

Note: Alaska Statute 16.05.783 only allows same day airborne taking of wolves and wolverine as part of a predator control program authorized by the Board of Game.

PROPOSAL 8 – 5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods for taking furbearers; exceptions.

Remove the same day airborne restrictions for taking wolf and wolverine with a trapping license as follows:

Allow shooting a wolf or wolverine during trapping season on the same day airborne as long a person is more than 300 feet from his airplane and has a trapping license.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Under the trapping regulations it is legal to shoot fox, coyotes and lynx on the same day airborne as long as the trapper is more than 300 feet from his airplane. But it is specifically NOT legal to shoot a wolf or wolverine unless it is already caught in a trap or snare. There are at least two scenarios in which a person operating under the authority of a trapping license might encounter a wolf or wolverine and wish to harvest that animal. In one case, a trapper has flown to a remote trap line and is checking his traps either by foot or snow machine and encounters a wolf or wolverine, perhaps the wolf or wolverine is even raiding the trappers traps of martin but the trapper cannot shoot the wolf or wolverine because he has been airborne that day. In the second case, the trapper is attempting to take furbearers specifically by predator calling. The trapper may fly out in the morning, land his plane in a suitable area and hike while setting up and predator calling every half mile or so. This is an enjoyable way to hunt that is becoming more popular (witness the sales of predator calls at Cabela's and Bass Pro). If a fox, lynx or coyote comes in to the call it is legal to shoot but not a wolf or wolverine. This does not make much sense especially when the bag limit in essentially every unit except Units 14 and 16A is unlimited for both wolf and wolverine.

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