



November 7, 2019

An Agenda Change Request (ACR 2) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.540(B), the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area in Unit 26A. There are three requested changes to the controlled use area (CUA). The proponent is asking the board to expand the CUA by moving the western boundary farther west. The existing CUA is applicable only to caribou hunting, and the proponent requests the scope of the CUA be changed to include all big game. Lastly, the proponent is asking the dates the controlled use area is in effect be expanded by approximately 1.5 months.

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

- A) The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- B) The department is unaware of any effects of regulations that were unforeseen when the regulation was adopted.
- C) The ACR does not identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population.
- D) The department is unaware of unforeseen or unexpected events that would restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional use of game in the area in question.
- E) The ACR does not identify an unexpected or unforeseen resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action.

The CUA was created by the board to prevent aircraft from disturbing the movement patterns of the fall caribou migration through Anaktuvuk Pass. There is a positive Customary and Traditional use finding for the Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou herds, both of which move through the CUA, with an amount necessary for subsistence (ANS) of 8,000 – 12,000.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting for Unit 26A is during winter/spring of 2022/2023. If the board accepts this ACR, the department recommends the proposal come before the board at its January 2020 meeting in Nome to allow for testimony within the Arctic/Western Region, which is where the CUA is located.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eddie Grasser".

Eddie Grasser  
Director  
Division of Wildlife Conservation