

During the 2014 Interior Region meeting, the Board of Game requested this proposal be scheduled for the 2014 Statewide Regulations meeting.

PROPOSAL 180 - 5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exception. Prohibit the use of taking game with remote controlled airborne devices as follows:

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions. The following methods of taking game are prohibited:

.....

(7) With the aid of a pit, fire, artificial light, laser sight, electronically enhanced night vision scope, **any device that has been airborne, controlled remotely and used to spot or locate game with the use of a camera or video device,** radio communication, cellular or satellite telephone, artificial salt lick explosive, expanding gas arrow, bomb, smoke, chemical (excluding scent lures), or a conventional steel trap with no inside jaw spread over nine inches, except that...

WHAT IS THE ISSUE YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS AND WHY?

Current regulation, 5 AAC 92.085(8), addresses taking game same day airborne. The regulation does not address using remote devices such as remote controlled aerial drones or remote controlled camera equipment to assist in taking big game. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers are aware of remote controlled airplanes, helicopters and quad-copters that are being used to spot and assist in taking big game. Some of these remote controlled aircraft can operate up to several hundred feet above ground, giving the hunter an unfair advantage and potentially causing a direct conservation concern to the resource.

These devices continue to be easier to obtain and are becoming economically feasible to use to spot and locate game in the field. If the board does not make it unlawful to use these devices, it will result in increased big game being taken and an unfair advantage to select hunters using these devices.

PROPOSED BY: Board of Game

(HQ-SW14-05)
