

*Note: Proposal 129 was accepted by the Board of Game as an agenda change request for consideration at the Southcentral Region Meeting in March 2019.*

## **PROPOSAL 129**

### **5 AAC 92.530(7)(C). Management areas.**

Clarify the ability for trappers to transport furbearers or lawful parts of game as trapping bait within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area as follows:

The Alaska Wildlife Troopers requests the Board of Game (board) clarify the intent of the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area in regard to trappers and the use of motorized vehicles.

### **5 AAC 92.530. Management areas.**

(7) the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area:

(A) the area consists of those portions of Units 20 and 24–26 extending five miles from each side of the Dalton Highway, including the drivable surface of the Dalton Highway, from the Yukon River to the Arctic Ocean, and including the Prudhoe Bay Closed Area;

(B) the area within the Prudhoe Bay Closed Area is closed to the taking of big game; the remainder of the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area is closed to hunting; however, big game, small game, and fur animals may be taken in the area by bow and arrow only, and small game may be taken by falconry;

(C) “no motorized vehicle may be used to transport hunters, hunting gear, or parts of game, within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area, except that

(i) licensed highway vehicles may be used on the following designated roads:

(1) Dalton Highway,

(2) Bettles Winter Trail during periods when the Bureau of Land Management and the City of Bettles announce that the trail is open for winter travel,

(3) Galbraith Lake Road from the Dalton Highway to the BLM campground at Galbraith Lake, including the gravel pit access road when the gate is open,

(4) Toolik Lake Road, excluding the driveway to the Toolik Lake Research Facility,

(5) the Sagavanirktok River access road two miles north of Pump Station 2, and

(6) any constructed roadway or gravel pit within one-quarter mile of the Dalton Highway;

(ii) aircraft and boats may be used;

(iii) a snowmachine may be used to cross the management area from land outside the management area to access land on the other side of the management area;

(D) any hunter traveling on the Dalton Highway must stop at any check station operated by the department within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The regulation in place for the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area (DHCMA) prohibits the use of motorized vehicles to transport hunters, hunting gear, and parts of game. That has been interpreted that hunters could not operate motorized vehicles, but trappers could. It has recently come to the attention of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers and the Department of Fish and Game that due to the definition of “game,” trappers cannot transport furbearers or lawful bait that consists of parts of game with a motorized vehicle in the DHCMA. It is requested that the intent of this regulation in regard to trappers and the use of motorized vehicles be placed into the regulation.

If the intent of the regulation was to only pertain to hunters, then an exception should be created to allow the use of motorized vehicle for the transportation of furbearers taken under the authority of a trapping licenses and parts of game lawfully used as bait under a trapping license.

If the intent of the regulation is to not allow trappers to transport parts of games, then the Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT) believe that the regulation should read “... no motorized vehicle may be used to transport hunter or trappers, hunting or trapping gear, or parts of game...” This will make the intent of the regulation very clear to both enforcement and trappers.

At the time AWT presented the agenda change request to the board at the February 2019 board meeting, it was the belief that the regulations for multiple management areas would need to be clarified in regard to the intent for trappers to transport game and furbearers, but after reviewing the regulations, it was determined that the DHMCA is the only management area needing clarification.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Wildlife Troopers (HQ-F18-ACR1)  
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