

PROPOSAL 50

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Lengthen the marten trapping season in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24 and 25 by two weeks to end March 15 as follows:

5 AAC 84.270(6) Furbearer trapping. Marten.

Extend the marten trapping season in Units 12, 19 - 21, 24, and 25 by as follows: November 1 through **March 15** [FEBRUARY 28]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council (EIRAC) would like the board to lengthen the season end dates for marten in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, and 25 until March 15 so that trappers targeting lynx during March can have concurrent opportunity to harvest marten. Currently, marten trapping season closes on the last day of February in the aforementioned units but lynx trapping season is open until March 15 in Units 12, 19A, 19B, 19E, 20, 21B, 21C, 21D, 21E, and 25 and until March 31 in Units 19C, 19D, and 21A. Many trappers target both marten and lynx, and this 15-day season extension would allow trappers the opportunity to harvest a few additional marten.

Shifting climate patterns are causing warmer falls but pushing cold weather farther into the spring. Marten fur quality is still prime in early to mid-March. March typically has the best trail conditions for trapping. In recent years of deep snowfall, it has been difficult to access traplines in February.

EIRAC is also submitting a federal proposal during the current wildlife regulatory cycle that requests the same season extension in the same units. This proposal would align state and federal regulations if both proposals are adopted.

PROPOSED BY: Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council (EIRAC)

(HQ-F23-007)
