

ACR 13 – Nelchina caribou permits

SUBMITTED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD.

None.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM.

The department is seeking Board of Game direction on the allocation of permits: specifically, when to offer the drawing hunt for Nelchina caribou, and if offered, how many permits to issue.

WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?

STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- 1) **To correct an error in regulation.**
- 2) **To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.** The department needs direction from the board on how to allocate permits when the Nelchina caribou herd is within population objectives. This is a continuation from the February 2018 Board of Game meeting in Dillingham where the board created new youth and nonresident drawing hunts. Guidance was given on when to offer the youth drawing hunt, but was not clear on when to offer the existing resident drawing hunt or how to allocate the harvestable surplus between the existing Tier I registration hunts and the multiple drawing hunts.
- 3) **Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?**
- 4) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f)?**
- 5) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future?**

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE? The department will struggle to follow the board's intent when allocating the harvestable surplus across residents, nonresidents, and subsistence hunters.

STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.

IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE. This request is purely allocative. The Nelchina caribou herd is currently within population objectives and has a harvestable surplus that is greater than the upper

limit of the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence. The board needs to determine how to allocate the harvestable surplus among the user groups.

STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR. The department manages the hunts and implements the board regulations.

STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF GAME MEETING. This ACR has not been considered before, but is a continuation of the discussion that took place on the last day of the Dillingham Board of Game meeting in February 2018.