PROPOSAL 32

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Modify the regulations to close trapping and restrict the use of certain traps near roads and trails within the Skagway Borough in Unit 1D as follows:

The Municipality of Skagway recommends that the Board of Game (board) adopt regulations on trapping within the boundaries of the Skagway Borough as detailed in Skagway Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 9.04. Per SMC 9.04.015(B), the established trails are those detailed in Resolution No. 15-02R.

The Municipality recommends that the board adopt the regulations as additions to 5 AAC 92.550, Areas closed to trapping, to add certain areas within the game management unit that encompasses the Skagway Borough as closed to trapping and/or to establish limitations in these areas on the use of certain kinds of extremely dangerous traps. The areas and traps of particular concern to the municipality are set out in Attachments A and B: SMC Chapter 9.04 and Resolution No. 15-02R.

Note: The attachments submitted with this proposal are available on the Board of Game proposal book webpage at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook or by contacting the ADF&G Boards Support Section at (907) 465-4046.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Municipality of Skagway would like the board to address the issue of trapping within certain distances of public roads, rights-of-way, and established trails located within the boundaries of the Skagway Borough as set out in Chapter 9.04 of the Skagway Municipal Code (SMC). The established trails are further described in Resolution No. 15-02R.

The Municipality of Skagway has an extensive road and trail system in a relatively consolidated area. All of the road and trail system is within what was the city limits for Skagway before Skagway became a borough. Trapping on trails frequented by hikers and skiers with their pets creates a serious public safety risk to the hikers and skiers and pets. These trails are not wilderness trails or seldom used trails. Complaints from hikers and skiers reached the borough assembly and a compromise between user groups was in the works for over 18 months with little success. Recreational trail use has increased dramatically in recent years and is only expected to increase. Traps should not be set in areas of high public use within the Skagway City limits (now borough limits) and certain kinds of extremely dangerous traps should have limitations on how they are used within the borough limits, in the manner currently established in SMC Chapter 9.04.