

BOARD EMERGENCY PETITION REQUEST

Unit 10 - Unimak Island Non-resident Limited Draw Permits

Alaska Administrative Code Number 5AAC 96.625

(f) an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would significantly be burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The recent reallocation of Federal Use Permits on the Alaska Peninsula and Unimak Island has been completed. Prior to this reallocation I, Rodney Schuh, held the Unimak Island Federal Use Permit to provide guided hunts to non-residents who drew drawing permits on Unimak Island for brown bear. The most recent application period drew hunters for the spring of 2024, in which 3 non-residents drew permits. Now that the reallocation of areas as mentioned is complete, I will not hold the Unimak Special Use Permit beyond the fall of 2023. This being said: the Unimak Island Special Use permit will be vacant until it is offered on the next cycle of permit offerings. This creates an unforeseen and unexpected situation where there is not a registered guide holding the area and able to provide guiding services to these fortunate permit recipients. The uneven overlap of draw permits versus Special Use Permit dates is something none of us thought about or expected until it now has happened.

Considering that these permit recipients have been applying for these permits for multiple years and the possibility of not being able to utilize these permits is very unfortunate! I would like the board to consider allowing these 3 permit recipients to utilize their permits during the spring 2023 season instead of the spring 2024 season, in which my Special Use Permit will be valid. I feel this is an appropriate request considering that the permits have been allocated and the use of them in the earlier season will have minimal to no adverse effects on the resource or other permit recipients, taking into account the minimal amount of hunting pressure due to the limited permits issued and the length of the season, which is May 10-31.

I appreciate the Boards consideration with this situation and am hopeful this can be initiated for these permit recipients, as it will be very unlikely they would ever draw these permits again.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rod Schuh
Registered Guide #828