

Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish & Game Advisory Committees

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Central	Middle Nenana River
Delta	Middle Yukon River
Eagle	Minto-Nenana
Fairbanks	Ruby
GASH	Stony Holitna
Koyukuk River	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
Lake Minchumina	Upper Tanana Fortymile
McGrath	Yukon Flats

July 2, 2026

To: Alaska Board of Game

Re: Proposal 4 – Special July 2026 Meeting

Dear Chair Fletcher and members of the board,

The Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee held a special online meeting to consider the Department proposals for the July 2026 special meeting as requested. Our meeting began at 5:30pm on June 24 with over thirty participants. A quorum of the FAC participated and voted. We were unanimously opposed to designating a no-hunting and no-trapping corridor (and no-fishing corridor, according to the MOU) along the proposed Ambler Road project.

Most of the participants reviewed the MOU between the project managers and the agencies. In our opinion the Department drafting this proposal and its distribution for advisory committee and public comment satisfies the coordination requirements stated in the MOU.

After a lengthy discussion the Fairbanks AC recommends that the Board of Game “take no action” on this proposal for the following reasons.

The present practices and regulations used by the few local hunters and visitors do not cause any unsafe conditions for anyone in the Ambler Road corridor. There should not be an assumption that would change during construction and operation of a new road. At present there is some access by water and by aircraft. Hopefully the State does not propose to close those methods?

Fully controlled vehicle access will be in place at a gate near the junction of the Dalton Highway and the Ambler Road junction of the Ambler Road and the Dalton Highway. No non-approved traffic will be allowed, and 24-hour security will be in place. We recommend the “control” be at the western edge of the Dalton Hwy utility corridor to not “close” state lands unnecessarily. The contractors and developers of the Ambler Road can easily require their employees and supporting services employees from hunting, trapping and/or fishing with a no tolerance policy (similar to those used in the early TAPS construction).

Because any road user not authorized by project management will not be allowed beyond the security check point there will be no legal opportunity for the public to hunt, fish or trap along the corridor. It is our understanding that spur roads may connect communities and developments like mines and villages. The Board of Game should ask if there is a plan to designate a corridor

closure around those accesses also. We would oppose any closure that would prevent local hunters from using their privately owned lands.

If the Board seriously considers this proposal as drafted, they should remove the last line. They don't have to remind users to avoid areas not open for hunting, fishing, etc.

Finally, no Board of Game regulation can prevent someone from intentionally disregarding a closure like the one requested in this proposal without the risk of significant criminal punishment. Board action is simply not needed.

Sincerely,
Levi Lewellyn – Chairman