



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Fish and Game**

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Central/Southwest

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October 11, 2016

An Agenda Change Request (ACR) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.118(c), Intensive Management Plan, Unit 15C predation control area.

With respect to the board's ACR acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- (A) The department is unaware of any conservation concerns that require immediate board action to address a biological concern or a loss of hunting opportunity.
- (B) The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- (C) The regulation in question was adopted prior to the board going to a three-year meeting cycle. It was not anticipated that the regulation would expire on a date that is two years prior to the next regularly scheduled board meeting for Unit 15C.

The department recommends that the board accept this ACR. Unit 15C is an important area for producing high levels of moose for human consumptive use and to help meet subsistence needs. If the program is not re-authorized in 2017, program implementation will be delayed along with any potential benefits of reallocating prey from predators to humans.

The Unit 15C Intensive Management (IM) program was originally adopted in 2012, but control activities have not been conducted. The last moose census in Unit 15C was conducted in February 2013 and produced a point estimate of 3204 (95% CI: 2554-3855) or approximately 2.7 moose/mi<sup>2</sup>. Also, we have new relevant data on moose productivity and survival to include from a moose research project that started in 2012. We have had additional censuses scheduled for the last two years, but we have not had adequate conditions to conduct them. Given the data generated since this program was originally adopted and that the current IM plan for Unit 15C expires on June 30, 2017, the department recommends that the board consider a proposal to renew the IM regulation for Unit 15 (C).

The next regularly scheduled meeting for Unit 15C will not occur until 2019, and the department would appreciate consideration of this proposal before the current plan expires.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Dale".

Bruce Dale, Director

Division of Wildlife Conservation