

This is a summary of changes adopted by the Alaska Board of Game for regulatory year 2009-2010. This is not a comprehensive list of all the detailed changes. It is your responsibility to read the Alaska Hunting Regulations carefully for complete information. These regulations do not become effective until July 1, 2009 so do not affect hunting or trapping seasons that are currently open or that open prior to July 1, 2009. (such as spring bear seasons and bear baiting)

HUNTING CHANGES

BISON

Units 11, 13D, expand boundary of the hunt area north to the Klawasi River.

BLACK BEAR

Units 1 -7, 11 - 17, 19D and 20, require a black bear harvest ticket prior to hunting.

Units 2 and 3, create a controlled use area prohibiting the use of motorized land vehicles for black bear hunting in Units 2 and 3 during the month of September, with the exception of transportation directly to and from public transportation facilities and boat launches.

Unit 6D, open fall black bear season 10 days later, starting Sept. 10.

Units 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, extend bear baiting season to June 30. Effective this spring 2009.

Units 7 and 15, modify bag limit to allow resident hunters to take 2 bears at any time during the season. Nonresident bag limit is now one bear.

Units 19, 21B, 21C, 21D, 24, and 25D, allow resident hunters to use artificial light at den sites from Oct. 15 – April 30 to take black bears from dens. Salvage of meat is required. The prohibition on taking sows and cubs was also lifted for this activity in the rare case that a cub or sow with cubs is taken. Dept. of Law clarified that taking bears from dens has never been prohibited, just the taking of sows with cubs and cubs, and the use of artificial light.

BROWN BEAR

Units 6A, B, C, extend spring season to June 10.

Unit 6D, Montague Island, extend the fall season, Oct. 15 – Dec. 31, add a spring season April 1 – May 25, and open the hunt to nonresidents.

Units 7 and 15, open fall drawing season earlier, Sept. 15, and establish nonresident hunt. Allocate 10 percent of permits to nonresidents, and require guide-client agreement. Guide client agreement requirement will be effective for fall hunts 2010.

Unit 10, Unimak Island, require guide-client agreement. Guide client agreement requirement will be effective for fall hunts 2010.

Units 14B and 16A, lengthen season, Aug. 10 – May 31, modify brown bear bag limit in 14B to one per regulatory year.

Unit 14C, add Eagle River drainage above Icicle Creek to the existing drawing hunt and add a fall season starting the Day after Labor Day. Hunter education required.

Unit 14C, Eklutna Lake Management Area within Chugach State Park, establish new drawing hunt for archery only, Day after Labor Day – May 31. Both IBEP and hunter education required.

Unit 17, open season earlier, Sept. 1 – May 25.

CARIBOU

Unit 8, modify no closed season to Aug. 1 – Jan. 31, establish one caribou a year bag limit, and prohibit same day airborne hunting.

Units 9A, B, C, 17, 18, 19A, 19B, Mulchatna caribou, close nonresident season.

Unit 9D, Southern Alaska Peninsula caribou, close season.

Unit 10, Unimak Island, close season.

Unit 13, convert Tier II hunt to new subsistence hunts. See separate Unit 13 handout for details.

Units 17A, eastern portion and 17C, western portion, clarify bag limit to one caribou when season is opened by emergency order.

DEER

Unit 1A, Cleveland Peninsula, decrease the bag limit from 4 bucks to 2 bucks.

MOOSE

Units 1B, 1C south of Pt. Hobart, including all Port Houghton drainages, and 3, modify the existing bag limit to include moose with antlers having 2 brow tines on both sides.

Units 1B, 1C south of Pt. Hobart, including all Port Houghton drainages, and 3, eliminate the drawing hunt for any bull moose.

Units 1B, 1C south of Pt. Hobart, including all Port Houghton drainages, and 3, a damaged, broken, or altered antler is not considered a spike – fork antler.

Unit 1C, that portion west of Excursion Inlet and north of Icy Passage, Gustavus, modify the any bull registration hunt to require spike-fork, 50 inch or 3 brow tines bag limit.

Units 9B, C, D, and E, modify bag limit for winter hunts to antlered bulls only.

Unit 13, convert Tier II hunt to new subsistence hunt, establish new drawing hunts for both residents and nonresidents. See separate Unit 13 handout for details.

Units 14A and B, lengthen season by adding 5 days on each end, Aug. 25 –Sept. 25.

Unit 14C, allocate portion of permits in Ft. Rich hunts to disabled military personnel with at least 50% disability, starting in fall 2010.

Unit 16B, mainland, convert fall Tier II season to general hunt due to increasing bull numbers. Residents only, season will be August 20-Sept. 20 for spike-fork, 50” bulls with 3 or more brow tines. There will still be Tier II permits for any bull Nov. 15 – Feb. 28.

Unit 17B, align seasons throughout unit, open winter registration hunt in portions of unit, modify bag limit for winter hunt to antlered bull only.

Unit 17C, align seasons throughout unit, open winter registration hunt in portions of unit, modify bag limit for winter hunt to antlered bull only.

Unit 18, open closed area to a resident registration hunt for one antlered bull, Sept. 1 – 10.

Unit 18, north and west of a line from Cape Romanzof to Kusilvak Mt. to Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon River drainages upriver from Mountain Village, modify winter season bag limit to any moose.

Unit 20A, establish new drawing hunts for antlerless moose, prohibit taking of calves and cows with calves, Aug. 25 – Oct. 31, shift season dates for antlerless registration hunts to Jan. 10 – Feb. 28.

Unit 20B, excluding the Salcha River drainage downstream of Goose Creek, establish new drawing hunts for antlerless moose, prohibit taking of calves and cows with calves, Aug. 25 – Nov. 15.

MOOSE, cont.

Unit 20B, Fairbanks Management Area, modify bag limit in the antlerless moose hunts to allow the taking of calves and cows with calves.

Unit 20B, allocate portion of permits in Fairbanks management area hunts to disabled military personnel with at least 50% disability, starting in fall 2010.

Unit 20D, allocate portion of permits in Delta Junction management area hunts to disabled military personnel with at least 50% disability, starting in fall 2010.

MOUNTAIN GOAT

Unit 1D, that portion between Taiya Inlet and River and the White Pass and Yukon Railroad, open an archery only season by registration permit, Sept. 15 – Nov. 15.

Units 7 and 15, establish new bag limit. Hunters taking a nanny will be prohibited from taking another goat in Units 7 and 15 for 5 years.

Unit 8, convert two drawing permit areas (DG475 and DG477) to registration hunts. Since drawing permits for this fall season have already been issued, these hunts on the southwest end of the island will open by registration permit after the drawing hunt this fall, and be registration hunts for the entire season in 2010.

Unit 14C, Lake George and Twentymile area, convert drawing hunt for residents to registration hunt. Since drawing permits for this fall have already been issued, this change will occur in fall 2010.

SHEEP

Unit 14C, allocate 5 percent of archery permits and 13 percent of remaining permits to nonresidents, and require guide-client agreement. Drawing permits for fall 2009 hunts have already been issued, so changes will be effective for fall hunts 2010.

Units 6 – 11, 13 – 17, require all rams, even rams less than full-curl, to be sealed.

COYOTE

Units 6-11, and 13-17, lengthen hunting season, Aug. 10 – May 25 and increase bag limit to 10 per day.

WOLF

Unit 10, lengthen hunting season, Aug. 10 – May 25 and increase bag limit to 10 per day.

WATERFOWL

Units 1 – 4, shift waterfowl season to start Sept. 15 instead of Sept. 1. The season for ducks, seaducks, Canada geese, white-fronted geese, snow geese, Ross' geese, and Brant is now Sept. 15 – Dec. 31.

Unit 15C, Kachemak Bay, modify resident bag limit to 2 seaducks total per day, 4 in possession (harlequins, long-tails, eiders-((except spectacled or Stellars')), scoters, common mergansers, and red-breasted mergansers) of any species. Modify nonresident bag limit to 2 seaducks total per day, 4 in possession (harlequins, long-tails, eiders-((except spectacled or Stellars')), scoters, common mergansers, and red-breasted mergansers) of any species, with no change to the season bag limit.

PTARMIGAN

Units 13A and E, increase winter bag limit during entire season to 10 per day, 20 in possession.

Unit 13B, close season from Dec. 1 – March 31.

MISCELLANEOUS

Unit 3, Blind Slough Closed Area, modify to clarify that only the waters between the closure markers are closed to hunting, not all the waters draining into the Slough.

Unit 14A, Palmer-Wasilla management area, allow hunting of deleterious wildlife with muzzleloader, shotgun or bow and arrow.

Bonus points for all bison and sheep drawing hunts-the Board moved forward on development of a bonus point program. The program's implementation is dependent upon legislative fee changes. Additional information will be available at that time.

TRAPPING CHANGES

BEAVER

Units 7 and 15, extend season Nov. 10 – April 30, underwater traps and snares only in April.

COYOTE

Unit 16, open season earlier, Oct. 15 – April 30. Prohibit the use of steel traps or snares smaller than 3/32 inch diameter until Nov. 10.

LYNX

Unit 6, establish permanent season, Nov. 10 – Feb. 28.

MARTEN

Unit 3, Kuiu Island, close the trapping season completely.

WOLF

Units 1, 3, 4, and 5, open the season 10 days earlier, Nov. 1 – April 30.

Unit 16, open season earlier, Oct. 15 – April 30.

WOLVERINE

Units 1 – 5, shorten the wolverine trapping season to end on Feb. 15.

Unit 14C, Chugach State Park, close trapping season for wolverine, prohibit the use of killer style traps with an inside jaw spread of 7 inches or greater for all trapping. Allow trapping within ¼ mile of Seward Highway.

Unit 14C, outside management areas, open season earlier, Nov. 10 – Jan. 31.

MISCELLANEOUS

Unit 1C, Juneau-Douglas trails, add Amalga Trail, Auke Nu/John Muir Trail, Eagle Glacier Trail, Point Bridget Trail, and Salmon Creek Trail to the trails with a trapping closure within one - quarter mile of the trail, and modify the trapping closure to allow traps with an inside jaw spread of 5 inches or less which are set at least 5 feet above the ground and snow within 50 yards of the same trails.

Unit 14A, Palmer-Wasilla management area, fur bearers and fur animals taken under a trapping license; only methods allowed, other than trapping or snaring, are muzzleloader, shotgun, air rifle, falconry or bow and arrow.

PREDATOR CONTROL

Predator control areas in Units 16 and 19D. Brown bears or black bears taken under a predator control permit to do not count against the statewide bag limit in other units of the state. Please refer to the **predator control supplement** for additional information.

Unit 16, predator control area-Residents only with control permit--allow black bear baiting from April 15-Oct. 15 with no summer closure, allow young hunters 10-15 to take bears under the adults control permit, allow foot-snares to be used to take black bears, allow the use of helicopters to access black bear bait camps and foot-snaring camps.

Unit 19D, predator control area- Residents only with control permit-- allow foot-snares to be used to take both brown and black bears, allow sale of tanned black and brown bear hides with sale tag attached.

Upper Yukon/Tanana predation control area in Units 12, 20(B), 20(D), 20(E), and 25(C): eliminate brown bear control area.



UNIT 13 CARIBOU HUNTING

For the 2009-10 season, caribou permits will be issued in a very different manner.

Residents of the villages of Gulkana, Cantwell, Chistochina, Gakona, Mentasta, Tazlina, Chitina and Kluti Kaah (Copper Center) will have the option of joining a community harvest program. If they sign up, harvest tickets will be issued in their name to a hunt administrator. He/she will distribute those harvest tickets to hunters who will be allowed to take as many caribou as they have harvest tickets, up to a maximum of 300.

All other Alaska hunters may participate in a Tier I (resident only) hunt. In May, interested applicants will fill out a simple form with basic information, including a list of household members.

Tier I

The number of permits issued will depend on the size of the caribou herd, the anticipated success rate and the desired harvest.

Each year a household applies, it will be awarded one point.

Permits will be issued each year from among the households with the most application points. For the first few years, depending on the number of applicants and permits available, selection will be done by lottery. When the number of applicants with the most points is less than the number of available permits, all of those applicants automatically will receive permits. The remaining permits will be issued by lottery among the applicants with the next most application points.

Permits will be limited to one per household. If a household draws a permit, that household is ineligible for a permit for the next three years, but should continue to apply.

Once a permit is issued, or if the household fails to apply for a permit, the household point total automatically returns to zero.

If a household wins a permit, no one in that household may hunt caribou or moose anywhere else in Alaska that regulatory year. However, winning household members may hunt moose in Game Management Unit 13.

If a permittee kills a caribou, the antlers must be cut from the skull plate, or the skull plate must be cut in half. Regardless of the manner of trophy destruction, the antlers must be left at the kill site.

Other considerations:

A registration hunt was rejected because of the likelihood of very short seasons and the strong possibility of overharvest.

All edible meat must be salvaged. Meat of the four quarters and the ribs must remain on the bone until transported from the field to the location where it will be processed for human consumption.

Participants in the community harvest program also are prohibited from hunting moose or caribou outside the area established for those hunts. Antler destruction provisions also apply to community harvest program participants.

Winning households should apply every year, even if ineligible to receive a permit for the next three years. Failure to apply will mean household points will not accrue during those years of ineligibility.

ADF&G will be conducting random sampling to ensure household compliance with the Tier I regulations.

Experiment

This new system replaces one that has been the subject of intense debate for two decades. The Board of Game will reexamine it in 2011. As has been the case virtually every time the system has been changed, there is a strong likelihood that lawsuits will be filed. It will be up to the courts to decide if the new system will be given a chance or whether we will be forced to revert to the old system.

MOOSE HUNTING IN UNIT 13

A community harvest program, the same as for caribou, will exist for the eight villages. The harvest limit will be up to 100 bulls, plus however many spike/fork-50-inch/four brow tine bulls are taken during the Aug. 10-Sept. 20 season.

All other Alaskans may hunt in the traditional Sept. 1-20 season for spike/fork-50-inch/four brow tine bulls.

In addition, there will be some drawing permits for any bull for Alaska residents and some drawing permits for 50-inch/four brow tine bulls for nonresidents in areas where there are surplus bulls.

Unlike the Tier I caribou hunt, there is no household limit on moose hunting in Unit 13. Trophy destruction of antlers is not required for moose in Unit 13.

All edible meat must be salvaged. Meat of the four quarters and the ribs must remain on the bone until transported from the field to the location where it will be processed for human consumption.