

**ACR #2** – Award DI403 and DI404 permit recipients whose tags were cancelled on July 24, 2024 the same hunting permits for an upcoming season, and develop a plan with ADF&G to ensure late season changes do not impact hunters.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Lang Van Dommelen

**CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD.**

Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC: 92.050. Required permit hunt conditions and procedures.

**WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM.**

The Board of Game should consider addressing the cancelled DI403 and DI404 permits that were cancelled on July 24, 2024. This cancellation happened after impacted hunters were contacted by ADF&G to congratulate hunters and encourage hunters to begin their planning process. Some hunters were given the opportunity to hunt this season while approximately half of hunters were not given this opportunity.

**WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?**

The preference would be awarding these cancelled tags during an upcoming hunting season. I would also encourage the Board of Game to work with ADF&G to develop a plan to ensure late season changes do not leave hunters who were expecting and planning to hunt a particular unit or species hanging. Successful hunting in Alaska requires extensive planning, especially for those who do not have access to motorized means of transportation.

**STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- 1) **To correct an error in regulation.**

N/A

- 2) **To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.**

Develop regulations that would ensure that this type of change does not occur in the future.

- 3) **Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?**

These tags were cancelled to account for a biological concern.

- 4) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f)?**

N/A

- 5) Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future?

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?**

Hunters who had their tags cancelled will not be eligible to bison hunt.

**STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.**

This seeks to address how tags were cancelled after they were awarded during the November 2023 draw application period for the 2024 hunting season

**IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.**

Every year both resident and nonresident hunters entire the draw application period with the hope of drawing a tag. In 2024, tags for DI403 and DI404 were awarded in February. In April, ADF&G emailed tag winners congratulating them and encouraging them to plan their hunt. In late July of 2024 they again contacted winners and announced that roughly half the tags were being cancelled. The timing of this is problematic because hunting in Alaska, especially for those who do not own airplanes and boats requires significant planning, additionally, me and other hunters who were planning this once in a lifetime hunt had already made significant financial investment in this hunt with the purchase of new gear, ensuring rifles met the hunt requirements, etc. Addressing how this situation will be rectified will give hunters better information and the ability to plan. Unfortunately, I and other cancelled permit holders will not have this information prior to the draw application period.

**STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR.**

Hunter

**STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF GAME MEETING.**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has stated that they plan to also request an ACR.