

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Headquarters

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November 14, 2024

An Agenda Change Request (ACR 6) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas. The proponent asks the board to define the beginning and terminus of the Nine Mile trail in the Ladue River Controlled Use Area (CUA). This would clarify for hunters where ATV use is allowed within the CUA and would give the Alaska Wildlife Troopers the ability to enforce the regulation as intended by the board.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- A. The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- B. At the time the board adopted the existing regulation there was little ATV traffic on the Nine Mile trail within the Ladue River CUA. After such time that the board adopted the regulation, the amount of traffic has increased and as a result trail use has extended well beyond where the original trail ended when the CUA was created.
- C. The department is unaware of any biological concerns.
- D. This ACR is requesting a clarification of current regulation. The expanded use beyond the original trail extent approved in current regulation did not exist at the time the board adopted this regulation and therefore the department is unaware of any unforeseen or unexpected events that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses as defined in AS 16.05.258(f).
- E. The department is unaware of any unexpected resource situation that would cause a biologically allowable resource harvest to be precluded by delayed regulatory action.

The requested change will provide a clear start and end to the trail, which will allow ATV users to know where they can lawfully use motorized vehicles within the CUA, and will allow the Alaska Wildlife Troopers to enforce the regulation.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region is during winter/spring of 2026/2027. If the board accepts this ACR, the department recommends the proposal come before the board at its March meeting in Anchorage to allow for more public input.

Sincerely,

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Ryan Scott Director Division of Wildlife Conservation