

Travis Hunnicutt
3/5/14

To: Fish and Game

My name is Travis Hunnicutt and I am 16 years old, I want to change the rule for hunters in the village to use vehicles while hunting. The reason I want to change this rule is to make it easier to provide food for the village and for us to save more time while hunting. The other rules such as the amount of animals per day still stand, also for harassing the animals is what I don't want to change. I would be happy to say that we would provide more fur, food, and tools if we didn't have this law on vehicles while hunting. I would believe that we could get this law out of our way for it should be the villager's decision.

Another reason to change this rule for hunting with vehicles is that it would save us more time to catch caribou, seals, and walrus to make our own clothing, tools, and weapons. This is like an outlaw to Alaskans. The Americans who haven't lived in the cold winter village should have us Alaskans decide our own rule. There are factories that are pollinating the land and harming the wildlife, they are the ones "harassing" the animals. While hunting, catching a caribou can really do a number to the villagers that can feed a lot of people, build more weapons, craft our own tools, and give warmth to the people.

Because we lived on the land for a long time, we know that where most of the caribou live, and know where most of the herd goes. We are smart when it comes to hunting, so we know that we shouldn't be traveling with the wind while it's going towards the herd, but we should face away from the caribou while the wind is going the opposite way. If we can actually catch caribou, we know our limits, and we know what type to catch and what not to catch. These are things that are first grade hunting lessons, but not having a vehicle is a problem. Think of all the cautions while hunting, a bear goes charging at you while your half a mile away from your vehicle due to the law of not having to use your vehicle, where would you go for a get-a-way? This is why this law on vehicle uses while hunting is a bad law. What if another animal chased down the one you were trying to catch, and you wanted to at least follow it to where it took your meal away? What would you use, you're legs? These are my reasons to un-ban vehicle uses.

February 20, 2014

Corilyn Adams
P.o.Box 81
Noatak, Ak 99761

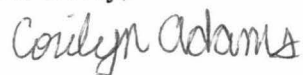
To: State of Alaska,
Department of Fish and Game,
Noatak Advisory Committee

I am an Inupiaq Eskimo with the name of Uyagaatchiaq. Otherwise known as Corilyn Adams. I attend Napaaqtugmiut High in Noatak, Alaska as a sophomore. I am writing this letter to support the proposal to change the regulation about tracking or pursuing caribou, wolves, and wolverines with snow machines in Unit 23.

I, myself, cannot live without the meat of caribou. My father hunts caribou with the risk of getting caught so that I can have dried caribou meat, caribou soup, frozen caribou and caribou marrow. My brothers, my uncles and even some of my aunties hunts caribou with the risk of getting caught just to provide for their families. Are we all criminals for living the way our elders taught us how to live? The only way it is different is that we use more advanced equipment to catch these animals. This law of driving, herding, harassing, or molesting game with snow machines is dcades old and people from all over the region breaks it because it makes no sense to us. On the other hand, as everyone knows especially the Fish and Game, the wolf population is going up and the caribou population is going down. If the law changes, we can chase wolves down and take a head/neck shot. By that, the wolves population will go down and hopefully, the caribou population will go up. Wolverines are rare. My father traps them and I know if he sees one on the run, his first instinct is to chase it down and kill it, but in the back of his mind is the thought of getting caught. He doesn't get them for nothing; we skin them, tan them, and cut them for a traditional parka or fur hat.

Last of all, what is wrong and what is right? The language is very misunderstanding. We can go around the law because the language does not have a statement of what we can do and what we cannot do. By changing the law, the Fish and Game has the chance to reword the law and educate the people on what is fair and what is right.

Sincerely,



Corilyn Adams



Date: 2/18/14

To: The State of Alaska, Fish and Game, Noatak Advisory Committee.

My name is Ashley Mills, and I am a 10th grade student at Napaaqtugmiut School in Noatak, Alaska. I am writing in support of the proposal to change the regulation concerning chasing caribou, with any motorized vehicles. My family and I love to go hunting but we can't hunt if we are being watched all the time, making us feel like we did something; we don't want to feel like criminals. We love having hot caribou soup for dinner, we love eating the meat, etc.

I think it's easier if we can chase down the caribou, instead of stopping and shooting. We grew up that way, and we were taught how to do it that way. We love hunting and providing for our family, and giving them to elders. It's faster if we just chase the caribou, because we can get more, more for other families, for the people who don't have any meat. We love to eat caribou soup. A lot of people don't get it much during the years of hunting because the caribou don't come close to town anymore. They always have to go way up the river and hunt; the gas prices are expensive. Our family loves caribou soup, and roast. We love eating the meat, because it tastes good, but it's hard to hunt with people watching us.

It would be a lot better if the rule can be changed. I love hunting and being out the country. It's not easy to stop the snow machine and then shoot the animal, but it's faster if we can chase them down.

Sincerely,

Ashley Mills

February 20, 2014

To: State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Noatak Advisory Committee

My name is Virgil Adams and I am a 10th grade student of Napaaqtugmiut School in Noatak Alaska. I am writing in support to the proposal to change the regulation concerning hunting wolves, caribou, and wolverines with a snow machines. A few weeks ago, a boy from another village was hunting a wolverine and a trooper caught him chasing one. The trooper waited until he got the animal to land and talk to him. The trooper took the animal.

This rule needs to be changed. I think that it is easier to go out and hunt without having to watch over our backs. Also the caribou are declining because of the predators like wolves, bears, and wolverines. If we can start chasing these animals, the predators will start declining, and the caribou will start producing more.

The people do not like to look over their backs. If they get caught, then they will lose the animal, rifle, and their snow-machine. People do not like to lose the stuff they work hard to get. So if they change the law about chasing fur animals, the people are freer to hunt on a snow machine without having to worry about getting caught.

Sincerely,



Virgil Adams Jr

February 20,2014
To: State of Alaska,
Department of Fish and Game,
Noatak Advisory Committee

My name is Brittnee Mills, and I am a 10th grade student in Napaaqtugmuit School in Noatak, Alaska. I am writing in support of the proposal to change the regulation concerning chasing animals (wolves, wolverines, and caribou).

This is that way we hunt. It makes it less challenging, and safer. Everyone uses the vehicles to hunt, its faster and safer that way. Describing why I say safer is because you can never tell what is following you if you are by foot. A snow-go (vehicle) is faster than running away if you are about to be attacked if you don't have a gun at hand. Families depend on animal meat most times because foods that get sent here are too expensive.

I have 3 brothers that hunt for meat. They might end up chasing animals probably because we don't have meat and get sent to jail. This proposal should be changed to be allowed to chase animals under certain circumstances. Instead of chasing the animals and thinking we are criminals for chasing, lets change the proposal.

Sincerely: Brittnee mills

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brittnee Mills".

Eileen Norton



2 Airport Road • Noatak, Alaska 99761 • P.O Box 116

Phone: 907-485-2055 •

Date: March 4, 2014

To Noatak Advisory Committee

State of Alaska

Fish and Game,

My name is Eileen Norton. I am a high school student attending Napaaqtugmiut School at Noatak Alaska. I am supporting the proposal to change the regulation to make it illegal to hunt animals with any vehicle in Unit 23. A few weeks ago, someone from Kivalina got in trouble for chasing down a wolverine with a snow machine and killing it. The outcome of that resulted in taking his catch, possibly his snow machine, and almost certainly a fine.

It isn't possible to chase down wolves wolverines, and caribou with a dog team. That's why we need this rule to be changed. Chasing down animals has been part of our culture; people who aren't familiar with our way of life don't understand what effect this rule has on us. Also outsiders don't understand what the catch means to us. I, myself like to go out hunting during the winter; family and friends around me are the same. I don't want them or myself to feel guilty for going out hunting and looking for food we eat. The amount of time to get off of a snow machine is a long time when you stop in hip deep snow; the effect of that will be accidentally firing or losing our catch. This rule has a threat to safety in our village. For instance, lets say a wolf came into town looking for something to feed on, and children are out playing and we cannot chase it away using our snow machine. What can we do to protect our village from predators?

In case you forgot, the main reason I am writing this letter to you is because I want that law to be changed. I like to go out hunting during the winter; it is much easier with vehicles because it helps me provide food for my family and for other people in my village. I propose to change the law to allow us to use snow machines to chase down animals that is impossible to do with a dog team.

Sincerely,

Eileen Norton

Eileen Norton

February 27, 2014

Ashlee Hawley
P.o Box 127

To: State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game,
Noatak Advisory Committee

My name is Ashlee Hawley, and I am a 10th grade student at the Napaaqtugmiut School in Noatak, Alaska. I am writing this letter to support the proposal to change the general hunting restriction to allow the use of snow machines to track or pursue caribou, wolves, and wolverines in unit 23.

I, Ashlee Hawley, propose to allow to hunt from snow machines in unit 23 because we been using snomachines for over 30 years but it is now against the law. I know it isn't safe for us to do it, but our elders taught us how to live this way. Our culture has been hunting for hundreds of years. My family hunts at the risk of getting caught hunting for our food we've been eating for hundreds of years.

Sincerely,

Ashlee Hawley
Ashlee Hawley

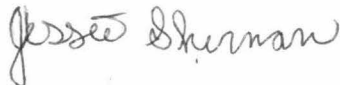
To: State of Alaska, fish and game, Noatak Advisory Committee

Hi my name is Jessie Rose Sherman. I am in 10th grade, and I go to Napaaqtugimuit School in Noatak, Alaska. I love to go hunting with my taata, mom, dad, and two of my brothers. In the fall time, we hunt up river and I would like to go hunting in the winter without having to get off my snow go or boat and shoot while the caribou or any animal is already far away from us.

We are a family that loves to go out and hunt, love going out doors, enjoying what God created and we do respect the land and the animals. I think we should be able to chase the animal and shoot it, because that's what we learned and experienced from our grandparents. We want to be able to provide food for our family. I am supporting the Inupiaq Eskimo's because I am one of them, we are used to it and we all want this law to change. We've been hunting for a long time. I don't want my taata's boat or snow go to be taken away, even my papa's vehicles and guns, plus the animal. We would really like to provide food for our family because store doesn't get as much meat and when they finally order we wait for a long time, and meat costs lots. While the caribou can feed a big family, we can even give to some of our family members.

In conclusion, I want the law to change, we want the law to go back. It is good the way it is in some ways because we might get too much but we all want it back to normal. This law seems too harsh and we won't have to worry about having to get off our vehicle and shoot. It will take time to get off the Honda/snow go, because we have to get off, get our gun ready, walk a little ways and by the time the animal will hear us and already be gone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessie Sherman".

Jessie Sherman