

Please Note

New or added regulatory text in this book is highlighted in **yellow**.

- ▶ **General Regulations**—Revises regulations on selling handicrafts incorporating brown bear claw(s).
- ▶ **Units 1-5**—Requires the marking of trap and snares.
- ▶ **Units 1-5**—Allows the retention of coyotes that are taken incidentally while trapping.
- ▶ **Units 1-5**—Adds mountain goat to the Federal Subsistence Designated Hunter permit and limits the goat possession limit.
- ▶ **Unit 2**—Revises harvest reporting requirements for deer.
- ▶ **Unit 2**—Revises the sealing requirements for wolf.
- ▶ **Units 6B and 6C**—Revises the harvest limit for the Native Village of Eyak's annual Memorial Potlatch.
- ▶ **Unit 7**—Closes the hunting season for fox.
- ▶ **Unit 9**—Revises season dates and permit requirements for moose.
- ▶ **Unit 9D**—Establishes a season and harvest limit for caribou.
- ▶ **Unit 11**—Recognizes customary and traditional use determination for goat by rural residents of Nabesna Road (mileposts 25–46) and Tok Cutoff Road (mileposts 79–110, Mentasta Pass).
- ▶ **Units 11 and 12**—Revises the season dates for the elder and elder/minor sheep hunts, and the harvest limit of the elder and elder/minor sheep hunts (Unit 11 only).
- ▶ **Portions of Units 11 and 12** (along Nabesna Road)—Revises the season dates, harvest limits, area descriptors, and permit requirements for moose.
- ▶ **Unit 12**—Recognizes customary and traditional use determination for caribou by rural residents of Chistochina.
- ▶ **Unit 12**—Revises the season dates and permit requirements for moose.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 12**—Establishes a season for caribou and closes public lands except by residents of Chisana, Chistochina, Mentasta, Northway, Tetlin, and Tok.
- ▶ **Unit 13**—Revises the season dates for caribou.
- ▶ **Units 15A and 15B**—Recognizes customary and traditional use of brown bear by residents of Ninilchik.
- ▶ **Units 15A and 15B**—Establishes a season and harvest limit for brown bear.
- ▶ **Unit 17A**—Revises the hunt area boundary for moose.
- ▶ **Units 17B and 17C**—Revises the seasons and harvest limits for moose.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Revises the season and harvest limit for lynx.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Revises the season dates and harvest limit for moose.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Revises the harvest limit for wolverine.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Revises the harvest limit for ptarmigan.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Prohibits the pursuit of ungulates with a motorized vehicle while the animal is at or near a full gallop.
- ▶ **Unit 18**—Revises wolf hunting harvest limit.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 18**—Establishes area descriptors and revises the season dates for caribou.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 18**—Allows the take of moose from a boat moving under power.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 20E**—Revises the season dates for moose.
- ▶ **Units 20F and 25C**—Revises the season and harvest limits for caribou.
- ▶ **Unit 21E**—Revises C&T area descriptor.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 24B**—Aligns State and Federal boundaries and revises permit requirements for moose.
- ▶ **Unit 25**—Revises salvage requirements for moose and caribou.
- ▶ **Unit 25**—Revises C&T for caribou.
- ▶ **Unit 25**—Revises harvest limit of black bear.
- ▶ **Unit 25**—Revises the season dates for wolf.
- ▶ **Portion of Unit 25A**—Closes a portion of Federal lands to the taking of sheep by non-Federally qualified users.
- ▶ **Unit 25D**—Revises the harvest limit of brown bear.
- ▶ **Units 26A and 26B**—Revises the season dates for brown bear.
- ▶ Hunt numbers associated with Federal permits have been included to assist the public when making inquiries on a specific hunt.

Introduction

You will find important information in this book on seasons, harvest limits, methods, and customary and traditional use determinations for the subsistence taking of wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska. These regulations are effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014 and apply only on Federal public lands. The regulations cover managed subsistence hunting and trapping activities of most species of land mammals, grouse, and ptarmigan. Subsistence fishing regulations are published separately.

Read the **Special Provisions** and unit-specific information carefully for the management unit where you wish to take wildlife. Trapping regulations are in a separate section near the back of this book.

On July 1, 1990, the **Federal Subsistence Management Program** began managing wildlife resources on public lands. The *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act* of 1980 (ANILCA) requires that rural residents have a priority over other users to take wildlife for subsistence uses on Federal public lands and waters.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils, State of Alaska representatives, and the general public play an active role in the regulatory process.

State and Federal Wildlife Regulations

The **State of Alaska** often administers a hunt for the same species in the same area as a Federal subsistence hunt. You may not add the harvest limit from Federal Subsistence and State general hunt regulations together to increase your harvest limit unless specified otherwise in these regulations.

If you are not a rural resident of Alaska, you may hunt under State of Alaska hunting regulations on most Federal public lands, except National Park Service-managed parks and monuments (see Special Requirements for National Park Service Lands on page 13) or except where hunts are specifically closed by these regulations.

Federal Subsistence Board

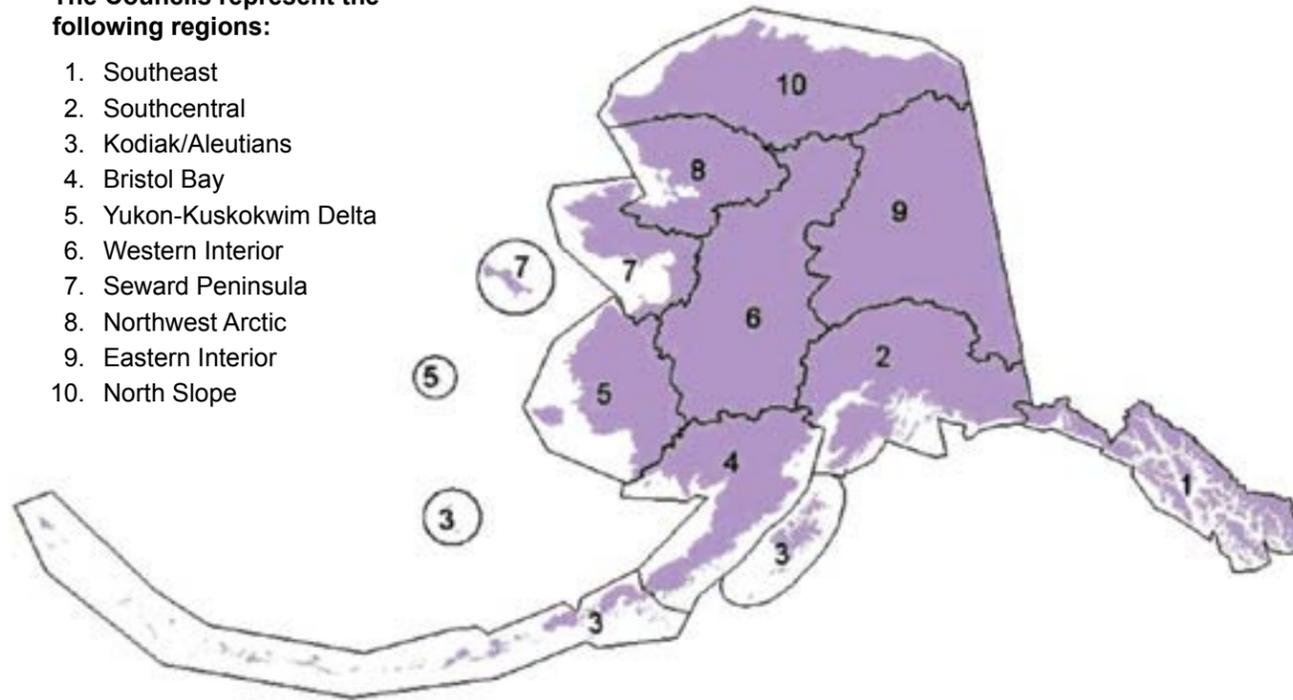
The Secretaries established a Federal Subsistence Board to administer the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Board comprises:

- A Chair, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior with concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture;
- The Alaska Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- The Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service;
- The Alaska State Director, Bureau of Land Management;
- The Alaska Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs;
- The Alaska Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service; and
- Two public members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.

General Information

The Councils represent the following regions:

1. Southeast
2. Southcentral
3. Kodiak/Aleutians
4. Bristol Bay
5. Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
6. Western Interior
7. Seward Peninsula
8. Northwest Arctic
9. Eastern Interior
10. North Slope



Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils

The Federal Subsistence Management Program divides Alaska into ten subsistence resource regions, each represented by a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. These ten Councils provide an opportunity for rural Alaskans to contribute in a meaningful way to the management of subsistence resources. Resource users have the opportunity to comment and offer input on subsistence issues at Council meetings. Each Council meets at least twice a year. The Councils develop proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations and review proposals submitted by others.

Council Membership

The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture appoint Council members. Members must reside in the area they wish to represent and have knowledge of subsistence uses and needs. Each year the Office of Subsistence Management accepts applications and nominations for membership during October–February. If you are interested in applying for membership, please contact Carl Johnson or the coordinator for your region.

Criteria for Council Membership

Applicants and nominees must be residents of the region they wish to represent and have:

- Knowledge of fish and wildlife resources in the region;
- Knowledge of subsistence uses, customs, and traditions in the region;
- Knowledge of commercial, recreational, and other uses in the region;
- Leadership skills and experience with local and/or regional organizations;
- Ability to communicate effectively;
- Willingness to travel to and attend Council meetings at least two times each year, usually in October and February. Although Council members are volunteers, members' official travel expenses for meetings are paid through the Office of Subsistence Management.
- Willingness to occasionally attend Federal Subsistence Board meetings.

For more information on Council membership, contact

Carl Johnson
 (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3676 Fax: (907) 786-3898
 E-mail: carl_johnson@fws.gov
<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/index.cfml>

General Information

Council Member Responsibilities

- Review and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board on proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other subsistence-related issues on Federal public lands within the region;
- Develop proposals pertaining to the subsistence harvest of fish and wildlife, and review proposals submitted by others;
- Encourage and promote local participation in the decision-making process affecting subsistence harvests on Federal public lands;
- Make recommendations on customary and traditional use determinations of subsistence resources;
- Appoint members to National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commissions.

Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinators

Council coordinators facilitate communication between the Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board. Each coordinator is responsible for one or more regions and serves as a contact for the Councils, Federal agency staff, and the public. Contact a coordinator for information about the activities of each Council.

Southeast Region

Robert Larson
 PETERSBURG
 (907) 772-5930
 Fax: (907) 772-5995
 E-mail: robertlarson@fs.fed.us

Southcentral and Bristol Bay Regions

Donald Mike
 ANCHORAGE
 (800) 478-1456
 or (907) 786-3629
 Fax: (907) 786-3898
 E-mail: donald_mike@fws.gov

Kodiak/Aleutians Region

Tom Jennings
 ANCHORAGE
 (800) 478-1456
 or (907) 786-3676
 Fax: (907) 786-3898
 E-mail: thomas_jennings@fws.gov

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and Seward Peninsula Regions

Alex Nick
 BETHEL
 (800) 621-5804
 or (907) 543-1037
 Fax: (907) 543-4413
 E-mail: alex_nick@fws.gov

Western Interior and Northwest Arctic Regions

Melinda Hernandez
 ANCHORAGE
 (800) 478-1456
 or (907) 786-3885
 Fax: (907) 786-3898
 E-mail: melinda_hernandez@fws.gov

Eastern Interior and North Slope Regions

Eva Patton
 ANCHORAGE
 (800) 478-1456
 or (907) 786-3953
 Fax: (907) 786-3898
 E-mail: eva_patton@fws.gov

General Information

Federal Subsistence Regulations Apply Only to Rural Alaska Residents

Are You a Rural Alaska Resident?

All communities and areas of Alaska are considered rural, except the areas shown on the following maps as nonrural areas. You must have your primary, permanent place of residence in a rural area to qualify to hunt, trap or fish under Federal subsistence regulations. See the definition of resident in the definitions section of this book.

Nonrural Communities

On May 7, 2007, the Board published a final rule changing the rural determination for several communities or areas in Alaska. These communities had a five year waiting period before the change was implemented (May 7, 2012). In 2009 the Secretary of the Interior initiated a review of the Federal Subsistence Program. An ensuing directive was for the Federal Subsistence Board to review its processes for determining the rural and nonrural status of communities. As a result, the Board has initiated a review of the rural determination process and the rural determination findings. On March 1, 2012, the Board published another final rule to extend the waiting period of the 2007 final rule until the review is complete or in 5 years (March 1, 2017), whichever comes first.

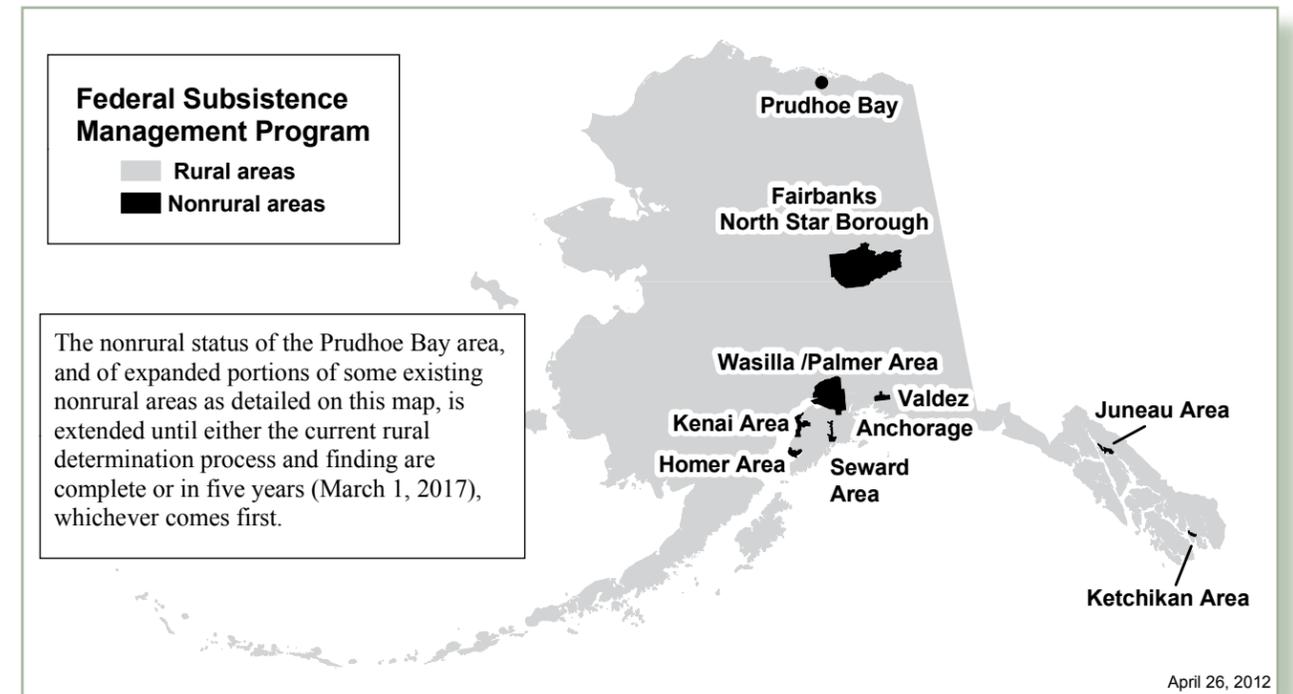
The listing below identifies nonrural communities and areas:

- Anchorage, Municipality of
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Homer area including Homer, Anchor Point, North Fork Road area*, Kachemak City, and Fritz Creek* (not including Voznesenka)
- Juneau area including Juneau, West Juneau, and Douglas
- Kenai area including Kenai, Soldotna, Sterling*, Nikiski, Salamatof, Kalifornsky, Kasilof, and Clam Gulch
- Ketchikan area including all parts of the road system* connected to the City of Ketchikan (including Saxman*), Pennock Island, and parts of Gravina Island*
- Prudhoe Bay*
- Seward area including Seward and Moose Pass
- Valdez
- Wasilla/Palmer area including Wasilla, Palmer, Sutton, Big Lake, Houston, Point MacKenzie*, and Bodenburg Butte

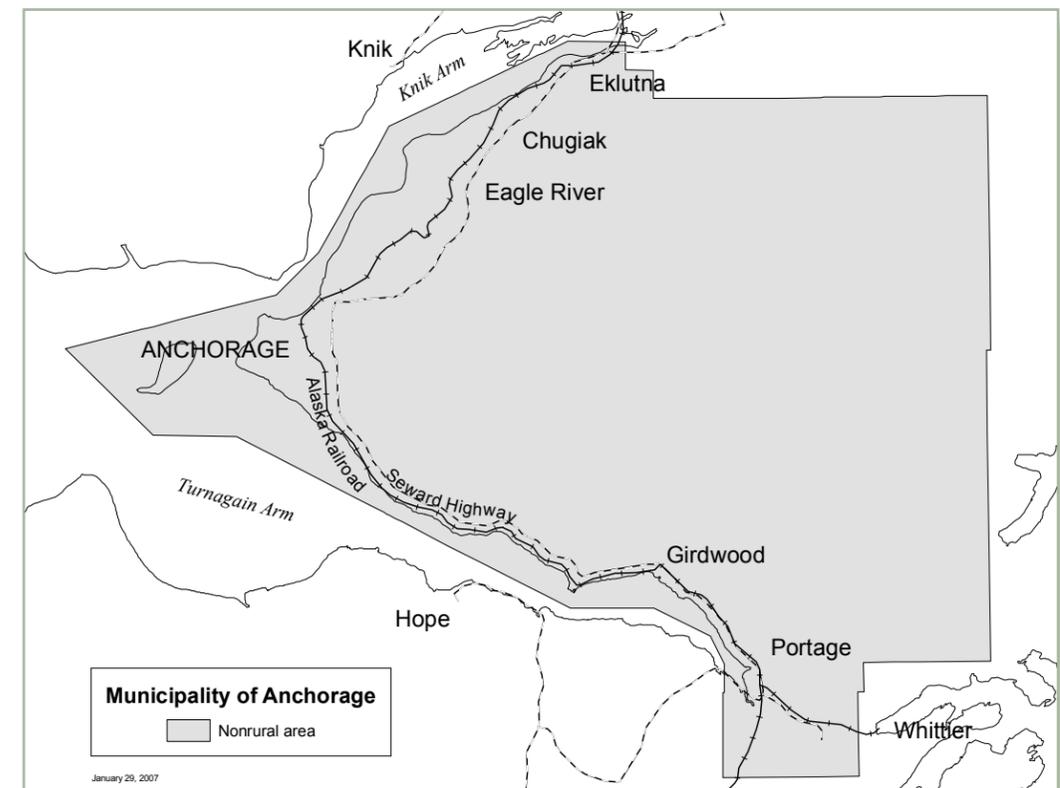
* indicates communities or areas that have had their rural status extended until the rural review is complete or in 5 years (March 1, 2017) whichever comes first. See following maps.

General Information

Nonrural Areas—Statewide

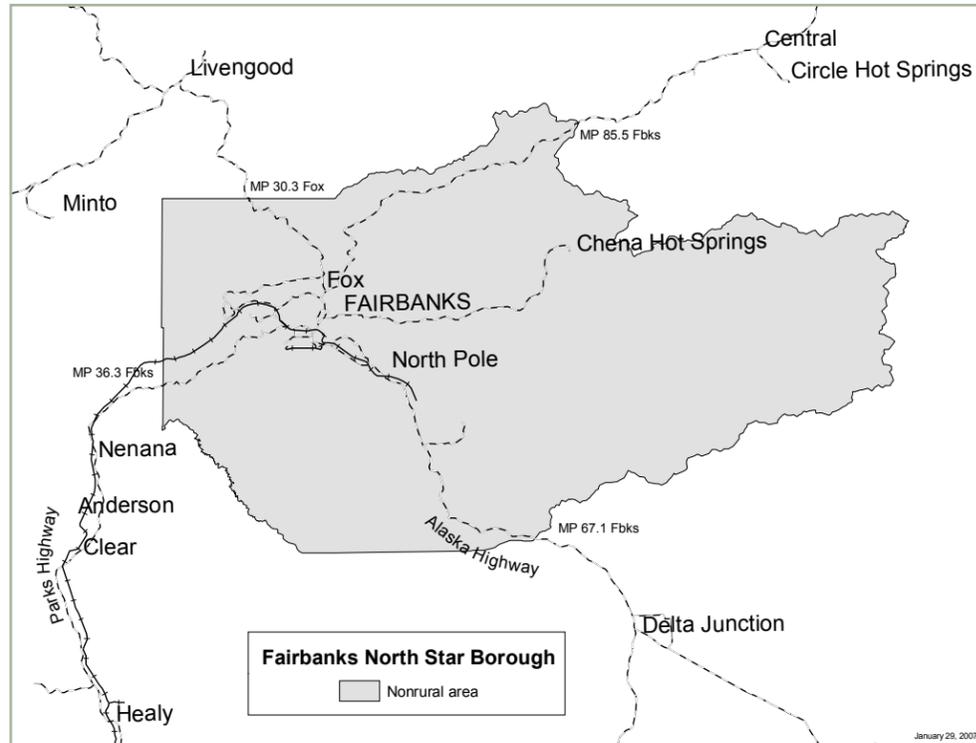


Nonrural Area—Anchorage



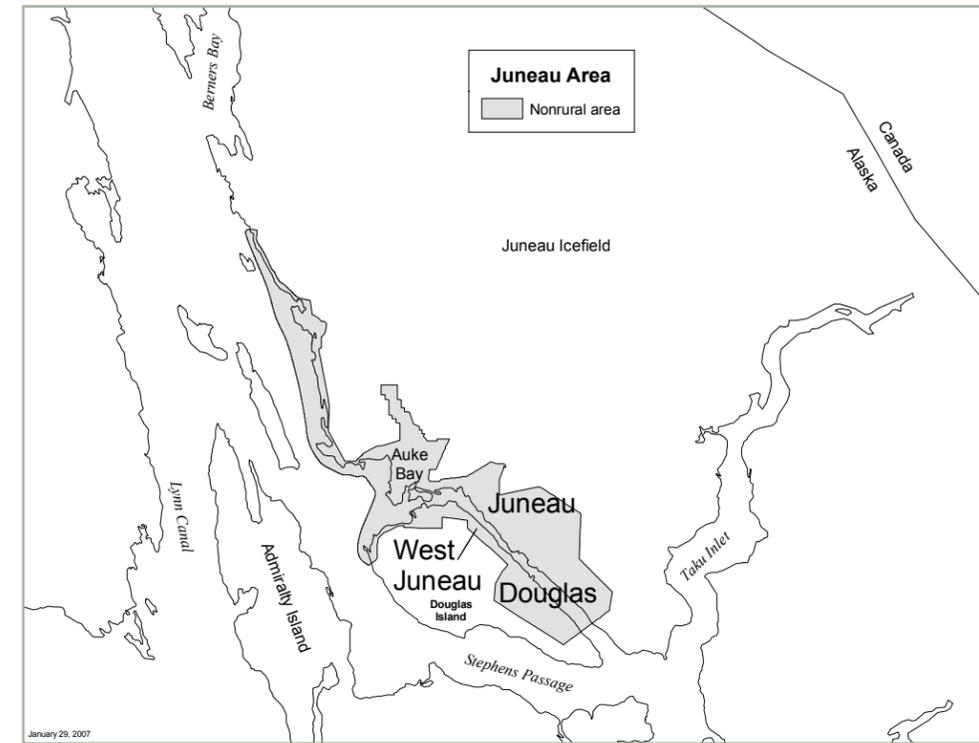
General Information

Nonrural Area—Fairbanks

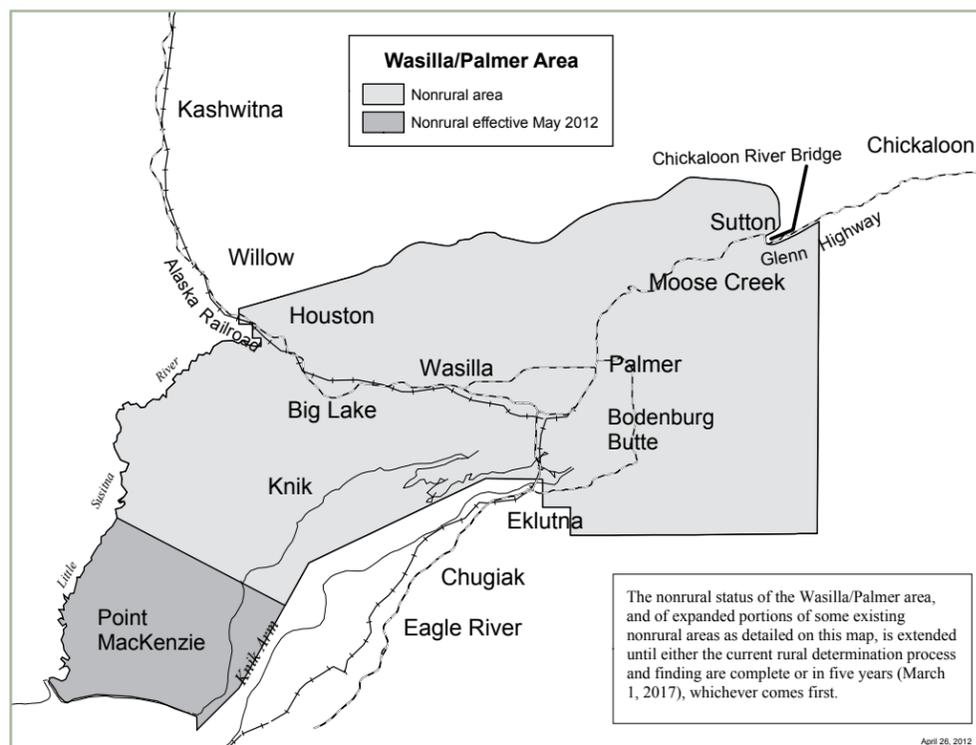


General Information

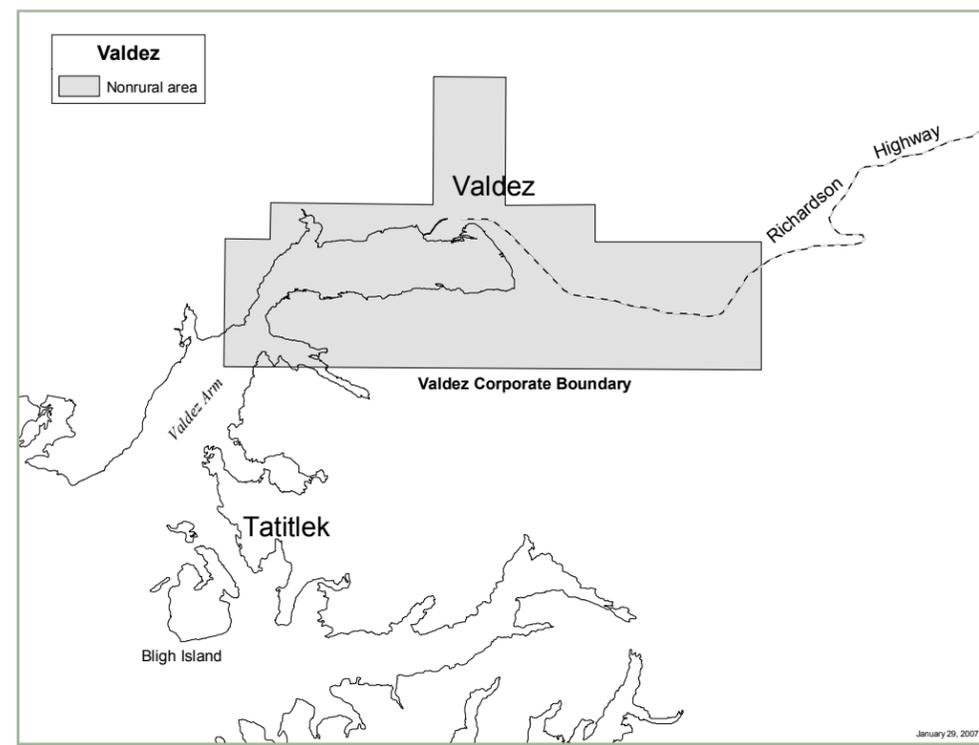
Nonrural Area—Juneau



Nonrural Area—Wasilla/Palmer

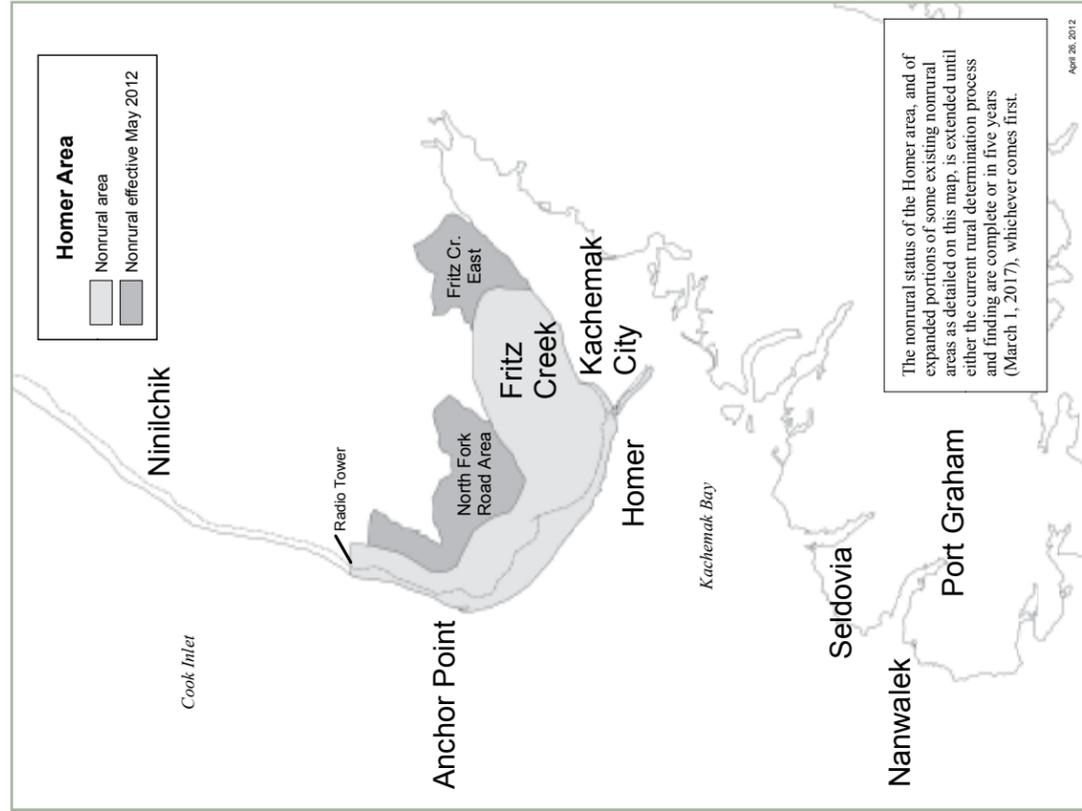


Nonrural Area—Valdez

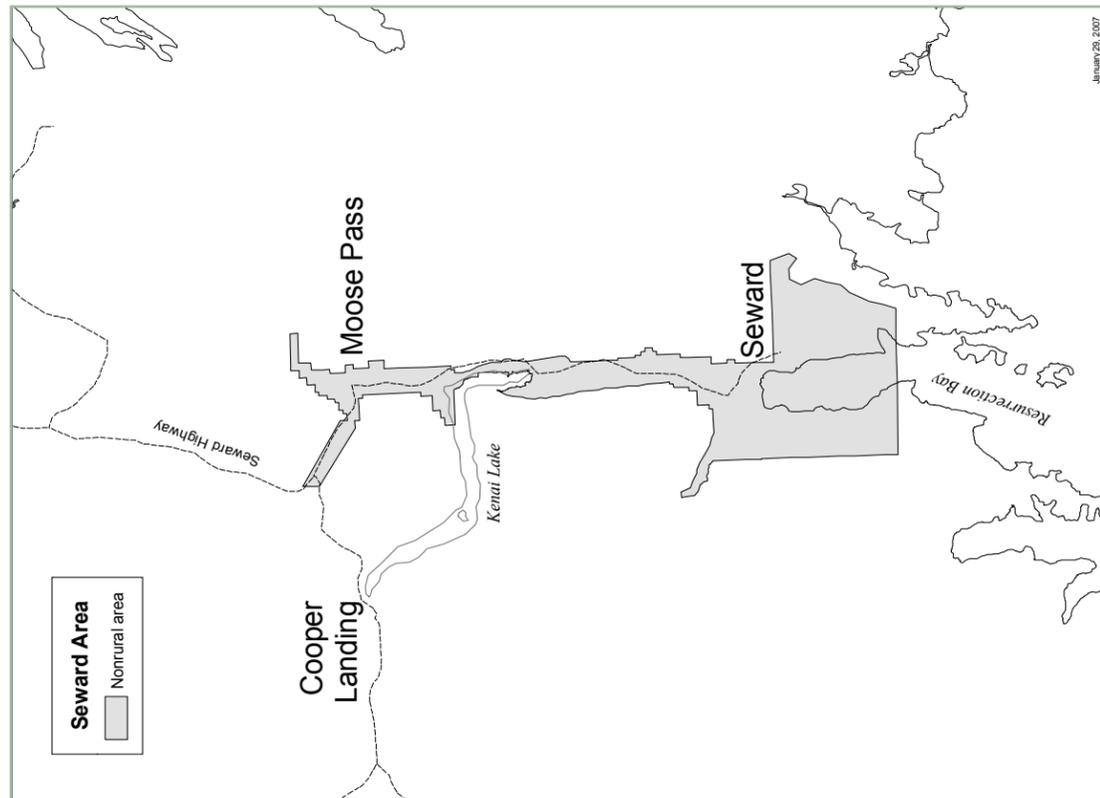


General Information

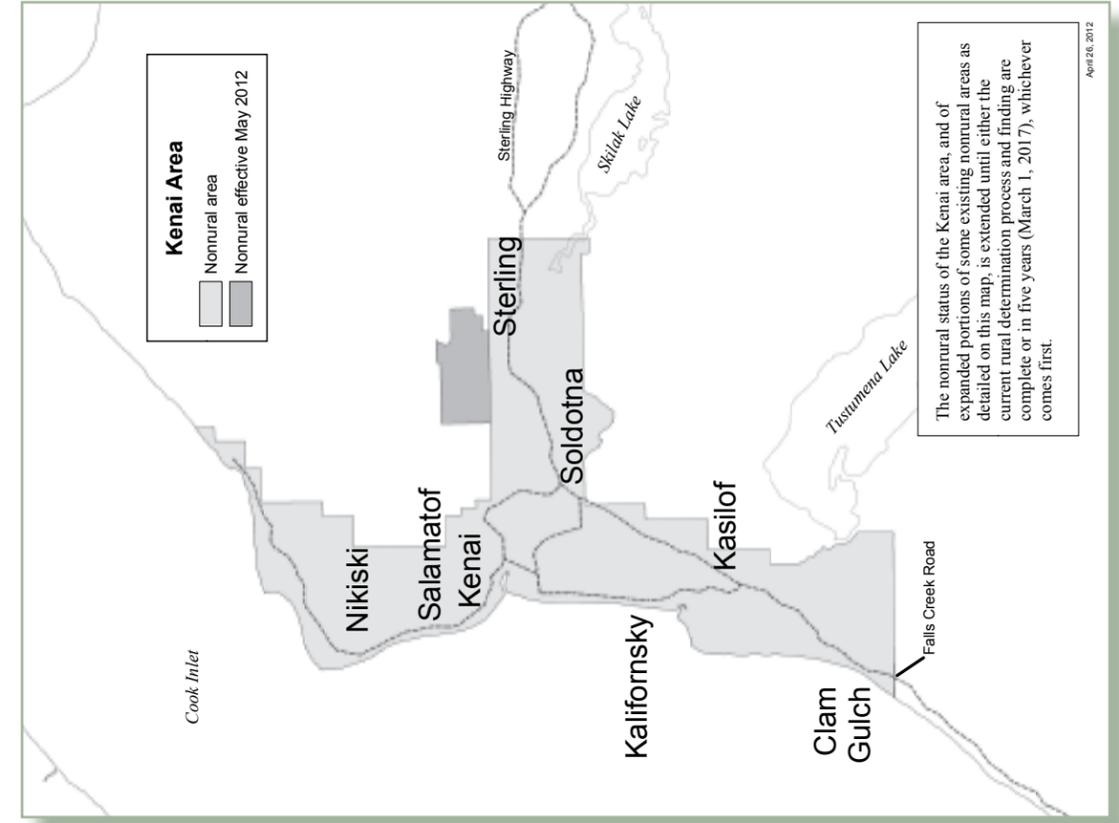
Nonrural Area—Homer



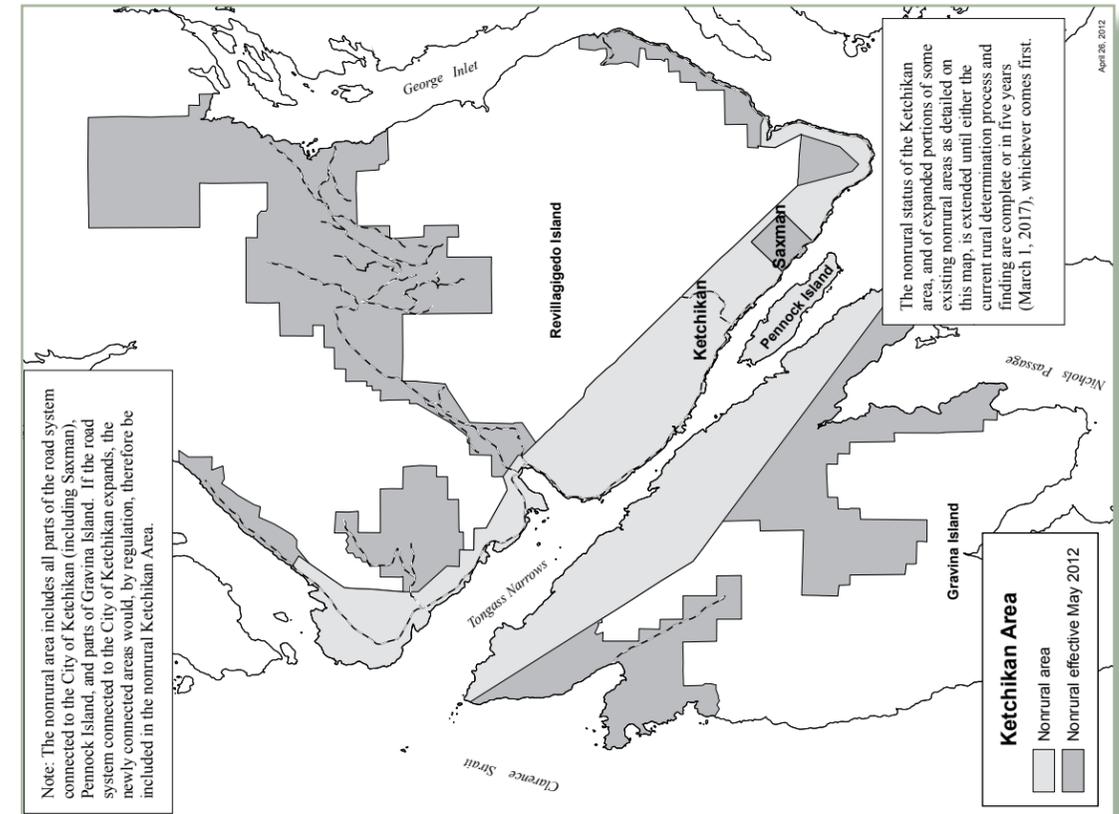
Nonrural Area—Seward



Nonrural Area—Kenai



Nonrural Area—Ketchikan



Customary and Traditional Use

The Federal Subsistence Board decides which communities or areas have customarily and traditionally used a species. Each unit lists these customary and traditional use determinations along with seasons and harvest limits and any special provisions. When there is a positive determination for specific communities or areas, only residents of those communities and areas have a Federal subsistence priority for that species in that unit and are eligible to hunt or trap under these regulations. If the Board has not made a customary and traditional use determination for a species, then all rural residents of Alaska may use that species in that unit. The customary and traditional use determinations are listed in the unit-specific regulation tables.

No Federal subsistence priority means that the Federal Subsistence Board decided there is no authorized use of that wildlife population on Federal regulations. Hunting may be allowed under State of Alaska regulations.

Federal Subsistence Regulations Apply Only to Federal Public Lands

Federal public lands include lands managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service. The regulations do not apply to State or private lands. Regional and Village Native Corporation lands and Native allotments are considered private lands and are under State management authority.

Check the unit maps carefully where you wish to harvest wildlife to check the land status. If you have questions, contact any of the Federal offices listed in the directory at the back of this book.

Land and Water Access

Federal Subsistence Management harvest regulations apply to Federal public lands and waters, but do not provide for access across private lands. It is your responsibility to identify ownership of lands you will access and to make sure you have permission from the land owner(s) of private land. Some Native village and regional corporation lands require a land use permit and/or fee. Some of these lands are closed to use by non-shareholders.

The use of private lands without the landowner's permission, other than those legally-reserved public access easements, is trespass.

You may purchase detailed topographic maps from: U.S. Geological Survey, 4210 University Drive, Room 208, Anchorage, AK 99508
Toll free 888-ASK-USGS or (907) 786-7011

Licenses, Permits, Harvest Tickets, and Tags

Rural residents age 16 and older must possess a State of Alaska-issued resident hunting or trapping license to hunt or trap under these regulations. Residents age 60 or older may get a free permanent identification card issued by ADF&G. You must carry your license or permanent ID card with you while taking wildlife for subsistence uses. You can purchase licenses at many stores and other outlets in Alaska or on the web: <http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license>. When these regulations require a Federal registration permit, subsistence users are not required to possess State permits or harvest tickets. However, Federally qualified subsistence hunters must possess a State tag for brown bear, unless specifically exempt in State or Federal unit specific special provisions. You must show licenses, permits, harvest tickets, tags or other documents to State and Federal law enforcement agents when requested. 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. All permits require you to return harvest information necessary for management and conservation purposes. If you fail to comply with such reporting requirements, you will be 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). These permits, harvest tickets, and tags are important tools wildlife managers use to monitor and protect wildlife populations. Subsistence users must follow harvest reporting rules. All subsistence users, including designated hunters, must possess and comply with any permits, harvest tickets, or tags required by State or Federal regulations. Federal designated hunter and Federal registration permits are available from local Federal offices. See directory at the back of this book.

Permitting Systems—Community harvest and designated hunter permitting and reporting systems are in place in some communities. These systems are based on customary

and traditional practices, including those associated with cultural and religious beliefs. The Federal Subsistence Board continues to work to establish alternative community harvest and reporting systems where appropriate.

Cultural and Educational Permits

Your organization may apply to the Federal Subsistence Board for a cultural or education permit to harvest wildlife for a qualifying cultural or educational program.

A qualifying program must have instructors, enrolled students, minimum attendance requirements, and standards for successful completion of the course. Applications must be submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board through the Office of Subsistence Management and should be submitted 60 days prior to the earliest desired date of harvest. Harvest must be reported and any animals harvested will count against any established Federal harvest quota for the area in which it is harvested.

Requests for follow-up permits must be submitted to the in-season or local manager and should be submitted 60 days prior to the earliest desired date of harvest.

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.

Special Requirements for National Park Service Lands

Subsistence use of resources in areas managed by the National Park Service are subject to additional rules and is restricted to local residents in national monuments and parks open to subsistence. National Park Service regulations govern which communities or individual residents qualify as local rural residents for specific National Park Service areas. Glacier Bay National Park, Katmai National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, that portion

of Denali National Park established as Mt. McKinley National Park prior to passage of ANILCA, and Sitka National Historical Park are closed to subsistence hunting and trapping. Users of National Park Service areas are responsible for complying with these regulations (36 CFR Part 13, Subparts A-V).

For more information about National Park Service regulations that affect subsistence, contact: National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, 240 West 5th Avenue, Room 114, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. (907) 644-3509 / Fax: (907) 644-3816

Other Important Information

Several other sections of this book contain important information. Read the Unit Hunting Regulations and note any Special Provisions for the unit where you wish to take wildlife. This section lists unit-specific information, including areas where regulations restrict subsistence take or describe special opportunities.

Note that “no Federal open season” means that there is no open season under Federal subsistence regulations. If Federal public lands are not closed, then there may be a season under State hunting regulations. If Federal public lands are closed, then there is no harvesting under either Federal or State regulations. In some cases, Federal public lands may be closed to all but a limited group of Federally qualified users; only those users may participate in those hunts under Federal subsistence management regulations.

For regulations relating to fisheries, see the *Subsistence Management Regulations for the Harvest of Fish and Shellfish on Federal Public Lands and Waters in Alaska* (published separately every two years).

Subsistence Harvest of Marine Mammals and Migratory Birds

These regulations do not apply to the subsistence harvest of marine mammals or migratory birds. These species are regulated under the *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act*.

For information about the subsistence harvest of...

Sea otters, polar bears and walrus: Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Marine Mammal Management Office at (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3800 or by E-mail, ak_fisheries@fws.gov. Information is also available on the Web at <http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/mmm/index.htm>.

Seals, sea lions and whales: Contact the Protected Resources Division of the National Marine Fisheries Service at (907) 586-7221. Information is also available on the Web at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/protectedresources/default.htm>.

Migratory birds: Contact the office of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council at (877) 229-2344 or (907) 786-3499 or by E-mail, ambcc@fws.gov. Information is also available on the Web at <http://alaska.fws.gov/ambcc/index.htm>.

How to Change Federal Subsistence Regulations

Alaska residents and subsistence users are an integral part of the Federal regulatory process. Any person or group can submit proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations, comment on proposals, or testify at meetings. The 10 Regional Advisory Councils meet at least twice a year. By becoming involved in the process, subsistence users help to more effectively manage subsistence activities and ensure consideration of traditional and local knowledge in subsistence management decisions. Subsistence users also provide valuable wildlife harvest information. Through cooperative agreements, the U.S. Government and several Native organizations are working to more effectively manage subsistence activities. These organizations work in an advisory capacity and provide both technical information and biological data to help address subsistence issues.

How to Submit a Proposal

A call for proposals to change hunting and trapping regulations is issued in January of odd numbered years. The period during which proposals are accepted is 45 days; a proposal must be submitted during this time.

Include the following in your proposal submission:

1. Your name, organization, address, phone, fax, and E-mail address.
2. The regulation you wish to change, including management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”
3. The regulation as you would like to see it written.
4. An explanation of why the regulatory change should be made.

5. A description of the impact of the change on wildlife populations.
6. A description of the affect on subsistence uses.
7. A description of the affect on other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial.

Submit proposals:

- By mail or hand delivery

Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
Attn: Theo Matuskowitz
1011 E. Tudor Rd., MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503

- At any Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting
- On the Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>

Submit a separate proposal for each proposed change. To cite which regulation(s) you want to change, use this book or the proposed regulations published in the Federal Register: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>. All proposals and comments, including personal information, are posted on the Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

For the proposal processing timeline and additional information contact the Office of Subsistence Management at (800) 478-1456/ (907) 786-3888 or go to <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/index.cfm>.

You may propose changes to...

- Federal subsistence season dates
- Harvest limits
- Methods and means of harvest
- Customary and traditional use determinations
- For national parks and national monuments—individuals who live in a resident zone community of a National Park Service-managed park or national monument (see 36 CFR 13.430), and those who already hold a Section 13.440 subsistence use permit issued by the Superintendent (see 36 CFR 13.440), may apply for an individual customary and traditional use determination.