

# General Provisions



Timothy Sanner, age 16, Pedro Bay

## Licenses, Permits, Tags, and Harvest Tickets and Reports

Subsistence hunters and trappers are required to possess State hunting and trapping licenses. Subsistence hunters are also required to possess and comply with the provisions of any permits, tags, or harvest tickets required by the State, unless superseded by Federal regulations. For example, use of State resident brown bear tags are required, unless superseded in Unit-specific provisions (see “Information for All Bear Hunters” on page 20). Harvest tickets, tags, and permits must be validated by subsistence hunters, including designated hunters, before the kill is removed from the harvest site.

Subsistence hunters must report their harvests on harvest ticket or permit report forms or other reporting systems established by the State or the Federal Subsistence Board.

If a permit requires you to return harvest information necessary for management and conservation purposes, and you fail to comply with such reporting requirements, you are ineligible to receive a subsistence permit for that activity during the following regulatory year (unless you demonstrate that failure to report was due to loss in the mail, accident, sickness, or other unavoidable circumstances).

## Methods of Taking Wildlife

During open seasons listed in this book, eligible subsistence users may take wildlife by any method, *except* those listed below and as shown in unit-specific special provisions.

### *Subsistence Restrictions*

When taking wildlife for subsistence purposes, you may **not**:

- Harvest wildlife during a closed season or in an area closed to subsistence taking.
- Shoot from, on, or across a highway.
- Use any poison.
- Use an aircraft to harass wildlife.
- Use a helicopter in any manner, including transporting people, equipment or wildlife, except during an emergency rescue operation in a life-threatening situation.
- Take wildlife from a motorized vehicle when moving, or from a motor-driven boat when the boat’s progress from the motor’s power has not ceased. You may take caribou from a boat under power in Units 23, 25, and 26 (and moose from a boat under power in Unit 25).

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- Take or assist in the taking of an ungulate, bear, wolf, wolverine, or other furbearer before 3:00 a.m. following the day in which airborne travel occurred (except for flights in regularly scheduled commercial aircraft). This restriction does not apply to subsistence taking of deer (except within NPS areas), the setting of snares or traps, or the removal of furbearers from traps or snares.
- Use a motorized vehicle to drive, herd, or molest wildlife.
- Take an ungulate, bear, wolf, or wolverine from a boat in Units 1, 2, 3 and 5; or bear, wolf or wolverine in Unit 4; except for persons certified as disabled.
- Use (or be aided by use of) a machine gun, set gun, or shotgun larger than 10-gauge.
- Use a firearm other than a shotgun, muzzle-loaded rifle, rifle or pistol using center-firing cartridges, for the taking of an ungulate, bear, wolf or wolverine, except that:
  - You may take swimming caribou with a firearm using rimfire cartridges in Units 23 and 26.
  - A muzzle-loading rifle must be .54-caliber or larger, or .45-caliber with a 250-grain or larger elongated slug to take brown bear, black bear, elk, moose, muskox and mountain goat.
- Take wildlife with the aid of a pit, fire, artificial light, radio communication, artificial salt lick, explosive, barbed arrow, bomb, smoke, chemical, conventional steel trap with a jaw spread over nine inches, or conibear style trap with a jaw spread over 11 inches, except coyote may be taken in Units 6B and 6C with the aid of artificial lights.
- Use of nets and snares. However, you may use nets and snares under a hunting license to take unclassified wildlife, ptarmigan, grouse, or hare; or you may use snares under a trapping license to take furbearers.
- Use a trap to take an ungulate or bear.
- Use hooks to physically snag, impale or otherwise take wildlife; however, hooks may be used as a trap drag.
- Use a crossbow in any area restricted to hunting by bow and arrow only, to take an ungulate, bear, wolf or wolverine.
- Take an ungulate, bear, wolf, or wolverine with a bow, unless the bow is capable of casting a 7/8 inch wide broadhead-tipped arrow at least 175 yards horizontally, and the arrow and broadhead together weigh at least one ounce (437.5 grains).
- Take a swimming ungulate, bear, wolf or wolverine; except in Units 23 and 26, where you may take swimming caribou with a firearm using rimfire cartridges.
- Take a bear cub, or a sow accompanied by cub(s).
- Use bait for taking an ungulate, bear, wolf, or wolverine; except for black bear when authorized in Unit-specific hunting regulations and under a hunting license. You may use bait to take wolf and wolverine if you have a trapping license.

## Possession and Transportation of Wildlife

No person may possess, transport, give, receive or barter wildlife that was taken in violation of Federal or State law.

## Harvest Limits

- You may not take a species of wildlife in any unit (or portion of any unit) if you have already reached your harvest limit for that species anywhere in the State under Federal and/or State regulations (and your take equals or exceeds the harvest limit in that unit).
- Federal subsistence lynx hunting and trapping seasons and harvest and possession limits in Units 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20A, 20B, 20C east of the Teklanika River, 20D, and 20E are adjusted annually based on the ADF&G Lynx Harvest Management Strategy. **The Federal subsistence wolverine trapping season in Unit 11 is adjusted annually.** Changes are posted on the Office of Subsistence Management website, by public notice, and are published in the Federal Register.

## Individual Harvest Limits

- Harvest limits may not be accumulated, including those related to ceremonial uses, as specified in Federal and State of Alaska regulations.
- Wildlife taken by a designated hunter for another person counts toward the person's harvest limit for whom the wildlife is taken.
- Trapping and hunting harvest limits for the same species are separate and distinct. This means that a person who has taken a harvest limit for a particular species under a trapping season, may take additional animals under the hunting season harvest limit, or vice versa.
- You may not take more than one brown/grizzly bear in any regulatory year. A brown/grizzly bear taken in a unit (or portion of a unit) having a harvest limit of "one brown/grizzly bear per year" counts against the "one brown/grizzly bear every four regulatory years" harvest limit in other units. (See "Information for All Bear Hunters" on page 20)
- A harvest limit applies to the number of animals that you can take during a regulatory year. For grouse, ptarmigan, and caribou (in some Units), harvest limits

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are regulated by the number that may be taken per day. Harvest limits of grouse and ptarmigan are also regulated by the number that can be held in possession.

## Community Harvest Limits

- An animal taken under Federal or State regulations by any member of a community with an established community harvest limit for that species counts toward the community harvest limit for that species. An animal taken by an individual as part of a community harvest limit counts toward every community member's harvest limit for that species taken under Federal or State regulations, except for wildlife taken under permit for special purposes, including ceremonies and potlatches.

## Transferring Wildlife

When requested by a Federal or State agent, any person who gives or receives wildlife shall furnish the agent with a signed statement describing:

1. **Full names/addresses** of persons who gave and received the wildlife.
2. **Time/place** the wildlife was taken.
3. **Species** transferred.

*Note:* Designated hunters or recipients (see below) can furnish the agent with a designated hunter permit instead of a signed statement.

## Designated Hunter

If you are a Federally qualified subsistence user (recipient), you may designate another Federally qualified subsistence user (designated hunter) to take deer, moose and caribou on your behalf. Designated hunters may hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more than two harvest limits in possession at any one time except where specified under Unit-specific provisions. Any designated hunter taking wildlife on behalf of another rural Alaska resident shall deliver the wildlife promptly to that rural Alaska resident.

**Permit required**—The designated hunter must get a designated hunter permit and return a completed harvest report.

Designated hunters may not charge the recipient for their services, nor claim the meat or any part of the harvested wildlife for themselves.

**Community harvest system**—These designated hunter requirements may change if you are a member of a community operating under a community harvest system.

Unit-specific regulations may preclude or change the use of the designated hunter system or allow the harvest of additional species by a designated hunter.

## Harvesting Marked, Tagged, or Collared Wildlife

If you take an animal that has been marked or tagged for scientific studies, you must notify ADF&G or the agency identified on the collar or marker (within a reasonable amount of time) when and where the animal was taken. You must retain any ear tag, collar, radio, tattoo or other identification with the hide until it is sealed, if sealing is required. In all cases, you must return any identification equipment to the ADF&G or to the agency identified on such equipment.

## Evidence of Sex and Identity

- **Ungulate**—If the subsistence taking of an ungulate, except as shown below, is restricted to one sex in the local area, you may not possess or transport the carcass of an animal taken in that area unless sufficient portions of the external sex organs remain attached to show conclusively the sex of the animal.
  - This does not apply to the carcass of an ungulate that has been butchered and placed in storage or otherwise prepared for consumption upon arrival at the location where it is to be consumed.
- **Dall Sheep**—If the subsistence take of Dall sheep is restricted to a ram, no person may possess or transport a harvested sheep unless both horns accompany the animal.
- **Deer**—For Units 1–5 only, antlers are also considered proof of sex for deer if the antlers are naturally attached to an entire carcass, with or without the viscera.
- **Moose**—For moose only in Units 11, 13, 19, 21 and 24, you may possess either sufficient portions of the external sex organs (still attached to a portion of the carcass) or the head (with or without antlers attached). However, the antler stumps of a bull must remain attached to indicate the sex.
- If a moose harvest limit includes an antlered bull, antler size or configuration restriction, you may not possess or transport the moose carcass or its parts unless both antlers accompany the carcass or its parts. The antlers must accompany the final load of meat. A person possessing a set of antlers with less than the required number of brow tines on one antler shall leave the antlers naturally attached to the unbroken, uncut skull plate. This does not apply to a moose

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carcass or its parts that have been butchered, prepared for consumption, and placed in storage after arrival at the place where the meat will be stored or consumed.

## Sealing of Beaver, Lynx, Marten, Otter, Wolf, and Wolverine

- No person may possess or transport from Alaska the untanned skin of a marten taken in Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13E, 14, 15, and 16 or the untanned skin of a beaver, lynx, otter, wolf, or wolverine, whether taken inside or outside the State, unless the skin has been sealed by an authorized representative. In Unit 18, you must get an ADF&G seal for beaver skins only if they are sold or commercially tanned.
- A person who takes a marten, lynx, beaver, otter, wolf or wolverine and is unable to present the skin in person must complete and sign a temporary sealing form and then ensure that the completed temporary sealing form and skin are presented to an authorized representative of ADF&G for sealing as required above.
- Any wolf taken in Unit 2 must be sealed within 30 days of harvest.

## Use of Wildlife

### *Bait or Food for Dogs*

You may not use wildlife for bait, or as food for dogs, except for the following:

- The hide, skin, viscera, head, or bones of wildlife.
- The skinned carcass of a furbearer.
- Squirrels, hare, grouse and ptarmigan; however, the breast meat of grouse and ptarmigan may not be used as animal food or bait.
- Unclassified wildlife.

### *Salvaged Parts for Human Use*

Any person taking wildlife for subsistence uses must salvage the following parts for human use:

- The hide of a wolf, wolverine, coyote, fox, lynx, marten, mink, weasel or otter.
- The hide, skull, and edible meat of a brown bear. However, the hide and skull of brown bear taken in Units 5, 9B, 17, 18, portions of 19A and 19B (downstream of and including the Aniak River drainage), 21D, 22, 23, 24 and 26A does not need to be salvaged.
- The hide, skull, and edible meat of a black bear.
- The hide or meat of squirrel, hare, marmot, beaver, muskrat, or unclassified wildlife.

- Failure to salvage edible meat of an ungulate, bear, grouse, or ptarmigan is prohibited.
- Failure to salvage the edible meat may not be a violation if such failure is caused by circumstances beyond the control of a person, including theft of the harvested wildlife, unanticipated weather conditions, or unavoidable loss to another animal.

## *Sales and Handicrafts*

You may not sell fish or wildlife or their parts taken under these regulations, except as provided below:

- Raw Fur and Pelts from Furbearers—You may sell the raw fur or tanned pelt from a legally harvested furbearer, with or without claws attached.
- Antlers, horns, hides, and capes—You may sell the horns and antlers not attached to any part of the skull from legally harvested goat, sheep, deer, elk, caribou (except caribou harvested in Unit 23), moose, or muskox. You may sell the tanned and raw/untanned hide or capes from a legally-harvested deer, elk, goat, sheep, caribou, muskox, and moose.
- Handicrafts made with nonedible byproducts from:

### **Bears**

- You may sell handicraft articles made from the skin, hide, pelt, or fur of a black bear (including claws). In Units 1–5, you may sell handicraft articles made from the skin, hide, pelt, fur, claws, bones, teeth, sinew, or skulls of a black bear taken in Units 1, 2, 3 or 5. (See “Information for All Bear Hunters” on page 20).
- You may sell handicraft articles made from the skin, hide, pelt, or fur of a brown bear (including claws) taken from Units 1–5, 9A–C, 9E, 12, 17, 20, 23, 24B (only that portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park) 25 and 26.
- In Units 1–5, you may sell handicraft articles made from the skin, hide, pelt, fur, claws, bones, teeth, sinew, or skulls of a brown bear taken in Units 1, 4 or 5. (See “Information for All Bear Hunters” on page 20).

### **Other Wildlife**

- You may sell handicraft articles made from nonedible byproducts of wildlife harvested for subsistence uses (excluding bear) to include; skin, hide, pelt, fur, claws, bones (except skulls of moose, caribou, elk, deer, sheep, goat and muskox), teeth, sinew, antlers and/or horns (if not attached to any part of the skull or made to represent a big game trophy) and hooves.

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- The sale of handicrafts made from the nonedible byproducts of wildlife, as listed above, may not constitute a significant commercial enterprise.

## Defense of Life and Property

Wildlife taken in defense of life or property are the property of the State and are not for subsistence use. A person taking wildlife in defense of life or property is required to immediately salvage the meat, or, in the case of a black bear, wolf, wolverine or coyote, the hide, and immediately surrender it to the State.

- In the case of brown or grizzly bear, the hide and skull must be salvaged and surrendered to the State immediately. All bear hides surrendered must include claws.
- The person taking the wildlife must immediately notify the ADF&G of the taking, and must also submit a written report of the circumstances of the taking of wildlife in defense of life or property to the ADF&G within fifteen days of the taking.

## Harvest of Wildlife for Funerary/Mortuary Ceremonies

You may take wildlife outside of established season or harvest limits for food in traditional religious ceremonies that are part of a funerary or mortuary cycle, including memorial potlatches, under the following provisions:

- The harvest does not violate recognized principles of wildlife conservation and uses the methods allowable for the particular species published in the applicable Federal regulations. The appropriate Federal land manager will establish the number, species, sex, or location of harvest, if necessary, for conservation purposes. Other regulations relating to ceremonial harvest may be found in the Unit-specific regulations.
- No permit or harvest ticket is required for harvesting under this section; however, the harvester must be a Federally qualified subsistence user with a positive customary and traditional use determination in the area where the harvesting will occur.

In all Units (except for Koyukon/Gwich'in potlatch ceremonies in Units 20F, 21, 24, or 25):

- A tribal chief, village or tribal council president, or the chief's or president's designee for the village in which the religious ceremony will be held, or a Federally qualified subsistence user outside of a village or tribal-organized ceremony, must notify the nearest Federal land manager that a wildlife harvest will take place. The notification must include the species, harvest location, and number of animals expected to be taken.

- Immediately after the wildlife is taken, the tribal chief, village or tribal council president or designee, or Federally qualified subsistence user, must create a list of the successful hunters and maintain these records including the name of the decedent for whom the ceremony will be held. If requested, this information must be available to an authorized representative of the Federal land manager.
- The tribal chief, village or tribal council president or designee, or Federally qualified subsistence user outside of the village in which the religious/cultural ceremony will be held, must report to the Federal land manager the harvest location, species, sex, and number of animals taken as soon as practicable, but not more than 15 days after the wildlife is taken.

In Units 20F, 21, 24, and 25 (for Koyukon/Gwich'in potlatch ceremonies only):

- Taking wildlife outside of established season and harvest limits is authorized if it is for food for the traditional Koyukon/Gwich'in funerary or mortuary ceremony and if it is consistent with conservation of healthy populations.
- Immediately after the wildlife is taken, the tribal chief, village or tribal council president or the chief's or president's designee for the village in which the religious ceremony will be held, must create a list of the successful hunters and maintain these records. The list must be made available, after the harvest is completed, to a Federal land manager upon request.
- The tribal chief, village or tribal council president or designee must report to the Federal land manager, as soon as practical, but not more than 15 days after the harvest, of the harvest location, species, sex, and number of animals taken.

## Information for All Bear Hunters

### *Sealing of Bear Skins and Skulls*

- Sealing requirements apply to brown bear taken in all Units (except as specified below) and black bear of all color phases taken in all Units except Units 8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.
- You may not possess or transport from Alaska the untanned skin or skull of a bear, unless an authorized ADF&G representative has sealed the skin and skull within 30 days of taking, in accordance with State regulations. You must keep the bear skin and skull together until they are sealed. However, you do not need to seal the skin and skull of a brown bear taken under a registration permit in Units 5, 9B, 9E, 17, 18, portions of 19A and 19B (downstream of and including the Aniak River drainage), 21D, 22 (except 22C), 23

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(except the Baldwin Peninsula north of the Arctic Circle), 24, and 26A, unless you remove the skin and skull from these areas.

- In areas where sealing is required by Federal regulations, no person may possess or transport the hide of a bear which does not have the penis sheath or vaginal orifice naturally attached to indicate conclusively the sex of the bear.
- If the skin or skull of a brown bear taken in Units 9B, 17, 18, portions of 19A and 19B (downstream of and including the Aniak River drainage) is removed from the area, it must first be sealed by an ADF&G representative in Bethel, Dillingham, or McGrath. At the time of sealing, the ADF&G representative shall remove and retain the skin of the skull and front claws of the bear.
- If you remove the skin or skull of a brown bear taken in Unit 9E from Unit 9, you must first have it sealed by an authorized sealing representative. At the time of sealing, the representative shall remove and retain the skin of the skull and front claws of the bear.
- If the skin or skull of a brown bear taken in Units 21D, 22 (except 22C), portions of 23 (except the Baldwin Peninsula north of the Arctic Circle), 24, and 26A is removed from the area or sent for commercial tanning within the management area, it must be first be sealed by an ADF&G representative in Barrow, Galena, Kotzebue, or Nome. At the time of sealing, the ADF&G representative shall remove and retain the skin of the skull and front claws of the bear.
- If the skin or skull of a brown bear taken in Unit 5 is removed from the area, it must first be sealed by an ADF&G representative in Yakutat.
- You may not falsify any information required on the sealing certificate or temporary sealing form provided by the ADF&G.

## *Subsistence Restrictions for Baiting of Black Bear*

- No person may establish a black bear bait station unless they first register their site with ADF&G.
- A person using bait shall clearly mark the site with a sign reading BLACK BEAR BAIT STATION. The sign should display the person's hunting license number and their ADF&G assigned number.
- You may only use biodegradable materials for bait. Only the head, bones, viscera, or skin of legally-harvested fish and wildlife may be used for bait.
- No person may use bait within one-quarter mile of a publicly maintained road or trail.
- No person may use bait within one mile of a house (or other permanent dwelling), campground, or developed recreational facility.

- When hunting is completed, a person using bait shall remove all litter and equipment from the bait station site.
- No person may give or receive payment for the use of a bait station, including barter or exchange of goods.
- At any one time, no person may have more than two bait stations with bait present.

## *Other Bear Regulations*

- You may not take a bear cub, or a sow accompanied by cub(s) (see "Methods of Taking Wildlife" on page 16)
- Failure to salvage meat of a bear is prohibited (see "Use of wildlife" on page 19).
- Bear killed in defense of life or property must be skinned and the hide (with claws) turned over to the State. In the case of a brown bear, the skull must also be turned over to the ADF&G representative (see "Defense of Life and Property" on page 20).
- You may not take a swimming bear (see "Methods of Taking Wildlife" on page 16).
- You may not take a bear from a boat in Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 unless you are certified as disabled. (See "Methods of Taking Wildlife" on page 16).
- In Unit 4, five Federal registration permits will be issued for the taking of brown bear for educational purposes.

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## Brown Bear Permit and Tag Requirements

UNIT OR PORTION	REQUIREMENTS		
	STATE Registration Permit	FEDERAL Registration Permit	State Locking Tag
Unit 1	Yes	No	Yes
Unit 4	Yes	No	Yes
Unit 5	No	Yes	No – Federal exempt
Unit 8	No	Yes	Yes
Unit 9B, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve	No	Yes	No – Federal exempt
Unit 9B remainder	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 9E	No	Yes	No – Federal exempt
Unit 11	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 12	No	No	Yes
Unit 13	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 15C	No	Yes	Yes
Unit 17	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 18	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Units 19A and 19B, those portions downstream of (and including) the Aniak River drainage	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Units 19A and 19B remainder	No	No	Yes
Unit 19D	No	No	No – State exempt
Units 20A, 20B, 20C, and 20E remainder	No	No	Yes
Unit 20D	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 20E, outside Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 21A	No	No	Yes
Unit 21B	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 21C	No	No	Yes
Unit 21D	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 21E	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 22	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 23	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 24	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Units 25A and 25B	No	No	Yes
Unit 25C	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 25D	No	No	No – State exempt
Unit 26A	Yes	No	No – State exempt
Unit 26 remainder	No	No	Yes

*For more information, contact the local Federal land manager listed in the directory at the end of this book.*

# Unit Hunting Regulations\*



You may take wildlife for subsistence uses only within the seasons and harvest limits in these Unit hunting regulations. Taking wildlife out of season or in excess of harvest limits for subsistence uses is prohibited. However, you may take unclassified wildlife (such as all squirrel species and marmots) for subsistence uses in all units, without harvest limits, from July 1, 2008–June 30, 2010.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- \* Trapping regulations follow the Unit hunting regulations section.
- \* These regulations may be changed through regulatory actions (Special Actions) authorized by the Federal Subsistence Board during the regulatory year. Check the website for updated Board actions <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>.
- \* An “All rural residents” designation in the following customary and traditional use determinations means that the Federal Subsistence Board has not yet made a specific determination, and therefore all rural residents are eligible to harvest wildlife within designated seasons and harvest limits.