

PROPOSAL 81

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require all snares set on the Kodiak road system to include breakaway mechanisms as follows:

On the Kodiak road system, all snares must be equipped with a breakaway mechanism (of a designated minimum poundage) on the loop end of the snare and the snare cable and anchor must be stronger than the breakaway mechanism.

This change was proposed last cycle by the Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Southcentral Region meeting: March 14–19, 2019; Proposal 109). Proposal 109 found broad community support, but ultimately failed on a split 3-3 vote by the board. Since that time, the number of incidents and volume of community discussion related to this issue has only increased. The inclusion of appropriately sized breakaway mechanisms would allow trappers to continue targeting furbearers with snares along the Kodiak road system while reducing catch of non-target animals, promoting responsible trapping practices, and reducing user group conflict. Inclusion of breakaway mechanisms is not expected to significantly increase direct costs for an individual to participate in trapping activities.

The Humane Society of Kodiak is not a member of, nor formally affiliated with, the Humane Society of the United States or the American Humane Society.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There has been an increase in catch of non-target animals in snares set along the Kodiak road system, including bears, deer, and domestic animals. The main concern is with locking style snares that do not incorporate breakaway mechanisms. Snares without breakaway mechanisms cause severe injury or death to non-target animals, resulting in increased mortality of valuable game resources (i.e., bears and deer) and conflicts between trappers and other user groups, particularly when domestic animals (i.e., dogs and livestock) are involved.

PROPOSED BY: Humane Society of Kodiak Board of Directors (EG-F22-131)
