

PROPOSAL 13 – 5 AAC 92.080(7). Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions. Clarify the regulation that prohibits the use of a “cellular or satellite telephone” to take game as follows:

Current regulation states that you may not use a “cellular or satellite telephone” to take game. Possible solutions might be that the use of cellular or satellite devices are exempted for certain use. Other possibilities might include re-affirming that cellular or satellite phones cannot be used for any reason to take game.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Clarify the use of cellular or satellite phones to take game animals. 5 AAC 92.080 prohibits certain methods of taking game. One method that is prohibited is the use of cellular or satellite phones. Technology has dramatically increased over the years. Cell phone capabilities, cell service and smart phones have all made it easier for hunters to use these devices for hunting utilizing various technologies. Examples of this technology are game cameras that are communicating with cell phones to let the hunter know an animal is in the area that they are hunting and devices connected by satellite when cell service is not available. This technology is becoming increasingly popular at bear bait sites, for general hunting and with trappers.

As technology changes, it is difficult to interpret the regulations for enforcement purposes. Additionally, regulations should be clear for the public so there is little room for interpretation. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers would like the Board of Game to clarify the use of cell phones and satellite communication devices for the purpose of hunting and taking game. This clarification will benefit both the hunters and the Alaska Wildlife Troopers enforcing the regulation.

Current regulation states that you may not use a “cellular or satellite telephone” to take game. The board should discuss the timeline and specific uses of these devices.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Wildlife Troopers (HQ-F17-018)
