

PROPOSAL 31

5 AAC 92.550(1)(F). Areas closed to trapping.

Allow the use of submerged traps in the Juneau closed area in Unit 1C as follows:

AREAS CLOSED TO TRAPPING

Unit 1C, (Juneau Area)

A strip within 1/4 mile of the following trails as designated on 1962 U.S. Geographical Survey maps and revisions: Herbert Glacier Trail, Windfall Lake Trail, Peterson Lake Trail, Spalding Meadows Trail, (including the loop trail), Nugget Creek Trail, Outer Point Trail, Dan Moller Trail, Perseverance Trail, Granite Creek Trail, Mount Roberts Trail, Nelson Water Supply Trail, (off of Mt. Roberts Trail), Sheep Creek Trail, Point Bishop Trail, Amalga Trail, Auke Nu/John Muir Trail, Eagle Glacier Trail, Point Bridget Trail, Treadwell Ditch Trail, and Salmon Creek Trail; however **traps that are completely submerged, and** traps with an inside spread of five inches or less which are set at least five feet above the ground and snow are allowed if more than 50 yards from the trail.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Areas closed to trapping in Unit 1C, Juneau area. Specifically, trail area closures and set-backs.

There are currently 19 trails that require 1/4 mile set-backs for trapping, with the exception of small traps that are elevated at least five feet above ground/snow. Many of these trails follow water courses to some extent. The Juneau area also is closed to all trapping within 1/4 mile of the coast along the entire road system. This severely restricts the ability to harvest water-oriented furbearers such as mink, otter, and beaver. While this area has an abundance of these species, for the most part they are not available to local trappers.

To compound the issue, the area is experiencing a large increase in the beaver population, resulting in an increase of complaints regarding personal property damage, flooding, and roads and culverts being compromised.

The ability for local trappers to make submerged sets and under-ice sets would allow the safe harvest of these animals, increase opportunity (which is severely limited under current regulation), and aid the Department of Fish and Game in managing damage complaints.

PROPOSED BY: Juneau Trappers Association

(EG-F18-010)
