 3/21/2008, Register 186; am 5/20/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2009, Register 190; am 7/1/2009, Register 190; am 5/16/2010, Register 194; am 7/1/2010, Register 194; add'l am 7/1/2010, Register 194; am 12/15/2010, Register 196; am 1/29/2011, Register 197; am 5/14/2011, Register 198; am 7/1/2011, Register 198; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 4/1/2012, Register 201; am 7/1/2012, Register 202; am 7/1/2013, Register 206; am 7/1/2017, Register 222; am 6/23/2022, Register 242; am 5 / 3 / 2026, Register 258)

Authority: AS 16.05.255 AS 16.05.270 **AS 16.05.783**
AS 16.05.258