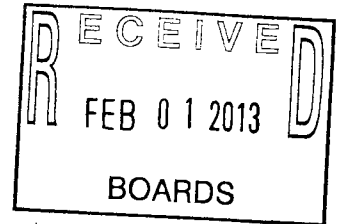


RC12

Feb. 1, 2013

Via fax: 907-465-6094

Board of Game Comments
ADFG, Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811



Alaska Board of Game,

I support Proposal 105, to ban bear snaring, and I support Proposal 86, to establish a no-take wolf buffer east of Denali National Park.

As the author of Proposal 86, I wish to expand the area to be considered for closure to take of wolves, in addition to that already requested in GMU 13 in Prop. 86, to include the following area in GMU 20:

Take of wolves is prohibited on state lands (GMU 20), in the area bounded on the west by the east boundary of Denali National Park; extending east to one mile east of, and parallel to, the Anchorage-Fairbanks Intertie Electrical Power Line; on the south by Carlo Creek; and on the north by a line from the southeast corner of Township 11S, Range 9W (Latitude 63 degrees, 55 minutes North), due east to the George Parks Highway, then south along the Parks Highway to a line running due east from the Highway through the town of Healy, to one mile east of the Intertie Line; inclusive of all State lands west of the George Parks Highway commonly referred to as the "Wolf Townships," and/or "Stampede Trail."

I realize that at your Sitka meeting in January you left in place your moratorium on considering Denali buffer proposals, but I reiterate that the use of moratoria such as this is an unethical, if not illegal, restriction of public process. Further, in your discussion of the Denali buffer, there were several erroneous statements made by the Board. One Board member actually stated that there were no animals left in Denali anyway (far from the truth), yet this statement was left unchallenged. Another, I believe your Chair, has stated categorically that the Denali wolf decline was the result of lack of prey in the park, with no substantiation whatsoever.

The Board owes it to Alaskans to engage in a more scientific and honest discussion of this issue. It seems to many of us that the Board has made up its mind to oppose a Denali buffer, regardless of the facts. That is most certainly irresponsible management. I suggest this would be an excellent opportunity for you to rectify this irresponsible behavior.

Rick Steiner, Professor (Univ. of AK ret.)
Box 666, 9138 Arlon St., A3
Anchorage, AK, 99507

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Steiner".