

ACR #7 – Change the boundary for Units 20A & 20C.

SUBMITTED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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

Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC: 92.450 Description of Game Management Units

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

This ACR is to address a change that has occurred in the location of the main channel of the Nenana River that effects the border of Units 20A and 20C. This ACR clarifies that Seventeen Mile Slough and Lost Slough are channels of the Nenana River and therefore define the western boundary of 20A and the eastern boundary of 20C. Almost all of the water flowing downstream in the Nenana River enters Seventeen Mile and Lost Sloughs to their confluence with the Tanana River. This has created confusion by hunters interpreting the boundary in regulation because the Nenana River has changed its main channel course from what is shown on the map provided in the Alaska Hunting Regulations as well as USGS topographical maps. This regulatory clarification will allow hunters to easily determine the subunit boundaries as the main channel of the Nenana River will match correctly with what is printed in the Alaska Hunting Regulations as well as label names on USGS maps. This has created confusion for hunters and made it difficult for enforcement.

WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?

5 AAC 92.450(20)

(A) Unit 20(A) consists of that portion of Unit 20 bounded on the south by the Unit 13 boundary, bounded on the east by the west bank of the Delta River, bounded on the north by the north bank of the Tanana River from its confluence with the Delta River downstream to its confluence with the Nenana River, and bounded on the west by the east bank of the Nenana River **including Seventeen Mile Slough and Lost Slough;**

...

(C) Unit 20(C) consists of that portion of Unit 20 bounded on the east by the east bank of the Nenana River **including Seventeen Mile Slough and Lost Slough** and on the north by the north bank of the Tanana River downstream from the Nenana River;

The map in the Alaska Hunting regulations would also change and show the boundary following the Nenana River down Lost slough and 17-mile slough.

STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

A. **To correct an error in regulation.**

N/A

B. To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.

The intent of the regulation is that the Nenana River is the border between Game Management Units 20A and 20C. The main channel of the river has moved since the existing boundary was adopted by the board and since the maps were labeled. As a result, the USGS map and the map in the Alaska Hunting Regulations the boundary where the Nenana River no longer exists.

C. Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?

No

D. 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)?

N/A

E. 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?

Yes. Correcting this issue would increase opportunity for both moose and grizzly bear hunters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?

Hunters will have difficulty determining if they are hunting in Unit 20A or Unit 20C for several hunting seasons. Moose and grizzly bear hunting regulations are different in each unit. The enforcement of the regulation will be impossible during those seasons.

STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.

This ACR would make the hunting regulations more clear for the public and enforcement. It does not address allocation.

IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.

STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR.

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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.