ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

RC2: Advisory Committee and Public Comments

Special Meeting: Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd

Anchorage, AK | July 14-15, 2025

©Savannah Hollingworth

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

Special Meeting: Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd

Anchorage, Alaska | July 14-15, 2025

Compilation of Comments submitted before 12:00 p.m. on 7/8/2025, sorted alphabetically and logged with a "PC number". Comments submitted after 12:00 p.m. on 7/8/2025 will be logged and posted on the meeting webpage as Record Copies (RCs).

Advisory Committee Index

Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC1

Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC2

Public Committee Index

Multiple Submitters, Listed after comment text PC1

A, Kailani PC2

Abbas, Yasmine PC3

Abou Jaoude, Tamara PC4

Aburto, Paulina PC5

Acevedo, Elizabeth PC6

Acevedo, Lauren PC7

Acosta , Cristina PC8

Acosta, Donna PC9

Acott , Susan PC10

Adair , Jennifer PC11

Adamas, Porsche PC12

Adamo, Patricia PC13

Adams, Joan Adams PC14

Adams, Kristin PC15

Adams, Sarah PC16

Public Comment Index

Adamson, Sharon PC17
Aguilera, Saharai PC18
Ahuja, Anirudh PC19
Aiello, Christopher PC20
Akers, Taylah PC21
Akritidou , Fotini PC22
Aldaco, Marta PC23
Aldridge , Zym PC24
Aledo, Nikki PC25
Alfailakawi , Abdulrahman PC26
Allebach, Jennifer PC27
Allen, Isabella PC28
Allen, Kelley PC29
Allespach, Dr Heidi PC30
Altman, Arla PC31
Altman, Jennifer PC32
Alvarado, Katherine PC33
Amagai, Ken PC34
Ambrogi , Jordan PC35
Amin , Prishita PC36
Amsden, Trys PC37
Anand, Supriya PC38
Anderson, Olivia PC39

Public Comment Index

Andrade, Cherie PC40

Anesko, Laura PC41

Angstman, Andrew **Affiliation**: Tikchik Narrows Lodge PC42

Ann Whitelaw, Julie PC43

Ansari , Mazhar PC44

Anselmi, Giulia PC45

Antonelli, Sheila PC46

Arambula, Kelsey PC47

Arand, Rachael PC48

Arcoite, Mason PC49

Arispe, Sandra PC50

Arlan, Eric PC51

Armbruster, Hannah PC52

Armes, Elizabeth PC53

Armstrong, Lorill PC54

Aruanno, June PC55

Ashcroft , John PC56

Askew, Susan PC57

Atkinson, Stuart PC58

Avarell, Faye PC59

Avraham, Jill PC60

Axe, Kathy PC61

Azar, Nieku PC62

Public Comment Index

Azlin, Pat PC63
B , Rebecca PC64
B, Dileepkumar PC65
B, Karmen PC66
B, Pragna PC67
Baca , Julio PC68
Bachenheimer, Ronda PC69
Bachrach, David PC70
Badenhorst , Suzanne PC71
Badna, Beatrice PC72
Baer, Caroline PC73
Bailey Dobson, Sarah PC74
Bailey, Cynthia PC75
Bains , Amar PC76
Bakkali, Amina PC77
Balachander, Krishna PC78
Balan, Maya PC79
Bales, Sandra PC80
Ballard, Hayley PC81
Ballard, Jordan PC82
Banwart, Amanda PC83
Baranowski, Portia PC84
Barclay, Cindy PC85

Public Comment Index

Barclay, Jaymie PC86
Barillas , Julissa PC87
Barnes , Debbie PC88
Barnhart , Jennifer PC89
Barraza, Marcel PC90
Barrera, Karely PC91
Barth, Courtney PC92
Bates, Cherith PC93
Bates, Chuck PC94
Bates, Ella PC95
Battey, Jane PC96
Battistone, Carolina PC97
Batzoli, Vasiliki PC98
Baumgart, Bethany PC99
Bavilla, Janet **Affiliation:** City of Platinum PC100
Bayer, Brooke PC101
Beal, Families PC102
Becker , Stephanie PC103
Becker, Sarah PC104
Becker, Tiffany PC105
Bednar, Jenna PC106
Bedore, Karolyn PC107
Bejoy, Bhadra PC108

Public Comment Index

Bell, Taylor PC109

Beltzer, Christopher **Affiliation:** Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation PC110

Bennett, Cathleen PC111

Bennett, Jody PC112

Bennett, Liz PC113

Benning, Don PC114

Berdecio , Gabriela PC115

Berg, Merlyn PC116

Berg, Tiffany PC117

Berk, Elena PC118

Bernath, Jodi PC119

Berrens, Zachary PC120

Beseda, Veronica PC121

Bevacqua, Karen PC122

Bhale, Pooja R **Affiliation:** Protecterra PC123

Bianco, Annalysia **Affiliation:** The wildlife collective PC124

Bibelheimer, Jewel PC125

Bielawa, Cameron PC126

Bielawski, Theresa PC127

Biller, Jenny PC128

Billings, Lisa PC129

Billock, Ginny PC130

Birndorf, Jessica PC131

Public Comment Index

Bischoff, Ronda PC132
Bisesi , Mary PC133
Bittner, Michelle PC134
Black , Carolyn PC135
Blackburn, Joan PC136
Blackwell, Stephen PC137
Blakey, Harry PC138
Blaxter, Gigi PC139
Bloomfield, Kelsey PC140
Blount, Will PC141
Body, Elaine PC142
Bolding, Sherry PC143
Bone, Maria PC144
Bordner, Deborah PC145
Borgen, Ena PC146
Borrero, Waldemar PC147
Boselli, Juliette **Affiliation:** Denali Mountain Works PC148
Boswell, Rhonda PC149
Bouker, Johanna PC150
Boutier, Ella PC151
Bowman, Christa PC152
Bowman, Trina PC153
Boxman , Naomi PC154

Public Comment Index

Boyer, Jayne PC155
Boyer, Tracy PC156
Boykin, Kayla PC157
Bradley, Wendy **Affiliation:** Bradley family PC158
Brandon, Victoria PC159
Brandt, Carolyn PC160
Branson, Peter PC161
Breinholt, Michelle PC162
Brinkworth, Deborah PC163
Brito, Pamela PC164
Bromley, Michael PC165
Brooks, Brooks PC166
Brooks, Nathan PC167
Browder, Karen Browder PC168
Browder, Rachel PC169
Brown, Kellie PC170
Brown, Tatiana PC171
Brown, Valerie PC172
Browne, Rachel PC173
Bruce, Melody PC174
Brune, Tena PC175
Brush, Theresa PC176
Bryan, Td PC177

Public Comment Index

Bryant Jr, David PC178
Bunyan , Georgia PC179
Burchett, Phyllis **Affiliation:** PhyllisBurchettPhoto, LLC PC180
Burgnon, Desiree PC181
Burleson, Nicole PC182
Burmeister, Garrett PC183
Bush, Isabella PC184
Buss, Cole PC185
Butler, Lacey PC186
Butzke, Sabrina PC187
Buza, Joshua PC188
Byrne, Kelly PC189
C, Supriya PC190
Cabanas, Vanessa PC191
Caesar, Jeannine PC192
Cage, Terri PC193
Caire , Andrew PC194
Cairns , Nicole PC195
Calderon, Tj PC196
Calini, Olivia PC197
Call, Elissa PC198
Calle, Naomi PC199
Cambridge, Bell PC200

Public Comment Index

Camp, Emily PC201
Camp, Larry PC202
Camp, Reidar PC203
Campbell, Cheryl PC204
Campuzano , Ruben PC205
Cancela, Carmen PC206
Canez , Jacquelyn PC207
Cannava, Mathew PC208
Cannon, Kat PC209
Carbone, Michele PC210
Card, Daylee PC211
Carden, Kristin PC212
Carl, David PC213
Carneiro, Nicole PC214
Carnevali, Laure PC215
Carrier, Claire PC216
Case, Tori PC217
Caselgrandi Silla, Andrea PC218
Casias, Abby PC219
Catero, Travis PC220
Celento, Geenie PC221
Centala, Amba PC222
Cesario, Paula PC223

Public Comment Index

Chabrova, Maria PC224
Chagnon, Bryon PC225
Chandler , Scott PC226
Chandler, Sherry PC227
Chaouch, Hanna PC228
Chapman, Mabel PC229
Chardi, Sanela PC230
Charles, Allison PC231
Chavez, Christina PC232
Chemaly , Sean PC233
Cheng , Shu Yun PC234
Chester, Suzann PC235
Chichester, Jennifer PC236
Chilton, Patricia PC237
Chow, Betty PC238
Clancy , Hannah PC239
Clark, Elyse PC240
Clark, Lex PC241
Clarke, Heather PC242
Clawson, Jadyn PC243
Cleaver, B. PC244
Cloos, Rikki PC245
Cohen, Jen PC246

Public Comment Index

Cohrs, Kelley PC247
Cohrt, Katherine PC248
Cole, Laura PC249
Coleman, Terry PC250
Conklin, Lori PC251
Connell, Greg PC252
Connors, Kate PC253
Contreras, Yaniel PC254
Conway, Chris PC255
Cook, Corban PC256
Cook, Ember PC257
Cooper, Keith **Affiliation:** West End Ecology Tours PC258
Cooper, Sally PC259
Cooper, Salvades PC260
Copley, James PC261
Corless, Logan PC262
Correz, Frederico PC263
Corson-Foster, Jamie PC264
Cortez, Rochelle PC265
Corum, Marianna PC266
Coskun, Peter PC267
Cottrell, Kaylee PC268
Courie, Haley PC269

Public Comment Index

Covert, Bradley PC270
Cox, Lisa PC271
Cox, Shallon PC272
Cox, Tara PC273
Cozzi, Marybeth PC274
Crabb, Romy PC275
Cramer, Sally PC276
Crawmer, MaryAnne PC277
Crissman, Emma PC278
Crocker, Sandra PC279
Crofton, Sameena PC280
Cronan, Mary PC281
Crosby , Lindsey PC282
Cruz, Ashley PC283
Cruz, Gina PC284
Cruz, Stephany PC285
Cullen, Meagan PC286
Cullen, Shawna PC287
Culver, Shelley PC288
Cumba, Melissa PC289
Cummings, Terry *(See PC1507) *PC1507
Curtis, Carrie PC290
Cutshall, Jennifer PC291

Public Comment Index

Cypra, Steven PC292
Czerwinski , Karin PC293
D, Cara PC294
D, Jessica PC295
Dabis, Sonya H PC296
Dadourkova, Barbora PC297
Dahlmann, Alison PC298
Dailey, Maria PC299
Daku, Lindsey PC300
Dalal, Shari PC301
Dallas, Heidi PC302
Dalman, Gillian PC303
Dalton, Bob PC304
Daly, Colleen PC305
Damanis, Allison PC306
Damberg, Carol PC307
Dampf, Christin PC308
Daniel, Eric PC309
Daniels, Hopi PC310
Dante, Mikala PC311
Darsana, Helena PC312
Dasilva, Toot PC313
Dauk, Laurie PC314

Public Comment Index

Dautel, John PC315
Davis, Gabriel PC316
Davis, Jake PC317
Davitch, Paula **Affiliation:** Wildlife initiative PC318
Davydova , Oxana PC319
Dawson, Denee PC320
De bel, Mary PC321
De Gasperis, Elena PC322
De La Fuente, Monica PC323
De Ridder, Mary PC324
Deblasio, Frank PC325
Deel, Malissa PC326
DeFrain, Jourdan PC327
Degener, Angela PC328
DeHaas, Larissa PC329
DeHaven, Kelsy PC330
Del Rosario, Maja PC331
Deleu, Morgane PC332
Delport, Tiané PC333
DeLuca , Victoria PC334
Dempsey, Della PC335
Dennenberg, Dani PC336
Dennenberg, Hava PC337

Public Comment Index

Dennis, Sherrie PC338
Derby, Logan PC339
Deshmukh, Dimple PC340
Desjardins , Jessica PC341
Deutscher, Brett PC342
Devenport, Dael PC343
Di Girolamo, Paola PC344
Diaz, Angel PC345
Dibrova, Yana PC346
Dicosola , Claudia PC347
Dietlin, Kathy PC348
Dill, Katie PC349
DiLorenzo, Matthew PC350
Dimitrov, Lina PC351
Dinh, Karry PC352
Dittloff, Deanna PC353
Dixon, Janna PC354
Dixon, Linda PC355
Doan, Donna PC356
Dobner, Caitlyn PC357
Doe, Jordan PC358
Doehring, Francesca PC359
Dolan, Erin PC360

Public Comment Index

Dominguez, Maria PC361
Donnelly, Lilly PC362
Donovan, Brian PC363
Douaire , Twyla PC364
Dougherty , James PC365
Douglas, Brianna PC366
Douglas, Deborah PC367
Douthit, Caroline PC368
Dowell , Melissa PC369
Downs, Christine PC370
Doyne, Stacey PC371
Drescher, Melanie PC372
Dsouza, Duane PC373
Duarte, Xiomara PC374
DuCharme, Adrienne PC375
Dudley , Kristina **Affiliation**: Kristina Dudley Locum Veterinarian PC376
Duis, Jamie PC377
Dunaway, Dan PC378
Duncan, Teresa PC379
Dunlop, Jordana PC380
Dunn, Julie PC381
Dunn, Leo PC382
Duprey, Michelle PC383

Public Comment Index

Dvorak, Thomas PC384
Dwight, Margaret PC385
Dyar, Candace PC386
Echenique, Tomas PC387
Edelmann, Jolene PC388
Edmunds, Ricky PC389
Edney, Joanne PC390
Eggert, Shiloh PC391
Ehrke, Niki PC392
Eischens, Kolton PC393
Ellifrits, Jane PC394
Ellis , Leanne PC395
Ellis, Maddy PC396
Ellis, Makenna PC397
Embalsado, Genevieve PC398
Emmins, Tayla **Affiliation**: The wildlife collective PC399
Enes, Michael PC400
Englar, Tammy PC401
Enochs, Erin PC402
Equihua, Ebony PC403
Erb, Jessica PC404
Erb, Kristen PC405
Erickson, Diana PC406

Public Comment Index

Erlenbach, Joy PC407
Erny, Michaels PC408
Ershova, Masha PC409
Escamilla, Sofia PC410
Estabilio, Jalea PC411
Esteves, Meghan PC412
Evans, Cassandra PC413
F., Jonah PC414
Facin, Tom PC415
Fahey, Michael PC416
Fannin, Liz PC417
Faria, Ayesha PC418
Farley, Amber PC419
Farmer, Susan PC420
Farrell, Nicolette PC421
Farris, Annie PC422
Fattorini , Joseph PC423
Faucher, Sue PC424
Faust, Nina PC425
Faye, Faye PC426
Fedak, Mary PC427
Feek, Adrian PC428
Feijen, Stef PC429

Public Comment Index

Felix , Alexander PC430
Feminella, Amy PC431
Fennessy , Christine PC432
Fernandez, Erika PC433
Ferrarese , Jennifer PC434
Ferraro, Erica PC435
Ferraro, Robert PC436
Fiege-Howard, Natascha PC437
Fields, Alicia PC438
Finch, Alora PC439
Fine , Emily PC440
Fine, Brice PC441
Fintel, Brittany PC442
Firman, Madilyn PC443
Fisk, K PC444
Fitzpatrick, Angela PC445
Fleck, Jennifer PC446
Fleck, Jennifer PC447
Fleming, Deena PC448
Flores, Abigail PC449
Flores, Carolina PC450
Flores, D PC451
Flores, Dante PC452

Public Comment Index

Flores, Deborah PC453
Flores, Nora PC454
Flynn, Maura PC455
Flynn, Susan PC456
Fondran, Jade PC457
Fontaine, Mariel PC458
Forbes, Tracey PC459
Foryan, Melissa PC460
Foss, Kelli PC461
Foster, Maureen PC462
Fowler, Leah PC463
Fox, Deborah PC464
Fox, Lori PC465
Franco Vera, Angelica PC466
Frank, Nina PC467
Frankini, Andrew PC468
Fraser, Jeanette PC469
Frazier, David PC470
Fredericksen, Donovan PC471
French , Linda **Affiliation**: deepcovens@gmail.com PC472
Friars, Maddie PC473
Friese, Kimberly PC474
Frith, Michele PC475

Public Comment Index

Frldman, Melodye PC476
Frost, Madilyn PC477
Fuller, Rosemary PC478
Funk, Candace PC479
Fuoco, Jamie-Lee PC480
Fuss, Brandi PC481
Fyle, Nadia PC482
Gadoya, Lasya PC483
Galvez, Jesse PC484
Garcia, Adrianna PC485
Garcia, Andrea PC486
Garrett , Jeff PC487
Gartner, Sonja PC488
Garza, Shadicy PC489
Gates, Randy PC490
Gatica, Jodi PC491
Gatti , Maria PC492
Gayle, Maddie PC493
George, Roberta Ann PC494
Georges , Ericka PC495
Gerber, Jasmine PC496
Germain, Jillian PC497
Geurts, Madison PC498

Public Comment Index

Gibson, Michele PC499
Gibson, Trina PC500
Gilbert, Susan PC501
Gingras, Celine PC502
Giroux Chaves, Samantha PC503
Glaubitz, Susan PC504
Gliemann , Hannah PC505
Goggins, Morrah PC506
Goh, Gracia PC507
Göksel, Gülsen PC508
Goldhaber, Gordon PC509
Goldsboro, Karli PC510
Gonzales, Valerie PC511
Gonzalez, Alayna PC512
Gonzalez, Gaby PC513
Goodman, Siobhan PC514
Gordon, Aylla PC515
Gorman , Julie PC516
Govea , Yvonne PC517
Grace, Keli PC518
Grace, Patrick PC519
Gragert, Cynde PC520
Graham, Madison Graham PC521

Public Comment Index

Granfield, Pat PC522
Grant, Isabel PC523
Grant, John PC524
Grant, Robin PC525
Gray, Amy PC526
Gray, Kimberley PC527
Gray, Robert PC528
Graziani , Brigitte PC529
Greaud, Stacey PC530
Greenholz, Doug PC531
Greenholz, Sarah PC532
Gregory, Laura PC533
Gregory, Tamra PC534
Gregson, Heather PC535
Griffin, Traci PC536
Griffith , Nancy PC537
Grote , Chelsea PC538
Groves, Jaye PC539
Guadagno, Jennifer PC540
Gualtieri, Lauren PC541
Guerrero, Jeanette PC542
Gumuryan, Ani PC543
Gunnlaugsson, Ingrid PC544

Public Comment Index

Gupta, Anubhav PC545
Guthrie , Annie PC546
Gutierrez, Reyna PC547
Guyon, Rebecca PC548
Guzman , Gregory PC549
Hall, Amy PC550
Hall, Amy PC551
Hall, Debbie PC552
Hall, Gina PC553
Hall, Wayne PC554
Halpern, Roy PC555
Halpin, Kevin PC556
Hamblin, Shelby PC557
Hamilton, Gary PC558
Handy, HJ PC559
Hanlon, Sharon PC560
Hannifin, Leslie PC561
Hansen, Andrew PC562
Harb, Samantha PC563
Hardy, Viktor PC564
Harned , Betty PC565
Harp, Mary PC566
Harpaul, Nadia PC567

Public Comment Index

Harrison , Robert PC568

Hart, Cristin PC569

Hartley, Martin PC570

Harvey, Alex PC571

Harvey, Kurt PC572

Harward, Shannon PC573

Haseleu, Holly PC574

Haughwout, Madeleine PC575

Havinson, Lilia PC576

Hayden, Beverly PC577

Hazelgrove , Lisa PC578

Hazelton, Kristi PC579

Hedge, Susan PC580

Heimel, Steven PC581

Heitz, Andy PC582

Helenbrook, Marisa PC583

Henkle , William PC584

Hennigan, Eva PC585

Henry, Donna Lee PC586

Heppner, Elyssa PC587

Herbruck , Janet PC588

Hermann, Yvette **Affiliation**: University of South Carolina Mountaineering and Whitewater Club PC589

Herrera, Rebecca PC590

Public Comment Index

Hersey, Rene PC591
Hesse, Lauren PC592
Heun, Christi PC593
Hickson , Shannon **Affiliation**: The Wildlife Collection PC594
Hika, Grace PC595
Hill, Janet PC596
Hill, Jonah PC597
Hill, Renee PC598
Hill, Rhonda PC599
Hill, Ruth PC600
Hillis, Cameron PC601
Hilton, Alexandria PC602
Himelfarb, Alissa PC603
Hladky, Andrea PC604
Hof, Anneke PC605
Hofferber, Emilie PC606
Holder, Mary Jo PC607
Holderness, Debra PC608
Hollibaugh, Linda PC609
Holman, Kelly PC610
Holman, Sheila PC611
Holmes, Kelly PC612
Holmgren, Tracey PC613

Public Comment Index

Holt, Nikki PC614
Holtan , Tonya PC615
Holtan , Tonya PC616
Honea, Marcia PC617
Hook, Cathy PC618
Hooper, Barbara PC619
Hoort, Nancy PC620
Hoover, Bailee PC621
Hope, Andrew PC622
Horn, Stacy PC623
Horowitz, Sue **Affiliation**: Katmai National Park and Preserve. PC624
Houghton, Colleen PC625
House Minder LLC, Pet Sitter **Affiliation**: Pet Sitter House Minder, LLC PC626
Houser, Marilyn PC627
Hudson, Jatika PC628
Hudspeth, Gerald PC629
Huggins, Sandra PC630
Hughes, Theresa PC631
Hultman, Randall PC632
Hunter, Kenna PC633
Huntington, Karla PC634
Hussain, Saima PC635
Hutchins, Emily PC636

Public Comment Index

Hyde, John PC637
Iannuzzi, Patricia PC638
Ignatieva, Maria PC639
Indra, Erin PC640
Irah, Nad PC641
Iyengar, Alekhya PC642
J Lambert, Pam PC643
J, Anna PC644
J, Jasmine PC645
Jackson, Jasmine **Affiliation**: The Wildlife Collective PC646
Jackson, Kimberly PC647
Jackson, Stephen PC648
Jacobs, S PC649
Jacques, Dustin PC650
Jain, Tisha PC651
Jangra, Neelima PC652
Jans, Nicholas PC653
Jara, Jasher PC654
Jasper, Maureen PC655
Jefferson, Gabrielle PC656
Jefferson, Gary PC657
Jefferson, Gary PC658
Jeffries, Emma PC659

Public Comment Index

Jhane, Prisca PC660
Jimenez, Vianney PC661
Jimenez, Vianney PC662
Jimenez, Vianney PC663
Jivan, Zai PC664
Jochum, Nina **Affiliation**: Wildlife Collective PC665
Johnson , Michael PC666
Johnson , Robin PC667
Johnson, Amanda PC668
Johnson, Elizabeth johnson PC669
Johnson, Stephanie PC670
Johnston, Art PC671
Johnston, Deborah PC672
Johnston, Hannah PC673
Johnston, Tyler PC674
Jones, Charlotte PC675
Jones, Jayne PC676
Jones, Jennifer PC677
Jones, MC PC678
Jones, Olivia PC679
Jorris, Taylor PC680
Joseph, Seven PC681
Joshi, Dhanvi PC682

Public Comment Index

Joshi, Dhara PC683
Joyce, Patricia PC684
Judge, Emma PC685
Jutten, Peter PC686
K Davis, Tanya PC687
K, A PC688
K, Malavika PC689
Kabisch, Tanya PC690
Kahn, Brian PC691
Kaminski, Denise PC692
Kantner, Seth PC693
Kapoor, Khushi PC694
Karki, Stella PC695
Karp, Liza PC696
Karpinski, Christina PC697
Karpunina , Julia PC698
Kashalkar, Prachi PC699
Kasserman, Katherine PC700
Kastel, Diane PC701
Kastel, Diane PC702
Katz, Philip PC703
Kaufmann, Renate PC704
Kaur, Aishini PC705

Public Comment Index

Kaur, Harneet PC706
Kaur, Palak PC707
Kay, Michael PC708
Kaye, Natasha PC709
Kazarian , George PC710
Keates, Sarah PC711
Keaton, Ashley PC712
Keegan, Jennifer PC713
Kehoe, Kevin PC714
Keim, Frank PC715
Keller, Madison PC716
Kelly, Carol PC717
Kelly, Rachel PC718
Kennealy, Sarah PC719
Kennedy, Caitlyn PC720
Kenny, Ashley PC721
Kentoffio, Jena PC722
Keogh, Laura PC723
Kepner, Alyssa PC724
Kerr, Theresa PC725
Kerrison, Lucy PC726
Kesterson, Laurie Beth PC727
Khan, Susan PC728

Public Comment Index

Khan, Szarianne PC729
Khatib, Maria PC730
Killingsworth, Winnie PC731
Kimmerle, Rebecca PC732
Kimminau, Judy PC733
Kimminau, Judy PC734
King, Cheryl PC735
King, Jordan PC736
Kinion, DJ PC737
Kinnear, Jeremy PC738
Kloppe, Alina PC739
Knef, Kiley PC740
Koch, Stacy PC741
Koch, Vanessa PC742
Kohli, Gurleen PC743
Koktavy, Tavius PC744
Kominek, Lisa PC745
Konerman, Tanya PC746
Kontautaite , Ingrida PC747
Koshy, Annette PC748
Kp, Jaime PC749
Kp, Jamie PC750
Krabill, Anna PC751

Public Comment Index

Kral, Benjamin PC752
Krause, Jan PC753
Kreiman, Cindy PC754
Kushner, Maggie PC755
Kynock, Keara PC756
La Cava, Karen PC757
La Rossa, Sofia PC758
Ladd, Kimberly PC759
Laird, Crystal PC760
Laivera, Eli PC761
Lammers, Kendra PC762
Lane, Mariana PC763
Lapke, Lulu PC764
Larsen, Kristy PC765
LaRue-Russell, Misty PC766
Latham, Jenny PC767
Laurel, Brianna PC768
Lauvitel, Cameron PC769
Lauvitel, Nina PC770
Lavagnino, Ana PC771
Lavagnino-Hudspeth, Beatriz PC772
Lawless, Olivia PC773
Laxmi, Vijaya PC774

Public Comment Index

Laz, Despina PC775
Lazos , Maria PC776
Leach, Gage PC777
Leadbetter, Lea PC778
Leblanc, Celine PC779
Leblanc, Morgan PC780
Lebo, Anne PC781
LeClair, Heather PC782
Lee, Kirsten PC783
Lee, Rebecca PC784
Lee, Sydney PC785
Leiner, Roseann PC786
Lembke, Adriana PC787
Lenardon, Sonia PC788
Lentner , Lee Ann PC789
Leone, Catherine PC790
Levesque, Amelia PC791
Levy, Diane PC792
Levy, Ron **Affiliation**: Alaska Photo Adventures PC793
Lewandowski, Brittany **Affiliation**: Majestic meadows alpacas & boutique PC794
Lewandowski, Evan PC795
Lewis, Alisa PC796
Lewis, Kimberly PC797

Public Comment Index

Lexa, Rebecca **Affiliation**: The Green Wolf PC798
Lieb, Jim PC799
Liew, Pei ying PC800
Lill, Jo PC801
Lindley, Jenna PC802
Lingle, Michelle PC803
Lish, Christopher PC804
Lisk, Tiffany PC805
Lisowski, Stacey PC806
Little, Michael PC807
Livingston, Dawn PC808
Loeffler, Grace PC809
Lokey, Dallas PC810
Long, Aaron PC811
Longenbaugh , Jordyn PC812
Lopez , Angel PC813
Lopez Noriega, Paulina PC814
Lopez, Dyanna PC815
Lopez, Idalia PC816
Loughran, Emily PC817
Louis, Jeanie PC818
Lovelady, Faye PC819
Lowe, Nadine PC820

Public Comment Index

Luchies, Heather PC821
Luesley, Michelle PC822
Luginbill, Valerie PC823
Lukas, Heila PC824
Lunde, J Ty PC825
Luthy, Devon PC826
Lutzko, Simone PC827
Lyle, Sandra PC828
Lynch, Andrea PC829
Lynch, Rick PC830
Lynk, Beth PC831
Lyons, Julia PC832
M, Courtney PC833
M, Paulina PC834
M, Veeralakshmi PC835
Macarthur, Jo PC836
Macartney , Christopher PC837
Machlev, Rachel PC838
MacKown, Erica PC839
Maeder, Christine PC840
Maestas, Adriana PC841
Magellan, Linda PC842
Magrath, Linsey PC843

Public Comment Index

Maguire, Megan PC844
Maharaj, Pranav PC845
Mahon, Josh PC846
Majchrzak, Mathilde PC847
Maldonado , Robert PC848
Malhotra, Erica PC849
Malone, Gabriella PC850
Maloney, MK PC851
Manan, Amna PC852
Manda, Shriya PC853
Manuel, Ida PC854
Marchessault, Lindsey PC855
Marciano, Josh PC856
Marck, Kamryn PC857
Marie, Jules PC858
Marin, Citllaly PC859
Marin, Mindy PC860
Markakis, Vittoria PC861
Marn, Susan PC862
Marquette, Elise PC863
Marquis, Melinda PC864
Marrero, Carlos PC865
Mars, Tallulah PC866

Public Comment Index

Marschall, Griffin PC867
Marsico, Michelle PC868
Martinez , Perla **Affiliation**: Equilibrium Wayak A.C. PC869
Martinez , Tawny PC870
Martinez, Laurinda PC871
Martirez, Don PC872
Mason, Megan PC873
Mason, Sofia PC874
Maxell, Diana PC875
Maxwell , Gail PC876
Maxwell, Doreen PC877
Maxwell, Sacha PC878
Mayer , Stacy PC879
Mazur, Deborah PC880
McAdory, Ann PC881
McAdory, Bill PC882
McBride , Yvonne PC883
Mccarthy, Mary Claire PC884
McCarthy, Rebecca PC885
McCormick-Hayes, Miriam E PC886
Mccoy, Kiesa PC887
McCoy, Virginia PC888
Mcdermott, Lauryn PC889

Public Comment Index

McDowell, NancyLou PC890
McGinnis, Margaret PC891
McGinnis, Margaret PC892
McGrath, Lucy PC893
McKenney, Jeannie PC894
Mckissock, Sarah PC895
McMillan, Steven PC896
McMullen, Tiana PC897
McNaught, Jerri PC898
Mee, Bernadette PC899
Meena, Ram PC900
Meier, Amelia PC901
Melendez , Frank PC902
Melick, Erica PC903
Mello, Julie PC904
Mellon, Ashley PC905
Meloche, Julie PC906
Menendez, Stella PC907
Menke, Kathleen PC908
Menon, Vrinda **Affiliation**: The Oneness Living PC909
Meo, Nicky PC910
Mercer, Heather PC911
Merida Rodriguez, Juan Valente PC912

Public Comment Index

Mesa, Ray PC913
Mesirow, Isabella PC914
Meszaros , Anett PC915
Meyer , Denise PC916
Meyer, Megan PC917
Meyers, Abigail PC918
Mezg, Barbara PC919
Michie, Cheryl PC920
Michon, Terie PC921
Midoux, Kristyn PC922
Mikkelsen, Rebecca PC923
Millan, Shea PC924
Miller, Debbie S. PC925
Miller, Diana PC926
Miller, Elizabeth PC927
Miller, Jessica PC928
Miller, Lisa PC929
Miller, Nicole **Affiliation**: Nicole Gabrielle Photography PC930
Miller, Paula PC931
Miller, Sterling PC932
Millmore, Mimi PC933
Mills, Zac PC934
Milne, Victoria PC935

Public Comment Index

Mincks , Janine PC936
Mira, Marie PC937
Mirabella, Cindy PC938
Mirphy, K. PC939
Mitchell, Richard PC940
Mohan, Crystal PC941
Molinari , Amynda PC942
Molton, Wanda PC943
Moncada, Alicia PC944
Mondschein , Alana PC945
Monsalve , Tiffany PC946
Montague, Florence PC947
Montgomery , Ji PC948
Moody , Mike PC949
Moody, Meagan PC950
Moore, Carol PC951
Moore, Carmyn PC952
Moore, Heather PC953
Moore, Linda C PC954
Moore, Sarah PC955
Morales, Pito PC956
Morales, Savanna PC957
Morataya, Ines PC958

Public Comment Index

Morbini, Pamela PC959
Morel, Hugo PC960
Moreno, Tatyana PC961
Morgan, Joe PC962
Morgan, Karly PC963
Morris, Carolyn PC964
Morris, Natalie PC965
Morrisse, Jack PC966
Mortimer, Karli PC967
Morton, John PC968
Moss, Michael PC969
Motta, Samantha PC970
Moyer, Khrysten PC971
Mucha, Christopher PC972
Mullally, Joan PC973
Mullally, Joan PC974
Mulligan , George PC975
Munns, Amanda PC976
Munson, Spencer **Affiliation**: Cervicide PC977
Murdock, Maia PC978
Murphy, Elena PC979
Myers, Evelyn PC980
Myers, Madison PC981

Public Comment Index

Naeem, Saira PC982
Nagel, Terrie PC983
Namnum, Maya PC984
Neerings, Jacob PC985
Neerings, Michele PC986
Nehvonen, Ana PC987
Neilly, Madison PC988
Nelson, Carlee PC989
Nelson, Cynara PC990
Nelson, Daniel PC991
Nelson, Ethel PC992
Nelson, Katrin PC993
Nelson, Shannon PC994
Nelson, Sharon PC995
Ness, Adina PC996
Neuenschwander, Anna Katharina PC997
Newman, Monica PC998
Nguyen, Baothu PC999
Nicol, Albie PC1000
Nicponski, Steve PC1001
Niemeyer, Georgia PC1002
Nieuwstraten, Femke PC1003
Nieves, Fabiola PC1004

Public Comment Index

Niles, Ryan PC1005
Ninja, Jimmy PC1006
Noble Seller, Christine **Affiliation**: Interspecies Voices PC1007
Noel, Cassie Noel PC1008
Nolan, Karen PC1009
Noriega, Anela PC1010
Norlin, Sofie PC1011
Nosalik, Kylee PC1012
Nosko, John PC1013
Novais, Hugo PC1014
O, Kelli PC1015
Oakes, Mary PC1016
Oates , Virginia PC1017
Oberle, Melissa PC1018
Ocaña, Josep PC1019
Oertel , Amberly PC1020
Oh, Sharon PC1021
O'Hara, Samuel PC1022
Okrasinski, Kelly PC1023
Olson, Kristin PC1024
Olson, Tess PC1025
Oneill, Kim PC1026
Orellana , Karla PC1027

Public Comment Index

Orizabal, Christina PC1028
Ormond, Marina PC1029
OShea, Stephen PC1030
Oszimek, Natalia PC1031
Ouchterlony, Teresa PC1032
Owens, Amielynn PC1033
Pack, Jennifer PC1034
Padgett, Malina PC1035
Palmer, Daniel PC1036
Panagos, Karen PC1037
Panayi, Ericka PC1038
Pansch, Andrea PC1039
Papa, Kevin PC1040
Pareti, Judy PC1041
Parish, Kara PC1042
Parker, Derin PC1043
Parks-Smith, Rps PC1044
Parmentier, Antoine PC1045
Parrish, Cindy PC1046
Pashinina , Irina PC1047
Pasternak, Emily PC1048
Patel, Shreya PC1049
Patterson, Kimberly PC1050

Public Comment Index

Paulson, Martha PC1051
Paxi, Wilia PC1052
Payne , Paula PC1053
Pearson, Ella PC1054
Peixoto, Jessica PC1055
Pelfrey, Regina PC1056
Pelletier , Marie PC1057
Pereira , Zinia PC1058
Perella, Pamela PC1059
Perez, Lexxie PC1060
Perez, Nancy PC1061
Perez, Stephanie PC1062
Perkins, Jon PC1063
Persons , Libby PC1064
Pertin, Arthur PC1065
Peters, Zayne PC1066
Petrucci, Amanda PC1067
Petry, Matthew PC1068
Phillips, Frances PC1069
Phillips, Liane PC1070
Phipps , Denise PC1071
Pilon, Michael PC1072
Pilon, Racquelle PC1073

Public Comment Index

Pimentel, Claudia PC1074
Piper, Darlyn PC1075
Plummer, Gary PC1076
Png, Ava PC1077
Pollard, Austin PC1078
Pollard, Gary PC1079
Pompey, Sharon PC1080
Ponnana, Abhimanyu PC1081
Ponton, Alexandra PC1082
Pope, Gabe PC1083
Porcheddu, Beatrice PC1084
Potgieter, Emmy PC1085
Poulain, Cole PC1086
Powell, Brittany PC1087
Prado, Jennifer PC1088
Prajaghupta, Nyett PC1089
Pramodhan , Bernadine PC1090
Prasad, Ashwini PC1091
Preece, Caroline PC1092
Prellwitz, Eliana PC1093
Premnath, Tara PC1094
Price, Jeremy PC1095
Priest, Debbie PC1096

Public Comment Index

Prince Bertrand, Ryan PC1097
Pritt, Sara PC1098
Priyadarsini, Alisha PC1099
Puder, Jim PC1100
Pugj, Aaron PC1101
Pye, McKenzie PC1102
Quilliam, Caroline PC1103
Quillin, Michelle PC1104
R , Randy PC1105
R, Kavya PC1106
Rabb, Susan PC1107
Racy, Ursula PC1108
Radcliffe, Randi PC1109
Rajah, Myron PC1110
Rajiv , Sanjay PC1111
Raleigh, Elizabeth PC1112
Ramos, Cristina PC1113
Ramos, Jessica PC1114
Rangel , Nevaeh PC1115
Ranger, Brodie PC1116
Rapson, Elle PC1117
Ravlyk, Yaryna PC1118
Rawat, Shikha PC1119

Public Comment Index

Rea, Mary PC1120
Rebecca, Amanda PC1121
Recordon , Ombline PC1122
Reego, Rach PC1123
Reese, Andrea PC1124
Reeves, Kristi PC1125
Regnier, Christian PC1126
Reiley, Bryan PC1127
Reinhart, Gilda PC1128
Renteria, Luz PC1129
Resident , Concerned PC1130
Reyes, Silvia PC1131
Reynolds, Kayla PC1132
Rhodes, Janet **Affiliation**: Alaska Wildlife Alliance PC1133
Rice , Georgina PC1134
Richards, Ashley PC1135
Richards, Bob PC1136
Richards, Mark **Affiliation**: Resident Hunters of Alaska PC1137
Rico , Marta PC1138
Riddle, Michael PC1139
Rigger, Karen PC1140
Riley, Kevin PC1142
Ritchie, Madison PC1143

Public Comment Index

Rivera, Vanessa PC1144
Rivers, Esperanza PC1145
Roach, Cana PC1146
Roark, Emily PC1147
Roberts, Sally PC1148
Robinson, Amanda PC1149
Robinson, Dana PC1150
Robinson, Jackie PC1151
Robinson, Lesly PC1152
Roche, Jim **Affiliation**: Magnum Guide Service, LLC PC1153
Rock, Krystal PC1154
Rodman, Jacqueline PC1155
Rodrigues , Vanessa PC1156
Rogers, Amanda PC1157
Rogers, Chase PC1158
Rogers, Claire PC1159
Rogers, Heather PC1160
Rogodzinski, Leslie PC1161
Rohde, Rosemarie PC1162
Rojas , Nicole **Affiliation**: Wild For Change PC1163
Roller, Carolyn PC1164
Romano , Michael PC1165
Romantico, Chris PC1166

Public Comment Index

Romero, Sofia PC1167
Romo , Vince PC1168
Rondorf, Heather PC1169
Ronowska, Kamila PC1170
Roosmark, Beatrice PC1171
Rosas Gil, Carolina PC1172
Rose, Jaiden PC1173
Rose, Miles PC1174
Rosen, Trina PC1175
Rosenthal, Jan PC1176
Ross, Kelly PC1177
Rossow, Sami PC1178
Roth, Lily PC1179
Royle, Zoe PC1180
Rubinstein , Jen PC1181
Rudd , Barbara PC1182
Rudofsky, Samantha PC1183
Ruple, Elizabeth PC1184
Ruppe, Adrienne PC1185
Russel, Pamela PC1186
Rustagi, Arti PC1187
Ryan, Brianna PC1188
Ryan-Mayer Ryan, Kelley PC1189

Public Comment Index

Rydgren, Sarah PC1190
S, Av PC1191
S., Aria PC1192
Sacks, Sara PC1193
Saint Clair, Jennifer PC1194
Saltsman, Libby PC1195
Salvatierra , Itzel PC1196
Sanchez, Anaira PC1197
Sanchez, Char PC1198
Sanders, Kerry PC1199
Sandford, Louis PC1200
Sangalang, Mal PC1201
Santiago , Heather PC1202
Sartori, Silvia PC1203
Sauer, Jeff PC1204
Saveri, Gabrielle PC1205
Savicka, Patricija PC1206
Saxena, Abhishek PC1207
Sayen, Laura PC1208
Schilling-Alvarez, Elisa PC1209
Schirmer , Barbara PC1210
Schirmer , Rebecca PC1211
Schmidt , Jo PC1212

Public Comment Index

Schmittle, William PC1213
Schnirer, Dana PC1214
Schoebl, Sydney PC1215
Schoen, John PC1216
Schooler, Lynn PC1217
Schramm, Candace PC1218
Schuler, Jennifer PC1219
Schultz , Sarah PC1220
Schultz, Ava PC1221
Schwab, Dieter PC1222
Schwalm, Heather PC1223
Scott, Sarah PC1224
Sears, Ash PC1225
Sears, Nikolai PC1226
Seeds, Sarah PC1227
Segal, Ellen PC1228
Segrin, Kim PC1229
Seibel , Beth PC1230
Selby, Dena PC1231
Selthun, Pam PC1232
Selvatico, Daniela PC1233
Semoni, Anthony PC1234
Sen, Riya PC1235

Public Comment Index

Serrano, Valerie. PC1236
Sesto, Mary PC1237
Shah, Vini PC1238
Shaikh, Salim PC1239
Sharma, Monika PC1240
Sharma, Shailaja PC1241
Shaw, Ashley PC1242
Sherma, Kayla PC1243
Sherwonit, Bill PC1244
Shinn, Lisa PC1245
Shirazi, Fatima PC1246
Shirley, Jill PC1247
Shockey , Jenna PC1248
Shomo, Diane PC1249
Siebert, Cindy PC1250
Sierra, Kuulei PC1251
Sigwart, Kimberlee PC1252
Sills, Rebecca PC1253
Silva, Patricia PC1254
Simard, Linda PC1255
Simonis, Evan PC1256
Sims, Crystal PC1257
Sindon, Antibiotics PC1258

Public Comment Index

Siner, Ann PC1259
Singh, Arpita PC1260
Singh, Prathamjit PC1261
Singh, Sherrie PC1262
Singh, Shreyash PC1263
Singh, Simray PC1264
Skelton, Niamh PC1265
Skiles, Katherine PC1266
Skurtys, Zuzanna PC1267
Slattery, Julie PC1268
Slay, Heidi PC1269
Sloan, Hallie PC1270
Slonaker, Lynn PC1271
Smith , Caroline PC1272
Smith , Kaitlin PC1273
Smith Isgar, Lillian PC1274
Smith, Abriana PC1275
Smith, Alecia PC1276
Smith, Caroline PC1277
Smith, Denelle PC1278
Smith, Helen PC1279
Smith, Jenna PC1280
Smith, Nay PC1281

Public Comment Index

Sneddon, Laura PC1282
Soares, Anela Whittney PC1283
Sobianina, Katrina PC1284
Sobity , Al PC1285
Solis, Alison PC1286
Solis, Kasandra PC1287
Song, Robin PC1288
Sonthar Lingam, Shevane PC1289
Sorbo, Amber PC1290
Soucy, Karen PC1291
Spalter , Diane PC1292
Sparke, Susan PC1293
Spencer, Heather PC1294
Spice, Charley Lauren PC1295
Spice, Pat PC1296
Spiegel, Suzanne PC1297
Sponder, Allison PC1298
Spriggs, Ashlie PC1299
Springer, Christa PC1300
Stade, Alexa PC1301
Stahl, Victoria PC1302
Stanley, Constance PC1303
Stanley, Rick PC1304

Public Comment Index

Stann, Deb PC1305
Stansbury, Bill PC1306
Staples , Hillary PC1307
Stark, Lucy PC1308
Starkweather , Val PC1309
Starkweather, Vanessa PC1310
Starr, Rachel PC1311
Staub, John PC1312
Stauffer , Molly PC1313
Steele , David PC1314
Steele, Hannah PC1315
Steele, Kelly PC1316
Steenburgh, Martha PC1317
Stef, Stef PC1318
Steffey, Anna PC1319
Steiger, Andrew PC1320
Steiner, Abigail PC1321
Stern, Kristine PC1322
Stevens, Tammy PC1323
Stewart, Verna PC1324
Sth, Safia PC1325
Stich, Maggie PC1326
Stoeppelkamp, Sofie PC1327

Public Comment Index

Stokes, Journey PC1328
Stoneman, Janet PC1329
Storck, Denise PC1330
Stout, Keri **Affiliation**: Frontier Community Services PC1331
Stoyka Jones, Michelle PC1332
Strasser, Muna PC1333
Streeter, Heidi PC1334
Strehl , Amanda PC1335
Strength, Michele PC1336
Strömblad, Levi PC1337
Stykalo , Kayla PC1338
Summitt, Brandon PC1339
Sutcliffe, Daniella PC1340
Svancara, Theresa PC1341
Swati, Swati PC1342
Sweeney , Kelly PC1343
Sweitzer, Stasja PC1344
Swiernik, Meghan PC1345
Sylvestre, Nicole PC1346
Tabor, Deborah PC1347
Tak, Jen PC1348
Talbott, Clint PC1349
Tanalski, Adam PC1350

Public Comment Index

Tarach, Gemma PC1351
Taudel, Mary PC1352
Taylor, Barbara PC1353
Taylor, Diane PC1354
Taylor, Jane PC1355
Taylor, Kneeland PC1356
Taylor, Natalie PC1357
Taylor, Robin PC1358
Tegtmeyer, Tim PC1359
Teirstein , Zoya PC1360
Temporary, Amy PC1361
Terry, Ann PC1362
Tesoriero, kylie PC1363
Teuscher, Sofia PC1364
Thomas, Derek PC1365
Thomas, Diane PC1366
Thompson , Belinda PC1367
Thompson , Leanna PC1368
Thompson Davis, Gwendolyn PC1369
Thomson, Victoria PC1370
Thorley, Georgia PC1371
Thornton, Amy PC1372
Throop, Rachel PC1373

Public Comment Index

Tiddei, Stephanie PC1374
Tipton, Riley PC1375
Tobin-Shubin, Madelyn PC1376
Todd, Leslie PC1377
Todordoff, Sharon PC1378
Tolbert, Mallory **Affiliation**: True North Travel Co PC1379
Torre, Natalie PC1380
Torres, Megan PC1381
Tosh, Nafisa PC1382
Townsend, Lee PC1383
Townsend, Lisa PC1384
Townsend, Sabrina PC1385
Tracey, Robert PC1386
Trask, Ron **Affiliation**: Myself PC1387
Trichilo, Gabriella PC1388
Tristan, Patricia PC1389
Triyanto, Nidia Khairunnisa PC1390
Truesdale, Kim PC1391
Tsering, Sam PC1392
Tufenkdjian , James PC1393
Tully, Leda PC1394
Tuovinen , Angela PC1395
Twardy, Bernard PC1396

Public Comment Index

Ulianchenko, Anastasia PC1397
UndenDunn, Nicole PC1398
Underwood, Kerry PC1399
Upah, Tom PC1400
V, Melissa PC1401
Vahl, Per PC1402
Valencia , Michelle PC1403
Valencia , Victoria PC1404
Vallejo Loera, Aydee PC1405
Vallejo Loera, Samantha PC1406
Valotto, Giovanni PC1407
Valusia , Le PC1408
Van baar, Roos PC1409
Van den Hurk, Monique PC1410
Van Der Maelen, Marieke PC1411
Van Liempt, Axel PC1412
Van Overbeke, Julie PC1413
VanBrunt, Angela PC1414
VanDyk, Bev PC1415
Vargas, Eduardo PC1416
Varrell, Maggie PC1417
Vasquez, Yessenia PC1418
Veety, Yvonne PC1419

Public Comment Index

Vega, Mia Amor PC1420
Velarde Velarde, Michelle PC1421
Verdugo, Alana PC1422
Vestal, John PC1423
Vina, Maria Valentina PC1424
Viveros Watty, Luly PC1425
Vogel, Julie PC1426
Vogt, Susan PC1427
Vuceljic, Angela PC1428
Vuceljic, Stephanie PC1429
Vuotto, Angela PC1430
W, Sara PC1431
Wagner, Roxy PC1432
Walker , Anthony **Affiliation**: Kids wildlife research center PC1433
Walker, Vic PC1434
Walker, Victoria PC1435
Wallin, Brinn PC1436
Walser, Bianca PC1437
Walsh, George PC1438
Walsh, Patrick PC1439
Walter, Eliza PC1440
Walters, Harley PC1441
Walters, Riva PC1442

Public Comment Index

Warn, Nicholas PC1443
Warrilow, Jenni PC1444
Waters, Wendie PC1445
Watkins, Bill PC1446
Wavrin, Martha PC1447
Wedel, Dana PC1448
Weicman, Sharon PC1449
Weiss, Cal PC1450
Wells, Heather PC1451
Welsh, Jennifer PC1452
Wemyss-Dunn, Charlie **Affiliation**: Preservation of At-risk Wildlife (PAW) foundation PC1453
Wenneson , Jill PC1454
Wereta, Danette PC1455
Werezak, Bonnie PC1456
Westhoff, Gen PC1457
Wetzel, Stephanie PC1458
Wheeler, Roger PC1459
Wheeler, Vickie PC1460
White, Lauren PC1461
White, Tyler PC1462
Whitley, Bella PC1463
Whitmire, Elizabeth PC1464
Whittaker, Heather PC1465

Public Comment Index

Whitten, Kenneth PC1466
Whittington, Jane PC1467
Wieslander, Janice PC1468
Wiis, Janni PC1469
Wilcox, Danielle PC1470
Wiles, Seth PC1471
Wilkerson, James PC1472
Wilkie, Lindsay PC1473
Wilkinson, Keith PC1474
Willems, Reen PC1475
Williams , Karen PC1476
Williams , Laura PC1477
Williams , Lorene PC1478
Willoughby, Andrea PC1479
Wilson , Sandy PC1480
Wilson Austin , Nicola PC1481
Wilson McPhail, Emily PC1482
Wilson, Morgan PC1483
Wines, Ashley PC1484
Wood, Allison PC1485
Wood, Maureen Benedict Ange Wood PC1486
Woodbury, Michelle PC1487
Woods, April PC1488

Public Comment Index

Woods, Breanna PC1489
Wooster, Susan PC1490
Worzalla, Kaitlin PC1491
Wylie , Greg PC1492
Xhaferri, Marildo PC1493
Yacyshyn, Max PC1494
Yap, Chada PC1495
Yarnell, Katherine PC1496
Yates, Ann PC1497
Yates, Honey PC1498
Yazhi, Sal **Affiliation**: RAICES.UCLA (ROOTS) PC1499
Yokoyama, Jane PC1500
Yumanova , Alexandra PC1501
Zaidi, Aliya PC1502
Zeigler , Michelle PC1503
Zendejas, Kassandra PC1504
Zink, Spencer PC1505
Zuluaga, Valentina PC1506
*Cummings, Terry *PC1507

Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Bethel ADF&G Conference Room & Via Web Conference

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88051542894?pwd=qJsh9IfxgU4Adn9HmAoCJSWnNS5M5m.1
Call in Number: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 880 5154 2894 Passcode: 1

Chair: Mike Glore

Roll Call

Name	**Present**	**Teleconference**	**Absent**
Sam Hancock	**X**		
David Humphrey	**X**		
Alissa Rogers			**X**
Lucinda Alexie	**X**		
Jon LaValle	**X**		
Michael Glore	**X**		
Jeremy Brink			**X**
Seth Madole	**X**		
Travis Burks		**X**	
Cole Nance	**X**		
Kara Domnick			**X**
Alternates?			

Number Needed for Quorum: 7
Members Present: 8

1) **Welcome**
2) **Invocation-** Moment of Silence
3) **Approval of Agenda**
4) **Reports**
   a) Chair Report
   b) ADF&G
      i) Game: John Landsiedel, ADFG DWC

         Presentation regarding Special Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. In summary, the program is in limbo right now and remains in an ongoing legal battle. He discussed the science and statistics of why this program should continue from the perspective of a biologist focusing on the long-term health of the Mulchatna caribou herd. He reviewed numbers of predators taken out of an approximately 20 mile x 40 mile caribou calving zone near the unit 17/18/19 boundaries. The special meeting in July will determine the fate of this program.

      ii) Others - None
5) **Public Comment** – Keep to 3 mins - None

Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Bethel ADF&G Conference Room & Via Web Conference

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88051542894?pwd=qJsh9IfxgU4Adn9HmAoCJSWnNS5M5m.1
Call in Number: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 880 5154 2894 Passcode: 1

6) **Old Business -** None
7) **New Business**
   a) Discussion regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou.
      i) Jon proposed motion to support, Sam seconded motion, and the AC unanimously voted to continue the support for the program.
      ii) The Bethel AC has also discussed the low numbers of Brown Bears and Black Bear taken by Hunters / Public over the past 10-15yrs. With the low number of Bears being taken by Hunters, we are certain that the Bear Population will still be sustain able for future hunters / subsistence users in Units 9, 17, 18, and 19.
   b) Board of Game Special Meeting July 14th-15th
      i) Proposal Discussion
      ii) Representation/Testimony - Jon proposed motion, and Travis seconded, and the AC unanimously approved for Sam to be present either in person or remotely to testify on behalf of AC for the support of the Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou.
8) **Adjourn**

To whomever this concerns,

Greetings. I am writing to you today on behalf of the Central Bering Sea Fish & Game Advisory Committee. Recently the Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee conducted a spring meeting and added to the agenda to send in a letter of support to State Officials and Managers overseeing the Intensive Management of the Mulchatna Caribou herd. The Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee (or AC) is a small local group of individuals selected by their communities to represent them on State Fish and Game issues. The Central Bering Sea AC represents 13 villages in Western Alaska and their area spans from Platinum to Kipnuk along the coast. In the past we have officially supported the previous proposal for predator control that passed with either an amendment or comment of adding bears, more specifically brown bears, to the proposal before it went before the Board of Game.

Those of us who are part of these committees are aware of the outside entities that are putting pressure on our managers at State of Alaska to quit doing the Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou herd. Many of us are also aware that Alaska Wildlife Alliance had sued the State of Alaska in order to stop the third year of Intensive Management.

We are sending in this letter to let State of Alaska Officials and Managers know we still support this program. The evidence of the last two years of predator control effort has shown promising results with increased caribou calf survival rates as well as a slight increase in total population of caribou.

There has also been a study done on the nutrients that caribou cows need. This study showed that while the summer food for the Mulchatna caribou may not be as expected it shows that while carrying and birthing their calves, the cows and calves are healthy. So, by all indications, they are not losing their calves due to health reasons. Since this is the case, with the population growing slightly after Intensive Management, this indicates part of the population decline is due to predators efficiency at targeting the calves.

Additionally, we hear from locals of higher chances of interacting with brown bears due to their increasing population within village areas. These increased interactions were starting to concern many residents in the local units 18 and 17. While this may not be an official count, it shows that locals are seeing a trend they have never seen before in their lifetime which hints at the bear population being higher than known.

So, we write this letter to encourage our State Officials and Managers to follow what this evidence indicates and ignore these outside influences. The Intensive Management proposal has already been thoroughly reviewed and supported by Advisory Committees in the surrounding area of the Mulchatna Caribou herd, as well as being passed by Board of Game.

Many leaders spoken to in this area agree with the predator control program and the original proposal with amendments and leave what has been already passed before, to be as is.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Central Bering Sea Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Co-chair, CBSAC

PC1

Name: Multiple Submitters, Listed after comment text
Community of Residence: Multiple

Comment:

To: Alaska Department of Fish & Game Commissioner Douglas Vincent-Lang

I am writing to urge you to reject the latest plan from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game which would authorize aerial gunning down of wolves, brown bears, and black bears across a 40,000 square mile area!! This area is bordered by the purposeful YUKON DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TOGIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PRESERVE!!

This operation is inhumane and unethical, causing unnecessary suffering to the bears... AND represents a troubling approach to wildlife management. In addition, AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, it lacks a scientific foundation as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor determining the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. ADFG is sidestepping the fact that such action will disrupt ecosystems for the obvious purpose of sport killing vs scientific foundations.

The practice is not only seen as unethical and inhumane but seen as damaging Alaska's reputation as a responsible steward of its natural resources and will most certainly if enacted, filter down to boycotting Alaska's economy because of this obvious uneducated attack on apex predators.

In addition, you would also know in your position, that the killing of older, experienced bears can lead to the loss of vital survival knowledge for younger bears. If you proceed with this egregious act, it is a stamp of approval that your commission does not care about the viability of the targeted species.

A similar Alaskan predator control operation in 2023 killed approximately 100 brown bears (including cubs) and black bears, far more than the original planners estimated. This suggests that the Department cannot control the true mortality levels during these exercises.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management which we the people expect of those placed in vital positions such as yours.

Concerned Citizen,

Abad, Maria	Nevada
Alix, Lisa	VT
Babin, C	Seward
Becker, Ryan	Na
Bedrich , Julie	Knox County, TN
Braddock , Kathy	Residence
Bradford , Norma	Anchorage Ak & Spring Hill Fl
Brimm, Tiffany	Whitmore
Buckley , Melissa	Indiana
Carneiro Saraiva, Miriam	Sun City Center
Cox, Tara	USA
Cox, Tyson	USA
Fish, Justin	MO
Gero, Hava	Israel

Giesbrecht, Nancy	Canada
Gilsky, Cathy	Bridgeton, NJ
Grace, Diane	Florida
Green, Lesley	England
Gust, Valerie	Idaho
Guyer, Matthew	Pennsylvania
Hannah, Susan	Missouri
Harrison , Robert	Richmond KY
Hein, Claudia	Concord, CA
Hoak, Kristen	New Providence
Howard, Vanessa	USA
Koenemann , Teresa	Elkhart
Kruczek, Sandra	Wisconsin
Llewellyn, Bronwen	OK
Mahaffey, Carolyn	Texas
Marmo , Patrick	Idaho Falls Idaho
McMurray, Michele	Colorado
Mercer, Dani	Spokane, WA
Mora, Maria	Texas
Morris, Monica	Ohio
Nelson , Teri	Colchester
Nill , P	USA
Orcutt, Stacey	Idaho
Ortega, Paula	Rock Springs
Owens, Roger	Illinois
Palmer, Kimberli	Colorado
Pershin, Melissa	USA
Potter, Kathleen	North Carolina
Reeves, Kristi	CO
Rheinhart, Patricia	North Aurora, IL
Starkweather , Val	Watkins Glen NY
Starkweather , Val	Watkins Glen NY
Touchton, Linda	Florida
Touchton, Linda	Florida
Townsend, Jann	Idaho and New Mexico
Van Holland, Catherine	Orange
Van Holland, Catherine	Orange
Waldoch, Alicia	Fargo, ND
Warner , Sharon	Washington, USA
Wenger , Debbie	Sabetha, KS
Weyler , Michelle	United States

PC2

Name: A, Kailani

Community of Residence: Hawaii, HI

Comment:

quit killing the animals as the land is their home before ours. In all disrespect to the people who are pushing this to happen, you are absolutely disgusting. The land is their home and we took it. We should be ashamed of ourselves.

PC3

Name: Abbas, Yasmine

Community of Residence: Dallas, TX

Comment:

I believe that animals should stay as they are intended. The predator control is not effective, and killing animals is pointless in this scenario.

PC4

Name: Abou Jaoude, Tamara

Community of Residence: Citizen of the world

Comment:

We need to protect all animals , we should stop playing GOD! So please leave bears alone !

PC5

Name: Aburto, Paulina

Community of Residence: El Paso

Comment:

Bears are beautiful north american wildlife, to harm them is to harm our home. Predators are important and keep the balance on the food chain, killing these creatures will only create more problems. Please do not harm them.

PC6

Name: Acevedo, Elizabeth

Community of Residence: U.S. (Louisiana)

Comment:

I oppose the proposal that permits the killing of bears as a supposed means of addressing caribou population concerns. There is no credible scientific evidence that supports that this method will help the caribou. What the proposal authorizes - the senseless killing of brown bears, even mothers and cubs, including helicopter shooting -- is unethical and simply cruel. Brown bears have little wild space left in this world and they should not suffer such a terrible fate in their Alaska home.

If that isn't enough to shut down this proposal, I urge you to consider the wildlife viewing tourism dollars that are spent in Alaska to see wild brown bears roaming free in their natural habitat. I have visited Alaska specifically for that reason and am forever changed by witnessing it. I happily spent my money on the small Alaska lodge and guides, the small plane service that got us to the wilderness and the hotel, local restaurants and other amenities in Anchorage coming in and out of the area. Some of my travel mates had made that trip over 15 years. I hope to match them someday. And all of that spending has been because of Alaska's wild brown bears.

They deserve your protection and respect simply because they share the planet with us. But also they support your State's residents in so many ways. Please say no to this ill-conceived proposal to allow the killing of brown bears.

PC7

Name: Acevedo, Lauren

Community of Residence: Alameda

Comment:

I do not support the implementation of predator control of black or brown bears nor wolves. There is no scientific proof that killing these animals will help to protect the caribou. They are all part of the ecosystem and there is a reason the predator control program was previously deemed illegal. Reflection on those reasons should be a big talking point of this conversation and realizing that human intervention in wildlife affairs has rarely ended in a positive way for the wildlife.

PC8

Name: Acosta , Cristina

Community of Residence: Southern California

Comment:

Dear Alaska, I beg you to not kill these bears. The world would love to watch them on a bear cam and get inspired to visit Alaska. Please do not contribute to our vanishing wilderness with destruction of wildlife.

Sincerely, Cristina Acosta

PC9

Name: Acosta, Donna

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

These bears have every right to go about life. We, humans need to respect the animals that we must live amongst. Please let the bears live. I m not opposed to hunting for food, but this is absurd. The bears have a right to life.

PC10

Name: Acott , Susan

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

How can the ADFG is propose to reinstate a taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears-including mothers with cubs.

This is absolutely disgusting and this should not be allowed or legislated and especially not as tax payer funded.

PC11

Name: Adair , Jennifer

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I do NOT support this! It is NOT back by science!

PC12

Name: Adamas, Porsche

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

Oppose, cruel and haphazard without evidence of benefitting the community

---

PC13

Name: Adamo, Patricia

Community of Residence: Staten Island, NY

Comment:

Brown bears on other parts of Alaska have home ranges from 50 to 195 square miles - studies show - & collaring projects in Lake Clark from 2014-2018 show bears moving into the proposed control area from the safe havens of the National Preserve. This widespread movement of Alaska's brown bears could very well mean the at the same brown bears the works watches fishing at Brooks Falls- just 50 miles from the border of the bear control area, could also be shot from helicopters if this gets passed? And why??? Please do not do this to this population of bear that Americans support and who's favorite pastime is watching them in their natural environment practicing natural behaviors (fishing, playing, etc). Tourism dollars depend on this.

I strongly oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Mgmt area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

At this time credible scientific evidence on record does not presently exist support your conclusion that these bears can be killed sustainably.

In addition - that is overwhelming evidence that predator control programs that kills individuals DO NOT WORK to recover struggling moose & caribou populations. In fact the main reason for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline - according to the state's own research - is disease AND a lack of food - due to climate change and NOT predation due to these bears.

I totally support that these caribou succeed however I do not believe that the current, u lowly bear control program is the best way to help them.

I implore the Board of Game to make significant changes to this area and to do this it is CRITICAL to ensure that the decisions made are rooted in credible science and what the public WANTS - which are bear on their landscape - so that families can come and enjoy watching them feed, etc. This after all is what America is all about - our public lands - that we pay tax dollars for - to be able to honor and enjoy. We want bear there as well as Caribou.

Thank you for your time.

PC14

Name: Adams, Joan Adams

Community of Residence: US

Comment:

Leave the bears ALONE

PC15

Name: Adams, Kristin

Community of Residence: Wisconsin

Comment:

Save the Bears

PC16

Name: Adams, Sarah

Community of Residence: San Antonio, texas

Comment:

What an insane solution to a simple problem. Remove the tourists from the bear's habitat. Why is it the government's response to kill off the bears at the tax payers expense? If it's not clear, i object to this solution. Do better. Try again.

PC17

Name: Adamson, Sharon

Community of Residence: Northern Ireland

Comment:

Iam old enough to see the results of trying to manage nature and eco systems. If predator hierarchy is left alone it always balances out. Untouched nature is so rare and precious and needs to be kept for future generations. Kill the older adults and valuable behaviour is sometimes lost to younger members of that particular society.

PC18

Name: Aguilera, Saharai

Community of Residence: USA (Colorado)

Comment:

I find the murder of these bears to be unethical, nonsensical, driven by corrupt ideology and malice. The people doing that must have a serious mental problem. We need to care for our fauna as much as our flora. We are a beautiful country, let's keep it beautiful for generations to come.

PC19

Name: Ahuja, Anirudh

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Imagine if for any god damn reason, us and our kids were ridiculously killed by some idiots and inhumane species. Stop this or you will not be able to avoid facing the horrors of it coming back to you and your family. We need less humans for sure but not animals.

PC20

Name: Aiello, Christopher

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

I am against the killing of brown bears and black bears for the purpose of caribou management.

PC21

Name: Akers, Taylah

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Save the bears !!!!!

PC22

Name: Akritidou , Fotini

Community of Residence: Thessaloniki, greece

Comment:

I love nature and all creatures in this planet have equal rights to life

---

PC23

Name: Aldaco, Marta

Community of Residence: Calle Paseo Solares #300 Casa 39

Comment:

Every single living creature have the rigth to be RESPECT, free and care. 🐻 🦊 🐰

Name: Aldridge , Zym

Community of Residence: Silverspring maryland

Comment:

Do not kill the bears it doesn't work if you want to help the caribou try something that doesn't kill wildlife

---

Name: Aledo, Nikki

Community of Residence: Skagway Alaska

Comment:

Absolutely against this. These bears are in their home just trying to survive like us. You are not helping anyone by murdering these innocent blessings.

Name: Alfailakawi , Abdulrahman

Community of Residence: Hillsboro oregon

Comment:

Do not allow hunting from helicopters

Name: Allebach, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Mullica Twp,NJ

Comment:

People today have far too much knowledge and technology to handle population control of bears in such a barbaric and haphazard way .

Name: Allen, Isabella

Community of Residence: La county

Comment:

This is disgraceful. This isn’t our home. It’s the bears home. Teach humans how to respect them.

PC29

Name: Allen, Kelley

Community of Residence: Gulfport, FL

Comment:

PLEASE SAVE THE BEARS!!! STOP KILLING THEM!!! UNNECESSARY SLAUGHTER!!! ALASKA HAS BEAUTIFUL WILDLIFE!!! STOP KILLING THE BEARS!!!(

PC30

Name: Allespach, Dr Heidi

Community of Residence: FL

Comment:

I am 100% in opposition to this. We humans need to stop deciding what animals to cull and which not to cull

I'm a native Floridian and was here when alligators and black bears were almost hunted to extinction. They made a comeback and now they're heading back towards Extinction again because of hunting. We need to leave nature alone and stop interfering.

PC31

Name: Altman, Arla

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please do not reinstate the hunt for bears. They are struggling to survive in a changing environment and their numbers are diminishing.

PC32

Name: Altman, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Protect the wildlife, don't kill the bears!

PC33

Name: Alvarado, Katherine

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

I oppose this bill.

I do not agree with the way herd management is being done.

I read you tried to do the same with wolves and that did not help grow the Caribu herd and now you want to try by killing bears.

I do not agree with finding any bear from helicopters and shooting the ones you find.

You should be able to sell extra licenses for hunting with mother bear and babies being protected.

I did not see in the proposal how many deaths of Caribu are from bears.

You would be shooting bears and hoping they lose a good source of food which would decrease bear population even further. (If that actually kill that much Caribu)

It shows you have only closed Caribu hunting in certain areas when it should be closed in all areas.

Instead of closing all Caribu hunting in all areas you would rather have animals shot from helicopters.

PC34

Name: Amagai, Ken

Community of Residence: Japan

Comment:

Humans should not control other animals. There must be publicly accepted scientific evidence that killing bears is beneficial.

PC35

Name: Ambrogi , Jordan

Community of Residence: Pa

Comment:

I think its disgusting to kill innocent animals

PC36

Name: Amin , Prishita

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

THIS NEEDS TO STOP. THIS IS CRUELTY.

PC37

Name: Amsden, Trys

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

Bears are an extremely important part of our natural ecosystem and food chain.

We are in their land visiting, and unfortunately have forgotten that. They have a right to live and be free just as we do. and for Humans to take that away from them should damn be illegal. just like it is illegal to take a human life as well.

Humans are the problem on this planet, not our animals

PC38

Name: Anand, Supriya

Community of Residence: Vancouver

Comment:

I want to save the beautiful bears that reside in Katmai. Predator control has never worked. Come up with a solution that works best for everyone.

PC39

Name: Anderson, Olivia

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

The Alaska Board of Game is considering a proposal to expand predator control in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd region by authorizing the removal of brown and black bears. While the goal of restoring caribou numbers is important, I oppose this expansion. Scientific research does not support the effectiveness of bear removal in increasing caribou populations. Instead, this action could create long-term ecological harm without achieving its intended results. Effective wildlife management must be grounded in evidence-based strategies that protect both species and ecosystems.

There is no conclusive scientific evidence that removing brown and black bears will significantly benefit the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Studies have shown that caribou declines are often linked more strongly to factors such as disease, poor nutrition, and harsh weather conditions, not solely predator numbers. While predators do take calves, studies from Alaska and Canada have shown that even aggressive predator removal often fails to produce meaningful increases in adult caribou populations unless paired with other interventions. Removing bears without a comprehensive plan risks repeating failed efforts and wasting resources.

Eliminating bears may also disrupt the balance of the ecosystem. Brown and black bears are apex predators with important ecological roles. They distribute nutrients, regulate prey populations, and help maintain habitat health. When large predators are removed, the resulting imbalance creates a trophic cascade that can lead to habitat degradation and much more.

I urge the Board to prioritize science-based, holistic solutions that protect both the caribou and the broader ecosystem they depend on. Thank you for your time and commitment to Alaska's natural heritage.

PC40

Name: Andrade, Cherie

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Leave the bears alone!!!

PC41

Name: Anesko, Laura

Community of Residence: Rancho Mirage, CA

Comment:

I feel it is our duty to protect wildlife and understand that we can learn to live cohesively with nature. They have a right to be here just as much as we do.

PC42

Name: Angstman, Andrew **Affiliation**: Tikchik Narrows Lodge

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I was fortunate enough to hunt the Mulchatna herd during the heyday of the late 80's through the early 00's. I didn't know at the time that there were only 15,000 or so animals in the herd in the early 70's, but it stands to reason that now in the 2020's there are once again 15,000 or so animals. They will cycle back. The tundra has regenerated over much of their range after they totally overgrazed and destroyed it.

Placing so much of the pressure for the growth of the herd on predators is ridiculous. Bears serve many valuable purposes in southwest Alaska, both for big game hunters, photographers, and wildlife enthusiasts. For many of my guests who spend money that stays in Alaska, the highlight of their dream Alaskan fishing trip is seeing bears in their natural habitat. I vehemently oppose the "intensive management" plan, and would prefer that the state call it what it really is… an aerial slaughter.

Regards,

Andy Angstman

Owner/Operator

Tikchik Narrows Lodge

[redacted]

PC43

Name: Ann Whitelaw, Julie

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

This cruel slaughter of these magical creatures must end now

PC44

Name: Ansari , Mazhar

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Wildlife is precious,we should take all efforts to save them.

PC45

Name: Anselmi, Giulia

Community of Residence: London, UK

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna caribou herd management area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

There is overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. As per State's own research, the main reason for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and lack of food (linked to climate change), not bear predation. There is also no credible scientific evidence that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

PC46

Name: Antonelli, Sheila

Community of Residence: Lakeshore

Comment:

Save the bears. So many other options. Please reconsider. Killing bears is not only ethically troubling but also ecologically short-sighted. Bears play a crucial role in maintaining healthy ecosystems—they disperse seeds, regulate prey populations, and even enrich forest soil through the remains of their prey. Removing them disrupts this delicate balance and can have long-term negative consequences for biodiversity. Additionally, bear-human conflicts are often the result of human encroachment and poor waste management practices, not the animals themselves. Rather than resorting to lethal measures, efforts should focus on non-lethal alternatives like public education, bear-proofing communities, and relocation. Protecting bears means protecting the integrity of Alaska's wild lands for future generations.

PC47

Name: Arambula, Kelsey

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

This needs to stop! This should be illegal for so many reasons. This is MURDER!!!!

PC48

Name: Arand, Rachael

Community of Residence: Langley

Comment:

Please consider the well being of animals who do not have a voice or a choice in their murder. They are beautiful animals who have families and who belong in the wilderness of Alaska. They do not deserve to be shot from the sky and killed in their home.

PC49

Name: Arcoite, Mason

Community of Residence: Nashua Newhampshire

Comment:

I may not have the knowledge or the ability to sway your minds, but please understand that killing bears by the dozens will not help environmentally, it does not help the ecosystem, we can coexist with these animals. One day humans will be next on the chopping block. Who will be there to save us?

PC50

Name: Arispe, Sandra

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I strongly oppose the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. Theirs no scientific evidence it would be beneficial. Please, do not kill wildlife. We must protect wild animals not kill. This is Alaska after all. Do better. I am from Los Angeles, California and visited Anchorage with family a couple of years back. We were drawn to visit to view wildlife. We would like to go again. If this passes, we will not forget it and you can forget counting on our tourism money.

PC51

Name: Arlan, Eric

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Hell no

PC52

Name: Armbruster, Hannah

Community of Residence: Covington

Comment:

I am opposing this proposal. It is damaging to the bear population. This is not population management, it is slaughter. Bears are extremely important to Alaska's ecosystem and have a right to be there.

PC53

Name: Armes, Elizabeth

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

I am vehemently opposed to the controlled elimination of the brown and black bears. Please consider a different plan of action. Thank you.

PC54

Name: Armstrong, Lorill

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Don't want the bears shot exp moms with cubs!!

PC55

Name: Aruanno, June

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

Protect wildlife at all costs!!!! We need wildlife!!!!

PC56

Name: Ashcroft , John

Community of Residence: Brampton, UK

Comment:

I'd like to add my support to stop this bear cull. Even though I'm a UK resident, I'm a bear lover. We need to protect these magnificent creatures. There's no scientific evidence for this cull and the fact that its in such a remote area of Alaska adds weight to why this is needed. Stop this unnecessary cull of these amazing animals.

PC57

Name: Askew, Susan

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

I am appalled by the murder of bears, including cubs. Humans are not the sole decision takers on the planet. They are not exceptional. They are not supposed to kill (God's commandment). These action are horrific and totally shameful. I demand this murder ends immediately in the name of humanity.

PC58

Name: Atkinson, Stuart

Community of Residence: Scotland

Comment:

We have no right as humans to kill these wonderful creatures, leave the beautiful animals alone.

PC59

Name: Avarell, Faye

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

Save the caribou?? What a lame reason for culling the bears.

Stop this - we want them to thrive. There are hundreds of thousands of caribou. They're ok.

PC60

Name: Avraham, Jill

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

Killing animals from a helicopter is cruel and inhumane. I hate that this is happening and want to be a part of stopping this animal cruelty regardless of whatever reason these sick humans are using to try to justify this psychopathic behavior.

PC61

Name: Axe, Kathy

Community of Residence: Kure Beach NC

Comment:

Stop the killing!!!!!!!!

PC62

Name: Azar, Nieku

Community of Residence: Las Vegas

Comment:

I firmly believe that this considered practice to hunt our precious wildlife is egregious, the sheer disrespect to our fellow American citizen that this is even considered an option. I am not in favor of this cowardice way to try to expand land or the extremely idiotic idea that this will allow a marginal amount of caribou and other animals will live. God has chosen how nature works and for us to try to play god in our favor is despicable

PC63

Name: Azlin, Pat

Community of Residence: Out of State Tourist

Comment:

On behalf of the many tourists who spend thousands of dollars in Alaska to watch and appreciate wildlife and, esp, bears, I'd object to the mass slaughter of bears. The courts already decided this action is illegal and I ask the Governor to stand up and support Rule of Law in Alaska. Alaska is already heavily hit by federal cuts to spending in the most essential areas for many Alaskans, it's unconscionable to spend over one million dollars on bullets and helicopters for what is now twice ruled by courts as an ILLEGAL activity.

PC64

Name: B , Rebecca

Community of Residence: Sitka

Comment:

100% oppose this.

There's no reason to do this at all. The wildlife was here first. You are destroying the ecosystem and it is frankly animal cruelty .

I Strongly oppose shattering the wildlife population and their habitat.

PC65

Name: B, Dileepkumar

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

This is totally unethical and stop this at once. Acting based on unscientific information is simply pathetic. STOP YOU MORONS.

PC66

Name: B, Karmen

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

It is inhumane to kill bears in Alaska just to protect another species, the caribou. Bears play a crucial role in the ecosystem by maintaining balance, controlling other animal populations, and helping to spread nutrients through their foraging. Caribou numbers are influenced by many factors beyond just bear populations, including habitat loss, climate change, and other predators. If we start eliminating bears, we could disrupt the entire food chain, potentially worsening conditions for other animals or creating new

problems. Instead of reaching for a rifle, we should focus on smarter solutions, such as protecting caribou habitats and addressing human impacts. By doing this, we can help Alaska's wildlife thrive without upsetting the ecological balance.

PC67

Name: B, Pragna

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

Why wildlife is always the problem

God created us to look after each other and to live life along with all other species

Alaska if you take out wildlife u know the answer Nature will come after humankind

---

PC68

Name: Baca , Julio

Community of Residence: Co co county

Comment:

This is downright cruel no animal should be treated like this or hunted like this regardless of species.

PC69

Name: Bachenheimer, Ronda

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Dr. Ronda Bachenheimer

[redacted]

East Meadow, NY 11554

[redacted]

June 23, 2025

Alaska Board of Game

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Bear and Wolf Hunts Near Key Protected Areas

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express strong opposition to any proposals that would authorize the hunting of bears and wolves in areas bordering Lake Clark National Park, Katmai National Park, the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary and Refuge, Brooks Falls, the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

These regions are internationally renowned for their spectacular concentrations of brown bears .Each year, they attract tens of thousands of wildlife enthusiasts, photographers, filmmakers, and ecotourists—generating significant economic revenue for nearby rural communities and businesses. Visitors come from around the world to witness the iconic bear activity at places like Brooks Falls, Lake Clarke National Park, and Katmai National Park to explore the rich biodiversity of these wild landscapes. Wildlife-based tourism in these areas provides long-term, renewable economic benefits that far outweigh the short-term gains of a bear or wolf hunt.

Beyond the economics, these animals are integral to Alaska's cultural heritage and ecological identity. For Indigenous communities and many residents, bears and wolves hold spiritual and cultural significance, representing ancestral connections to the land, traditional knowledge systems, and deep respect for nature. They are also vital to ecosystem health, playing crucial roles in nutrient cycling and population regulation.

Permitting predator hunts along the borders of these protected areas—especially where bears and wolves are habituated to human presence—jeopardizes the very wildlife experiences that draw people to these locations. The McNeil River, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge bears, for instance, are globally celebrated for their unique, non-aggressive behavior developed over decades of protected status. Allowing nearby hunting not only undermines this rare dynamic, but also threatens the credibility of Alaska's wildlife management practices.

I urge the Board to take a forward-looking approach and protect the economic and cultural value of these apex predators by rejecting any expansion of hunting near these key conservation areas. These landscapes—and the magnificent creatures they support—deserve policies rooted in stewardship, science, and sustainability.

Thank you for considering this request. I respectfully ask you to preserve what makes Alaska extraordinary for future generations.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ronda Bachenheimer

Board of Game Special Meeting Comments for July 14, 2025

I ask you to **OPPOSE Special Meeting Proposal 1** based in part upon the decision and order from the Alaska Superior Court, March, 2025. The order clearly states that the Board of Game (BOG) lacked sufficient population and distribution information to implement intensive management for bears in this area of the state. Further, that the BOG failed to comply with the sustained yield provision of Art VIII, Sec. 4, of the Alaska Constitution.

> "The State's admission that the BOG lacked sufficient bear population and distribution information illustrates the BOG failed to consider all the factors that are important and relevant to assure sustainability of the bear population. The State's position misapprehends clear directives contained in case law. Other than the anecdotal evidence in the record when the BOG heard testimony suggesting that 'brown bears are widely distributed in Unit 17 in abundance,' there is no credible scientific evidence in the record or discussion by the BOG to support the conclusion that bears could be killed sustainably".
>
> "the Alaska BOG failed to comply with the sustained yield provision of Art VIII, Sec. 4, of the Alaska Constitution by failing to consider all the important, relevant and material factors relating to the sustainability of a replenishable public wildlife resource prior to adoption of a regulatory proposal impacting a replenishable public resource".

Additionally, as stated below in my BOG Proposal #18 for the January, 2025 Central and Southwest Meeting to shorten the brown bear hunting season in GMU 9C which borders GMU 17 Intensive Management Area:

> "Bear viewing guides in this area have reported a decline in the number of bears, most notably trophy class mature males, observed by their client. While there may be multiple factors causing the viewable number of bears to decline, we don't know for sure the full range of the causes. However, a logical person would conclude that the GMU 17 IM programs could be having an adverse effect on bears in GMU 9C. Additionally, there is no recent population data and harvest analysis provided by the National Park Service or ADFG in Units 9C, UCUs 702 and 703."

One of the stated goals of ADFG's Bear Conservation, Harvest, And Management Policy (Exp July, 2028) is *"To recognize the importance of bears for customary and traditional uses, viewing, photography, research, and non-consumptive uses in Alaska"*.

Failure to properly manage slow reproducing brown bear populations on the Alaska Peninsula puts at risk one of the world's premiere brown bear viewing areas. These bears become habituated to human observation and the result is bear viewing unlike anywhere else in the world. This is exemplified by the volume of people that utilize bear viewing guides each summer and pay significant money to observe these bears. The close proximity of these bears to Alaska's major population centers has created a unique bear viewing opportunity that provides jobs and a good source of income to remote lodges on the Alaska Peninsula and bear viewing guides living on the Kenai Peninsula, King Salmon, and Kodiak.

PC71

Name: Badenhorst , Suzanne

Community of Residence: South Africa

Comment:

I am opposed to the innocent killing of the bears in such an inhumane way and support the cause to save the bears

---

PC72

Name: Badna, Beatrice

Community of Residence: Sweden

Comment:

Killing them makes no sense!

PC73

Name: Baer, Caroline

Community of Residence: Fircrest wa

Comment:

I am writing to decry the killing of wolves and bear in this wilderness area. While it can seem that eliminating predators will lead to an influx of prey animal such as the caribou, numerous scientific studies have shown that culling predators only negatively affects prey creatures. Instead, access to food and appropriate, safe habitat is the correct way to aid in the regrowth of the herd. Please do better.

PC74

Name: Bailey Dobson, Sarah

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

This is THEIR AREA!!! Leave them

alone for gods sake.

PC75

Name: Bailey, Cynthia

Community of Residence: Pmb 281281

Comment:

Alaska is so massive that there must be many places these bears can be moved to. The answer should not be to just kill them. Please consider other ways to help the herd. 🙏

PC76

Name: Bains , Amar

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Bears shouldn't have to face such a tragedy. They are roaming around on their own land! We have no right to kill them!

PC77

Name: Bakkali, Amina

Community of Residence: Germany

Comment:

I am against the killing of wildlife. Humans have already done enough damage all around the globe. Humans are still doing so much damage day after day. This is unfair and cruel. Killing cubs and their mothers is unfair and cruel. This has to stop. Nothing can justify this!!! We have no right to decide which wild animal gets to live and which one gets to die.

PC78

Name: Balachander, Krishna

Community of Residence: Stormville

Comment:

Protect the bears !

PC79

Name: Balan, Maya

Community of Residence: Madison

Comment:

Save the bears!!!! They should not be slaughtered from a helicopter.

Name: Bales, Sandra

Community of Residence: Bears should not be killed. They are God's creatures that deserve to live

Comment:

Please don't kill God's creatures. They have the right to live

---

Name: Ballard, Hayley

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I oppose this regulation. Given that brown and black bears play crucial roles in supporting Alaska's ecosystems, including seed dispersal, enrichment of forest soil, and the balancing of prey populations, allowing bears to be killed indiscriminately could potentially have very negative consequences on the ecosystem. I would like the Board to consider if there aren't better ways to balance the bear and caribou populations.

Name: Ballard, Jordan

Community of Residence: Oklahoma

Comment:

Inhumane, unethical and indefensible use of taxpayer money!

Amanda Banwart
[redacted]

06/20/2025

Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811–5526

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Regulation Allowing In-State Aerial Gunning of Bears

Dear Members of the Board of Game,

I write as a concerned citizen who deeply values Alaska's unique wildlife and ecological heritage. I understand that at your Special Meeting on July 14, you will consider regulation changes that would allow the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) to conduct bear control—including aerial gunning—over approximately 40,000 square miles in western Alaska.

While I appreciate the concern for the Mulchatna caribou herd, I strongly believe that this approach is misguided, unjustified, and ultimately damaging to our ecosystems. My opposition is grounded in the following concerns:

1. Lack of Scientific Basis & Unintended Consequences
    - A state evaluation acknowledged that key factors driving caribou decline include disease, habitat degradation, and climate stress—not predation.
    - Independent research warns that killing adult bears disrupts social learning in bear communities, increasing cub mortality and long-term population instability.

2. Ethical Concerns & Public Trust
    - Aerial gunning is seen as an unethical, indiscriminate method lacking regard for family bonds—bears, especially mothers and cubs, are routinely killed.
    - Recent court rulings found that ADF&G acted in "bad faith" by continuing the Mulchatna bear cull under void emergency regulations—highlighting a troubling erosion of public trust.

3. Legal and Constitutional Issues
    - Alaska's Constitution protects wildlife as a public trust resource—bear

populations cannot be culled without careful justification and science-based oversight.

- Courts have invalidated the Mulchatna bear control program due to lack of public input, review, and transparency.

4. Economic and Cultural Concerns

- Ecotourism and wildlife viewing—bears included—are significant contributors to Alaska's economy. The international backlash and boycotts following aerial gunning have already caused economic harm.
- Many Alaskans, including subsistence communities, cherish bears not only materially but also culturally. The aerial killing of bears is deeply painful and damaging to Alaska's cultural identity.

Recommended Alternatives

I respectfully urge the Board to:

1. Withdraw or significantly revise the proposed bear-control regulation—particularly the sections allowing in-state aerial gunning.
2. Require rigorous, independent scientific review of population-level effects and ecosystem implications.
3. Explore non-lethal alternatives—such as habitat improvement, monitoring, targeted deterrence, and predator exclusion in calving grounds.
4. Engage in a truly public process, including Alaska Native and subsistence communities, before making any regulatory change involving predator control.

Conclusion

Alaska can—and must—do better. Alaska needs ethical, science-based wildlife management that upholds public trust—not shocking, unjustified mass killings. I urge you to oppose the current regulation proposal and seek more balanced, sustainable solutions for Alaska's wildlife and communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome any opportunity to provide further information.

Sincerely,
Amanda Banwart

PC84

Name: Baranowski, Portia

Community of Residence: Inlet Beach FL

Comment:

This should not be allowed or performed. Innocent bears do not deserve to die. Wild animals don't have a voice and you don't get to take that from them.

PC85

Name: Barclay, Cindy

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

I totally oppose this plan to kill more grizzly bears. Scientific evidence does not support this plan either. With previous wolf culling, the caribou herd still declined. I frequently spend money to go to Alaska to view these beautiful bears and killing them is not the answer. We know that the decline in caribou herds is simply man- caused- taking away their habitat, more humans infringing on their territory, etc

---

PC86

Name: Barclay, Jaymie

Community of Residence: Ontario, Canada

Comment:

This is a senseless act, please do not harm the bears, they deserve to be here more than humans.

PC87

Name: Barillas , Julissa

Community of Residence: Bronx

Comment:

Stop slaughtering innocent animals for your benefit and corporations

---

PC88

Name: Barnes , Debbie

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

We kill everything then wonder why animal become extinct please stop

---

PC89

Name: Barnhart , Jennifer

Community of Residence: Hamburg NJ

Comment:

I do not support nor do I agree with killing/murdering any type of wild life especially bears. If it's for the safety' of tourists then tourists need to respect any wildlife's habitat and not encroach on their environment. The woods/wilderness belongs to the bears, the wildlife. We, has humans, should be grateful they allow us to share it with them. But that was and is their home first and will always be their home and we as humans need to respect that. So DO NOT kill bears!!!!

PC90

Name: Barraza, Marcel

Community of Residence: SAN Francisco

Comment:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's bear culling program is a reckless gamble with nature's delicate balance, sacrificing majestic bears to prop up caribou and moose populations without ironclad evidence. This shortsighted slaughter, often executed with brutal aerial shootings, ignores the lessons of history—think Australia's dingo debacle or Yellowstone's wolf blunder—where culling apex predators triggered ecological chaos, from overgrazing to biodiversity collapse. By prioritizing human hunting interests over the intricate web of life, Alaska risks unraveling its own wilderness, trading fleeting gains for long-term devastation. Stop this misguided massacre before it backfires, leaving ecosystems in ruin and bears as tragic casualties of hubris.

PC91

Name: Barrera, Karely

Community of Residence: Palmdale

Comment:

The bears are apart of the ecosystem and they did nothing to bring this death on them. They are just trying to live.

PC92

Name: Barth, Courtney

Community of Residence: Leesburg, Virginia

Comment:

I do not support the aerial management of the brown and black bear population. There is not enough science to support this management method and it is cruel to the bears. To risk the separation of a mother

from her young is a cruelty that humans should above. We are supposed to be the superior species and in recent years all of our actions against our environment and wildlife seem to do nothing but prove otherwise. Aerial hunting of the brown and black bears is disgusting and cannot be permitted. Bears must be allowed to be bears and humans need to stop encroaching into their territory.

1. Disruption of Ecosystem Balance

Brown bears are apex predators and keystone species. They play a critical role in regulating prey populations (e.g., moose, caribou) and in shaping the structure of ecosystems through nutrient redistribution. For example, salmon consumed by bears fertilize forest ecosystems with marine-derived nutrients, enhancing tree growth and overall biodiversity.

Aerial hunting can lead to:

- Artificially lowered predator populations, disrupting natural predator-prey dynamics.
- Cascading ecological effects, where overpopulation of herbivores leads to habitat degradation, such as overgrazing and loss of biodiversity.

Scientific Evidence:

- Ripple et al. (2014) highlighted the top-down control that large carnivores exert on ecosystems, and warned against their removal.
- Levi et al. (2012) demonstrated that reduced bear densities affect salmon population dynamics and forest health.

_____

2. Violation of Evolutionary and Behavioral Integrity

Aerial hunting selects against certain individuals, such as large males, who are more visible and more likely to be targeted. This introduces unnatural selection pressures that may alter bear behavior and gene pool quality over time.

Consequences include:

- Loss of genetic diversity, which undermines population resilience to disease and environmental change.
- Disruption of social structures, as dominant males often suppress infanticide by subordinates.

Scientific Evidence:

- Milner et al. (2007) found that unnatural mortality patterns, such as those from selective hunting, can destabilize bear populations and lead to increased cub mortality.

_____

3. Inaccuracy in Population Management

Aerial shooting often lacks scientific rigor and precision in estimating and managing bear populations. Without robust monitoring data, aerial hunts risk:

- Overharvesting, especially in regions where population estimates are outdated or incomplete.
- Failure to differentiate between local subpopulations, some of which may be more vulnerable than others.

Scientific Evidence:

- A 2018 Alaska Department of Fish and Game report acknowledged significant uncertainty in brown bear density estimates, warning that overreliance on aerial culling could harm certain populations.

———

4. Ethical and Welfare Concerns with Scientific Relevance

From a biological and ethical perspective, aerial hunting often results in:

- Poor shot placement, due to movement of aircraft and terrain, increasing the likelihood of wounding animals rather than clean kills.
- Extended suffering, violating principles of humane wildlife management and animal welfare.

Stress and injury can also affect biological parameters such as hormone levels and reproduction, altering scientific assessments of bear health and behavior.

Scientific Evidence:

- Baker et al. (2011) examined aerial culling practices in various wildlife species and concluded that animal welfare concerns were often ignored in predator control programs.

———

Conclusion

From an ecological, evolutionary, and ethical standpoint, aerial shooting of Alaska brown bears is a scientifically flawed management strategy. It undermines ecosystem stability, introduces harmful selection pressures, risks population overharvesting, and causes unnecessary suffering. Effective predator management should be based on sound ecological science, long-term monitoring, and humane principles—not expedient but biologically disruptive practices.

PC93

Name: Bates, Cherith

Community of Residence: Chugiak

Comment:

I am totally against slaughtering bears from the air. I understand and support population control, but not aerial hunting of any kind.

PC94

Name: Bates, Chuck

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

There is absolutely no proof that killing these bears will bring the required results.

PC95

Name: Bates, Ella

Community of Residence: United states

Comment:

Save the bears!

PC96

Name: Battey, Jane

Community of Residence: Great Britain

Comment:

Yes I don't live in a country where we have bears but we do have wildlife life that sometimes has to be humanly culled. This proposal sounds like it was planned by a bunch of sick people who think it will be a fun activity to tell their mates about later! If bears need to be culled there surely needs to be a humane way that doesn't involve a pot shot helicopter and mothers with cubs.

PC97

Name: Battistone, Carolina

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

Save the bears!! Any action to further intervene in natural ecosystems will eventually have catastrophic consequences.

PC98

Name: Batzoli, Vasiliki

Community of Residence: Thessaloniki

Comment:

I strongly oppose the practice of shooting bears in Alaska, especially in protected areas and during vulnerable times like denning season. These magnificent animals are a vital part of our ecosystem and deserve our respect and protection—not to be hunted for sport or convenience. Preserving Alaska's wildlife is not just about protecting animals, but about safeguarding the balance of nature and the integrity of our wild spaces for future generations. I support stronger regulations to protect bears and all native wildlife.

PC99

Name: Baumgart, Bethany

Community of Residence: Guam

Comment:

There is no supportive evidence that will prove the killing of these bears helping populations of other endangered species. Leave the bears alone!

Name: Bavilla, Janet **Affiliation**: City of Platinum

Community of Residence: Platinum

PC 100 Comment: see attached

PC101

Name: Bayer, Brooke

Community of Residence: Saint Hedwig, Texas

Comment:

This idea that harming innocent animals as a way to raise the number of others always leads to issues with the ecosystem. As a Masters of Biology Student who has taken multiple courses in ecology, this dramatic drop in predators can have other effects on the environments and the population of other prey for them. While there is no current evidence that killing these bears will have a positive effect on the caribou population, there is direct evidence that removing natural predators from an ecosystem only causes damage in the long term. There are other methods that conservation efforts have been using for years to increase population sizes that do not require the senseless loss of another species. The decision to pass acts to protect nature by Theodore Roosevelt was in an effort to conserve the environment that is necessary for species to survive, and the departments that have developed to support these acts have cause positive and negative impacts on the species that they were trying to protect. The most well known example of this would be the extirpation of wolves from Yellowstone national park, which lead to a boom in the deer population but also overgrazing causing the deer and other populations that relied on vegetation as a food source to see a large decline in the population size over time. In my opinion this is an attempt at a permanent solution for a momentary problem that will cause larger impacts on the ecosystem than just increasing the caribou population.

PC102

Name: Beal, Families

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Our families strongly oppose the new Mulchatna bear control program. These animals are part of our wild landscape and should not be gunned down by a helicopter or culled by any other means. They are needed in our environment and we need to stop managing their numbers as nature will manage it.

PC103

Name: Becker , Stephanie

Community of Residence: Vancouver, Canada

Comment:

This senseless killing of bears needs to STOP. We should be protecting these beautiful creatures NOT slaughtering them. Do better Alaska!!

PC104

Name: Becker, Sarah

Community of Residence: Maine

Comment:

Please find an alternative to killing these bears.

PC105

Name: Becker, Tiffany

Community of Residence: Seward

Comment:

I do not support this. It has been ruled illegal before. The same arguments apply and continue to be valid

---

PC106

Name: Bednar, Jenna

Community of Residence: King of Prussia

Comment:

Please do not reinstate this gunning program.

PC107

Name: Bedore, Karolyn

Community of Residence: Albany, New York

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to invasive predator management strategies, particularly the systemic organized killing of wild brown bears. Such measures are not a sustainable or ethical solution to restoring caribou populations. Effective conservation MUST address the root causes of caribou decline—primarily habitat loss and human disturbance—rather than relying on short-sighted and destructive interventions that disrupt ecological balance. I urge the board to prioritize habitat protection and science-based, non-lethal approaches to wildlife management. Thank you.

PC108

Name: Bejoy, Bhadra

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

This is not being carried out correctly. Beotecting biodiversity and the Carobou is incredibly important but this is not the way to do it. It needs to be more researched and calculated, killing just any bear we see will endanger the bear population as well. We have seen this through our history.

PC109

Name: Bell, Taylor

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Nature is apart of our ecosystem and this have a vital role to play in the balance of the very Framework of ur world. Even if you manage something like an Apex predator their job is to naturally maintain balance.

Your commuting eco terroism ? Sitting harming the environment and managing the balance which could in turn ultimately manage and kill humans because even we are apart of the ecosystem chain and our actions won't be insignificant, they will be life altering and as leadership you should be not only KNOWING this but being more responsible.

Yukon-Kuskokwim HEALTH CORPORATION

Akiak
Akiachak
Alakanuk
Andreafsky
Aniak
Anvik
Atmautluak
Bethel
Bill Moore's Slough
Chefornak
Chevak
Chuathbaluk
Chuloonawick
Crooked Creek
Eek
Emmonak
Georgetown
Grayling
Hamilton
Holy Cross
Hooper Bay
Kasigluk
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Kotlik
Kwethluk
Kwigillingok
Lime Village
Lower Kalskag
Marshall
Mekoryuk
Mountain Village
Napaimute
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Newtok
Nightmute
Nunam Iqua
Nunapitchuk
Ohogomiut
Oscarville
Paimute
Pilot Station
Pitka's Point
Quinhagak
Red Devil
Russian Mission
Scammon Bay
Shageluk
Sleetmute
St. Mary's
Stony River
Toksook Bay
Tuluksak
Tuntutuliak
Tununak
Umkumiut
Upper Kalskag

YUKON-KUSKOKWIM HEALTH CORPORATION
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06-02

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Supporting Alaska Department of Fish and Game Predator Control Measures to Revitalize the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Population.

WHEREAS, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC) is the Tribal health organization administering health care services to 50 rural Alaska Native communities in Southwest Alaska; and

WHEREAS, subsistence fishing and hunting practices are essential to the well-being and health of residents of our region; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is facing shortages of certain, crucial fish and game subsistence resources around the State, which are deeply felt in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region, as king and chum salmon return in fewer numbers and the Mulchatna caribou herd population, which once peaked at 200,000 caribou, has collapsed to about 13,000; and

WHEREAS, the dwindling Mulchatna herd numbers and the restricted subsistence hunting opportunities that the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG) are able to provide have had a negative impact on food security in our region; and

WHEREAS, at the same time as subsistence fishing and hunting opportunities have become more limited, our region has faced rising food prices at local stores, making it more difficult for residents to feed their families with healthy foods; and

WHEREAS, ADFG has worked to restore subsistence caribou hunting opportunity over the past two years by engaging in intensive management, also known as predator control measures, to revitalize the Mulchatna caribou herd, with the goal of returning the caribou population to between 30,000 and 80,000 caribou, enough to support hunts of 2,400 to 8,000 animals a year; and

WHEREAS, ADFG's predator control methods are limited and geographically targeted to preserve and protect caribou calving opportunity in Game Management Units 17 and 18; and

WHEREAS, ADFG and local hunters have observed the positive effects of predator control, including evidence of increased calf survival and growing herd numbers; and

WHEREAS, YKHC agrees with ADFG and hunters in our region that without predator control measures, subsistence hunting will remain closed for future seasons, and that these measures are necessary to ensure sustained subsistence hunting opportunities over time; and

WHEREAS, ADFG's predator control program has faced legal challenges that jeopardize the protection of the herd for this season; and

WHEREAS, YKHC expresses support for ADFG's predator control efforts that have and will continue to be conducted in accordance with intensive management protocols, state law, and the Alaska Constitution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation supports ADFG's predator control measures to protect the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and restore its population numbers to a sustainable level that will allow caribou subsistence in our region for this and future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation submits this Resolution 2025-06-02 to the Bethel Advisory Committee and requests that the Advisory Committee vote to support all Board of Game actions authorizing intensive management in the Game Management Units 17 and 18 to protect the Mulchatna Caribou herd and ensure sustained subsistence hunting opportunities in the future.

Certification

Duly adopted at the meeting of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Executive Board of Directors, a quorum being present, by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 absent, this 6th day of June 2025.

Signed: _____ Signed: _____

Moses Owen, Chairman Darren Cleveland, Secretary

PC111

Name: Bennett, Cathleen

Community of Residence: Anchorage, AK 99517

Comment:

My name is Cathleen Bennett and I am a resident of Alaska.I strongly oppose adoption of 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans for many reasons, but I write here about the two most important grounds for my objection. Science and research show that it will not work, and the plan is bad for Alaska's economy which relies more and more on the tourist industry.

First, not only is its efficacy unsupported by the overwhelming weight of scientific research, that research contradicts the premise on which the proposed management place is based. Climate change and weather have reduced the amount of lichen available for the caribou herd to eat and sustain itself. Disease has been a major cause of the loss of caribou numbers. Predation of bears and wolves has not increased the percentage of surviving caribou calve. In fact, those numbers have decreased. The causes of death of a large percentage of calves that died were unrelated to predators - they died from disease, and inability to thrive, low fat content in their bodies. In the last assessment of the cause of death for the calves, not one black bear was found to be responsible. Moreover, ADFG has not studied nor established baseline numbers of bears living in the region, not the impact of killing them on the population of bears in the region. It has not assessed the negative impacts that killing so many bears will have on the ecology of the region as bears disperse seeds and add nutrients to the land when they drag salmon to shore. In addition, there is no limit on the number of bears to be killed during the plan's operational period - the plan is to kill every brown and black bear encountered by those executing the plan in the field. And there is not scientifically based target number for the killings that would supposedly benefit the growth of the caribou herd. It was disturbing to learn that the native and other communities did not even want the meat from the bears killed in the operation, and that the hides were not collected because they were worthless (no doubt from all the holes caused by bullets fired from aircraft). Of course, these science-based objections have been well documented in research journals and studies. They have been cited by scientists, wildlife biologists and former employees of ADFG with "over 1000 years of experience" working in the field here in Alaska in public objections to the Intensive Management Plan. It is unconscionable that the plan was developed behind closed doors and without the benefit of public input and scientific rigor. And that you continued killing bears despite a court ruling. And that you intend to continue killing bears under the plan until 2028. This plan was developed and administered at the expense of taxpayers. It should not continue in the face of opposition from a significant number of Alaskans.

Second, the Alaska economy is increasingly dependent on tourism. The Katmai Bear Cams set up and run by the National Park Service and Explore.Org have world-wide reach. It is the way that I became aware of the magnificent annual enactment of a pure ecosystem working cyclically as it should - when the salmon run in Katmai National Park and the brown bears show up at Brooks River to feed on them. I and many of my friends across the country watch the cams almost every day. The number of dedicated watchers increases every year as proven in part by the growing number of watchers who not only watch but also comment on the explore.org site, the Facebook group followers, the numbers of people who vote in the Fat Bear contest, and the number of people who, like me, donate to the Katmai Conservancy each year. I have gone to Brooks River to see the bears and salmon. I intend to return as often as I can to watch them. I personally know many others who intend to visit travel to Alaska to see our beautiful state

and its wildlife, and Katmai is at the top of the list for them of experiences they want have here. A quick perusal of the public's comments on the bear cams indicates that a great many people are influenced by their experiences watching them to travel to Alaska to see the bears. The bears are very important to me personally. The region affected by the plan is 40,000 miles and less than 100 miles from Brooks Falls. Bears are known to travel great distances. It highly likely that Katmai bears have been killed since the plan began.

Instead of killing bears despite the historical evidence that it will not improve the prospects of the Mulchatna caribou herd's growth, ADFG should dedicate itself to finding ways to mitigate the impact of climate change on the food sources and health of the caribou, and the enforcement of hunting restrictions on the herd. Reversing course on this management plan will require integrity, humility and wisdom. Even pausing the plan to collect foundational information about the bears, their numbers and impact on the ecology of the region, as well rigorously assessing whether the plan achieves its goals is essential to fulfilling your duty to manage all the wildlife in the Mulchatna region, and your duty to all Alaskans.

Note: for your convenience I have also uploaded my comment opposing the plan as a pdf.

PC112

Name: Bennett, Jody

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

My spouse and I visit Alaska and its many national parks to enjoy nature and wildlife, and specifically, the bears.

We typically spend many thousands of dollars on our trips.

As a hospitality executive in a tourist town, we know the importance of visitors like us to your beautiful state. We, and many others like us have a positive impact on your economy.

Katmai is a beautiful, unspoiled area home to thousands of bears. Many of the bears are well known to nature camera viewers. The nature cameras are how we first learned about Katmai, the bears, and began supporting the economy there because of our love for the bears.

Bears roam all over the park.

We implore you to stop the killing of these beautiful and beloved animals.

PC113

Name: Bennett, Liz

Community of Residence: Farmington, CT

Comment:

I am horrified to hear of the massive extermination of bears for the alleged benefit of caribou. This practice must be stopped immediately.

PC114

Name: Benning, Don

Community of Residence: Wisconsin

Comment:

I am in opposition of the killing of the bears. This should be the last option to wildlife 'management'. Have some vision, some compassion for wildlife and our ecosystem. We've been a country for 250 years and all we can come up with the entire time is kill everything in humans path? Be better.

PC115

Name: Berdecio , Gabriela

Community of Residence: Navarra

Comment:

Killing wildlife isn't wildlife protection!

PC116

Name: Berg, Merlyn

Community of Residence: AB

Comment:

Please stop killing animals, including bears. Gunning them down from helicopters, not having scientific basis, basically, killing them for no good reason, is a very corrupt, selfish act.

PC117

Name: Berg, Tiffany

Community of Residence: Washington State

Comment:

Killing bears in an attempt to protect the caribou is absurd - there is no proof disposing of predators is a sure way to save the caribou. Humans should not play be playing God by taking lives; especially by shooting animals from the sky allowing them to potentially suffer!

PC118

Name: Berk, Elena

Community of Residence: San Jose

Comment:

I have seen bears twice in my life. They are beautiful, majestic creatures that define our great outdoors. It makes absolutely no sense to slaughter bears for doing what they're meant to do - to survive in the great outdoors. Please - LEAVE THEM ALONE! Don't destroy one of Alaska's greatest features! Protect nature - don't destroy it!

PC119

Name: Bernath, Jodi

Community of Residence: Victoria, BC

Comment:

Stop killing bears!!!! wtf??

PC120

Name: Berrens, Zachary

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

As a scientist and as someone with ties to the tourism industry in Alaska, I am disappointed that such an unscientific strategy is being considered, especially when it potentially has direct downstream negative impacts on a growing wildlife viewing tourism industry. The bears in Alaska make national and international news as a bright spot in Alaska, and I cannot understand why you would jeopardize that resource by a method that has been proven to be unsuccessful in achieving the ends it is trying to achieve.

PC121

Name: Beseda, Veronica

Community of Residence: Washington state

Comment:

Bears are vital to our ecosystems and biodiversity. I oppose shooting bears or bear cubs. I think this is cruel and vile. We need better solutions to problems humans manufactured and created. We continue to use and abuse nature and wildlife. It's sickening. Do better.

PC122

Name: Bevacqua, Karen

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

How cruel can humans be to shoot the bears mothers and babies do you have no heart we need to stop the cruelty and be kinder

---

PC123

Name: Bhale, Pooja R **Affiliation**: Protecterra

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

STOP THE UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR. ANIMALS ARE SENTIENT AND THIS IS A SHARED PLANET. PLEASE STOP.

PC124

Name: Bianco, Annalysia **Affiliation**: The wildlife collective

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

To whom it may concern,

It is imperative that some humanity is brought to our Earth. With the suffering being caused worldwide at the hands of humankind is running rampant, we exploit and abuse animals in the background. Scientifically, animals, especially mammals, have great emotional intelligence and social relationships. While I presume power of authority of such scales cannot reach out a heartfelt hand to the innocent lives they disrupt and end, I will still beg for justice…and those of us that cannot speak for ourselves, such as these bears that are being wiped out from helicopters, deserve a voice more than anyone. There is no evidence to prove that this will benefit the environment substantially. So, I ask, do you mean to shoot down animals from helicopters, ending their lives, or worse, possibly severely wounding them and letting them bleed out? Do you, as a human being, not recognize the power we have over these beings, and how you abuse that power so righteously? Did you, as a child, envision a world where this was the solution? I will await a response, but I will not hold my breath.

Thank you for your time.

Annalysia Bianco

[redacted]

PC125

Name: Bibelheimer, Jewel

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

I am in opposition of the removing of bears with no regard for age, gender, or physical condition. I am in opposition of this proposal as it seems to remove any bear in sight for no purpose. Bears in this area are not over populated and the ecosystem is not failing. We do not need to remove healthy predators form the environment.

PC126

Name: Bielawa, Cameron

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please protect the wildlife of your community that will become the foundation for the future generations. There is no evidence that killing predators will help caribou populations. However, ensuring there is plenty of wild space and limiting human pollution and engagement in the ecosystem may help over mass killing other innocent animals. Please also protect the wolves of your community.

Name: Theresa Bielawski

Community of Residence: Fair Oaks, CA

Hello,

I am shocked, disgusted, and filled with dismay over the decision to allow the ariel predator eradication planned of the Mulchatna bears and other predators in 2025 and now 2026. Where is the science showing this "Bear Control" is necessary? Sorry, not convinced this is even close to being necessary.

My first trip to visit Alaska was in April of 2013 in which I visited Juneau & Haines for a week. My most recent trip was to Brooks Camp in Katmai National Park in September 2024. That trip was my 25th trip to Alaska and I have visited every year between 2013 and 2024 from one to four times per year. Of those trips, at least 20 of them included at least one trip to view and photograph bears. I have been to Kaktovik twice to view polar bears, Anan twice for brown & black bears, Lake Clark, McNeil, Hallo Bay, Kodiak, North Frasier Lake and Geographic Harbor to view brown bears. In addition, I have been to Brooks 16 times. My stays in Alaska were typically between 12-25 days. With exception to my first trip to Brooks in 2013, which was a day trip, all my other bear trips were at least 4 days, some as many as 7 days. Most bear trips included friends that formerly had never visited Alaska, i.e. additional dollars spent in your state. In addition to my bear trips, I have traveled the state and have seen more than many Alaskans that live there. I always rent a car and stay in hotels. I have stayed in or near Fairbanks, Kaktovik, Chena Hot Springs, Denali NP, Lake Clark NP, Kenai Fjords NP, Seward, Kenai, Soldotna, Homer, Girdwood, Anchorage, Valdez, McCarthy, Kennicott, Chitna, Healy, Talkeetna, Kodiak, Wasilla, Seldovia, Tok and probably several more that I am forgetting. I have done plane and helicopter tours around Alaska, taken train trips, aurora tours, dog sledding kennel visits, climbed on glaciers, kayaked, hiked, and spent every minute seeing and doing everything I possibly could. I have supported the Alaska Zoo, Botanical Gardens, AWCC, Musk Ox Farms, Reindeer Farms, Alaska Moose Mamas and so much more. In addition to rental cars every trip, I was eating in local restaurants and supporting local businesses everywhere I visited. There isn't a single trip I didn't spend hundreds on souvenirs for family members and friends.

I am part of a private Bears of Brooks Falls Facebook group. While there are many different FB groups, the group I am in is strictly for those that closely follow the Brooks Bears. While there are thousands of members that are part of the group, there are hundreds of us that visit Brooks regularly, some of us semi-annually. The 60-100 people I am referring to are as upset regarding this issue as I am.

I have never spent less than $5,000 on a trip and have even spent more than $10,000 on a few of the longer trips. All in all, I have spent more than $125,00 in Alaska supporting Alaska tourism and local businesses since April of 2013. The last trip to Brooks was more than disappointing. Many bears, including young ones, that were previously seen annually

did not return. Seeing the number of bear pelts at Fur Rondy originating from AF&G leads me to believe many were from the cull and there will be more in the future. I can only imagine some of those pelts may have been Brooks bears pelts. The very bears that draw so much attention and tourism dollars to Alaska.

The bottom line is, I can no longer support the senseless (in my opinion) decisions made by very few that greatly affect the entire reason I visit Alaska regularly and chose to spend my money there. I have already cancelled my July trip and am going to the Galapagos instead. My September trip to Alaska will most likely be cancelled in favor of an alternate trip, as well. It is sad, really, as I was just starting to plan a trip to Nome & a separate walrus trip, both in 2026. Not anymore. It really appears that many have no idea how much this gruesome act of ariel predator eradication for NO GOOD REASON will impact the tourism dollars coming to your state. Others I have spoken with have cancelled their upcoming trips. Maybe no one cares. It appears that way looking at the lack of opposition. Sad! Very Sad!

Sincerely,

Theresa Bielawski

Former Frequent Alaska Visitor

PC128

Name: Biller, Jenny

Community of Residence: Eagle River

Comment:

Please save the bears!

PC129

Name: Billings, Lisa

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

This is nonsense. There is no such thing as humans "taking" any animals in a way that "benefits the heard". It's cruel, unnecessary and a hand out to blood thirsty humans with nothing better to do. Use common sense and science, not the whims of a few uneducated idiots.

PC130

Name: Billock, Ginny

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

For the life of me, I don't understand how you can gun down an innocent creature for no reason. We need all of our wildlife to keep our eco system in check. Can you even imagine the pain that occurs on thes animals!!!!! They are all gods creatures and WE ARE CERTAINLY NOT GOD!!!!! Let Mother Nature take care of our creatures; our place is NOTto intervene.

PC131

Name: Birndorf, Jessica

Community of Residence: Y

Comment:

Save the Bears

PC132

Name: Bischoff, Ronda

Community of Residence: Indiana

Comment:

Please stop killing these beautiful creatures unnecessarily

PC133

Name: Bisesi , Mary

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

To: Alaska Department of Fish & Game Commissioner Douglas Vincent-Lang

I am writing to urge you to reject the latest plan from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game which would authorize aerial gunning down of wolves, brown bears, and black bears across a 40,000 square mile area!! This area is bordered by the the YUKON DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TOGIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PRESERVE!!

This operation is inhumane and unethical, causing unnecessary suffering to the bears and represents a upsetting approach to wildlife management. It also lacks a scientific basis as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor affecting the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. ADFG is sidestepping the fact that such action will disrupt ecosystems for the obvious purpose of sport killing vs scientific foundations.

The practice is not only seen as unethical and inhumane but seen as damaging Alaska's reputation as a responsible steward of its natural resources and will most certainly if enacted, filter down to boycotting Alaska's economy because of this obvious uneducated attack on apex predators.

In addition, the killing of older, experienced bears can lead to the loss of vital survival knowledge for younger bears. If you proceed with this egregious act, it is a stamp of approval that your commission does not care about the viability of the targeted species.

A similar Alaskan predator control operation in 2023 killed approximately 100 brown bears (including cubs) and black bears, far more than the original planners estimated. This suggests that the Department cannot control the true mortality levels during these operations.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management which we the people expect of those placed in vital positions such as yours.

Sincerely,

Mary Bisesi

Name: Michelle Bittner
Community of Residence: Anchorage

June 25, 2025

Members of the Board of Game,

I am writing these comments in strong opposition to Proposal 1 for Intensive Management of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. I am opposed to this proposal because the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (the "Department") own scientific studies do not support the continued predator control of bears and wolves in the range of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

On January 21, 2022, Nick Demma and Renae Sattler, two of the Department's own expert wildlife biologists who had been studying the Mulchatna Caribou Herd for ten years and a year-and-a-half, respectively, presented scientific studies to you, the Members of the Board of Game. Nick Demma had been studying the impact of wolf predation on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd for ten years -- from about 2012 to 2021. From his research, Nick Demma concluded that wolves were not a primary factor in the decline and failure to rebound of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Indeed, Nick Demma found a negative correlation between the number of wolves killed and the decline of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd meaning that the more wolves that were killed, the more the herd declined. Renae Sattler had been studying the condition of female members of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd affecting their ability to reproduce and recruit newborn caribou as members of the herd. Renae Sattler concluded that predators are not a primary factor in the mortality of adult members of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Instead, she concluded that illegal hunting, nutritional stress, brucellosis, and wounding events are the primary factors affecting the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's decline and failure to rebound.

More recently, I understand that, in an attempt to controvert Renae Sattler's research, Dr. Kristin Denryter and John Crouse have been continuing to study the condition of female members of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and their ability to reproduce and recruit new members to the herd. As part of this research, Denryter and Crouse discovered that, by weighing an unknown number of female caribou in the winter instead of the fall, the female caribou weighed more in the winter than in the fall. The weight of a female caribou affects that caribou's ability to birth a healthy calf which is more likely to survive to adulthood and join the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. From this scant research, Denryter and Crouse determined that, because female caribou weighed more in the winter than in the fall, predation must be the primary cause of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's failure to recruit more calves to the herd. However, it is impossible for Denryter and Crouse to reconcile this conclusion with an October 2024 by Todd Rinaldi and John Landsiedel's presentation which is part of your meeting materials.

The October 2024 report by Todd Rinaldi, which was based on studying the condition of calves after removing all the predators in a specific area after the predator control operation in the Spring of 2024, was the most in-depth study of the Mulchatna

PC135

Name: Black , Carolyn

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

You have a legal and moral responsibility to protect bears in the Alaskan wilderness, and advocate for any aspect which destruction, which interferes with their ability to survive. Killing bears is not a valid form of wildlife management, it's murder!

PC136

Name: Blackburn, Joan

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Yo am opposed to the killing of brown bears in order to grow other animal populations. My husband visited Alaska and spoke of the majestic beauty in nature there. Please allow nature to be in charge as man tends to ruin things in nature.

PC137

Name: Blackwell, Stephen

Community of Residence: Anchor point, Alaska

Comment:

What the hell? Do not spend tax dollars for culling bears. The population is not out of hand. Do not kill any black, brown or polar bears. Do not kill bears.

PC138

Name: Blakey, Harry

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

Mindless murder of bears does not solve issues. They are needed for the ecosystem. Shooting things isn't the answer for everything, believe it or not.

PC139

Name: Blaxter, Gigi

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

See attached

OPPOSED

I have read the information available on the proposed bear killings. I AM OPPOSED

to aieral or any killing of bears.

These lands are supposed to be set aside for the bears to live a natural, free, life as God and nature planned.

Ir is horrific to track down a beautiful, intelligent, empathetic, mother, youth, or any animal. The helicopter, airplane buzz alone is torture to these animals as it would be to you or me.

I suggest you spend time observing these magnificent, family loving animals (plenty of videos on wildlife sites) and see what you are cruely destroying.

I believe in live and let live.

They have JUST AS MUCH RIGHT to live on this earth as you. Thanks for your time.

PC140

Name: Bloomfield, Kelsey

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

Save the bears!

PC141

Name: Blount, Will

Community of Residence: Orange County

Comment:

Leave the wild life alone. They were here before us

PC142

Name: Body, Elaine

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

Please, no more killing.

PC143

Name: Bolding, Sherry

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

I am totally against killing animals like these beautiful bears for no reason! It's absolutely cruel that someone would do this to!!!

PC144

Name: Bone, Maria

Community of Residence: 641 W Placita Campo de Adobes

Comment:

I am in opposition of the reckless and unnecessary killing of our beloved Alaskan bears. This barbaric act should have no place in 2025. I request that this program be abolished and that protections be placed to protect our wildlife not hinder its livelihood.

PC145

Name: Bordner, Deborah

Community of Residence: North Carolina USA

Comment:

Please do not allow this to happen. Attempted predator control does not work. Bears & wolves are keystone species & should be left alone.

PC146

Name: Borgen, Ena

Community of Residence: Seattle

Comment:

Stop the killing. This is disgraceful, disgusting and despicable to say the least. We need to do better for our fellow species and the planet. All living creatures are valuable.

PC147

Name: Borrero, Waldemar

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

STOP SHOOTING BEARS NOW

PC148

Name: Boselli, Juliette **Affiliation**: Denali Mountain Works

Community of Residence: Denali

Comment:

I am opposed strongly to the gunning down of bears from helicopters in the Mulchatna area (or anywhere) . I operarte a business that relies on Alaska having reputable wildlife management, people travel to Alaska to view wildlife and see an environment that supports wilderness habitat and wild animals. To have our state wildlife managers show no concern whatsoever for the very wildlife that attracts tourists to our state is a disgrace. Most Alaskans are disgusted by the gunning down of our wild bears. It is not based on sound science and has twice been found to be illegal and in bad faith. 'That this practice continues to be forced on our state and our residents is beyond understanding and downs not serve the residents of Alaska or our wildlife as you are tasked to do. No to killing of the Mulchatna "Bears

---

PC149

Name: Boswell, Rhonda

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

I am vehemently OPPOSED TO THE SLAUGHTER of these bears I am a visitor and lover of Alaska and its amazing wildlife. I've had the opportunity to encounter these bears, to photograph them, to share their space and admire their beauty. They are amazing creatures and should be protected, not slaughtered. Nature is to be revered and protected. Please… do not do this. We are losing more and more wildlife to progress and human encroachment. Let them live where they are and thrive. Prayers that you do the right thing.

PC150

Name: Bouker, Johanna

Community of Residence: Dillingham

Comment:

I am deeply opposed to the killing of the bears that you are proposing. I will be 85 years old this month having been born in Kanakanak (near Dillingham- to parents who came up here from the States in 1938.

Dad was a bush pilot, John Walatka. We lived summers at Lake Clark until 1952 when the airline he was with was selected to build some sports fishing camps in Katmai which he oversaw and built. I just came back from a week at Brooks. We only saw bears walking on the beach one day. Please let nature do its thing. If you want to save the hoofed animals then stop the sportsmen from killing them. I believe firmly that local people kill only what they need to live comfortably when they need it. Please leave the bears alone. They are waiting for the salmon right now, mostly eating grass according to the scat I observed at Brooks. I pray that you understand. Regards, Johanna (Walatka) Bouker in Dillingham

I am opposed to the bear killings as proposed by the Fish & Game. I was born in Dillingham on June17, 1940. Have lived also in Anchorage, Homer, Fairbanks, and Platinum and spent the last 30+years here in Dillingham. I spent the first 12 summers at our family cabin at Lake Clark and most the rest at Katmai at Brooks, Grosvenor, and Kulik. I just returned from my annual June 1-7 trip to Brooks. I earned my bachelor's. degree in science from UAF by working at the Katmai camps in the summers. I think the bear killing program is inhumane and totally oppose it. Lets let nature be nature. Probably the best solution to the "problem" is sportsman hunting which I think should be banned.

PC151

Name: Boutier, Ella

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

Chaque espèces doit apprendre à cohabiter et pas triompher des autres espèces. C'est ça être humain, pas tuer et laisser agoniser des etres, des mères et des bébés.

PC152

Name: Bowman, Christa

Community of Residence: PA

Comment:

This should NEVER be allowed. There is absolutely no sportsmanship from killing bears from a helicopter. It's just a massacre of our beautiful bears. This should NEVER be allowed.

PC153

Name: Bowman, Trina

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

No we should not kill our previous bears period .. save the bears

---

PC154

Name: Boxman , Naomi

Community of Residence: Rockville

Comment:

I oppose this bill as there is no scientific evidence that reducing the bear population will help caribou. Additionally, these bears are creatures of the earth that you are randomly killing! This bill should be opposed.

PC155

Name: Boyer, Jayne

Community of Residence: NC

Comment:

Reasons to Protect Alaska Brown Bears Instead of Hunting Them:

I support protecting brown bears in Alaska from hunting, particularly proposals involving aerial gunning for these reasons:

1. Ecological Importance:

Keystone Species: Brown bears are considered a keystone species in their Alaskan ecosystems.

Apex Predators: As apex predators, they influence prey populations and contribute to maintaining ecological balance.

Nutrient Cycling: Bears play a vital role in transferring nutrients from the ocean to land through their consumption of salmon, which then enriches the soil and supports vegetation growth. This ultimately benefits other species in the food chain.

Seed Dispersal: Brown bears contribute to plant diversity and health by dispersing seeds through their foraging.

2. Ethical and Moral Considerations:

Sentient Beings: Many people consider brown bears to be sentient beings with the capacity for suffering, making the act of hunting them ethically questionable, especially for trophy hunting or recreational purposes.

Cruelty Concerns: Arguments against aerial gunning specifically highlight concerns about the brutality and inhumane nature of the practice.

Respect for Wildlife: Protecting these magnificent animals demonstrates respect for nature and the complex web of life.

3. Economic Benefits of Tourism:

Bear Viewing Industry: Bear viewing tourism generates significant economic benefits in Alaska, supporting local businesses, creating jobs, and boosting regional income.

Sustainable alternative: Well-managed bear tourism can be a valuable and more sustainable economic option for communities compared to relying solely on hunting or resource extraction.

Conservation Funding: Revenue generated from ecotourism can be reinvested into conservation efforts, helping to protect bears and their habitats.

4. Questionable Effectiveness of Predator Control:

Limited Impact on Prey: Studies suggest that predator control, like the proposed aerial gunning, may not be the primary factor determining prey populations, such as moose or caribou.

Disruption of Ecosystems: Hunting bears can disrupt their social structures and negatively impact the wider ecosystem.

Potential for Increased Conflicts: Removing dominant individuals through hunting might even lead to an increase in conflicts between bears and humans.

5. Legal and Constitutional Challenges:

Unconstitutional Program: A court ruling in Alaska found that a brown bear killing program aimed at boosting caribou numbers was unconstitutional and violated provisions related to sustained yield and public trust.

In summary, protecting Alaska's brown bears supports ecological health, offers a more ethical approach to wildlife management, provides economic opportunities through tourism, and aligns with current legal and public sentiment regarding such practices.

PC156

Name: Boyer, Tracy

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

Killing bears is a horrible idea. Doing so by airplane is barbaric. Alaska is famous for our bears and tourists spend huge $$$ to come see them. Don't kill the golden goose that brings in big bucks to Alaska

---

PC157

Name: Boykin, Kayla

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill. The problem that is facing the Caribou is environmental and the result of climate change. Killing bears is not backed by scientific research and is not the way to solve this problem.

PC158

Name: Bradley, Wendy **Affiliation**: Bradley family

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

Animals regulate themselves if left to it, human bloodlust is the only reason these actions are being taken.

Would be tourists - won't be coming now.

PC159

Name: Brandon, Victoria

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

The bears have every right to live with their family in peace. Why would humans jump into a helicopter and murder them? This makes no sense. I have been to beautiful Alaska.I can't imagine anyone who lives there would want to destroy the wildlife- and certainly not bears!

PC160

Name: Brandt, Carolyn

Community of Residence: Vermont

Comment:

June 23, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

In Opposition

I am writing you today asking that more attention be paid to stop the predator control program targeting bears and wolves in Alaska.

There is scientific studies that have shown that the decline in the Caribou herd is a combination of:

*Climate change

*2024/2025 (and prior) has shown an incredible variable of weather temperatures. With temperatures climbing four times faster in the Arctic than the rest of the planet, snow and cold temperatures are coming later and later in the year. Snow patterns and vegetation are changing as well, both of which can impact caribou.

* Warmer winters lead to more rain-on-snow events, which create layers of ice that caribou must dig through to reach food – as well as;

*Temperatures near freezing cause snow to melt and then freeze again, creating layers of ice that caribou must dig through.

* Woody plants are replacing tundra plants that caribou eat. These woody plants are less nutritious for caribou.

*Caribou avoid burnt-out areas because forest fires damage lichens. Fires are increasing…

Other factors that may be contributing to caribou declines include: Overgrazing, Trampling, Development that fragments habitat, and Oil development.

*Hunting

*Bag limit for state residents is 15 caribou… really?! 15 caribou for one hunter! Perhaps if this were to be lessened, they may have a chance to increase the herd.

*Illegal hunting just adding to the numbers.

From what they have been able to determine, predation, natural mortality due to weather, hunter harvest, and other causes are all factors in deaths.

These studies do not include bears nor wolves as a major part of that decline. While it is a natural occurrence that predators will take an animal for substance, it is also known that ill underfed animals will be taken first. Perhaps if the Caribou had a better feeding area with natural foods to sustain them they would have better survival rates. Planting such plants would be a start – before killing in such barbaric ways…

I am a viewer of Explore.org and watch the Katmai Bear Cameras live daily. Their motto is never stop learning. Learning about the wildlife we are a part of in this world. Therefore, thru learning about our wildlife… changes our views of animals forever… thus we learn to do better for them. Watching these cameras show we are not as different in our lives as they. I make donations to keep this magical place alive. I also donate to The National Park Service. It is a dream of mine to visit one day. Many of our viewers do come. Therefore, increasing the economy for the local area and its people.

Watching daily, the bears show us their strength for survival. They teach us of their lives, their families. They show us the need for empathy for their survival... before extinction. We as a community have taken notice of the loss of many of the mainstay bears that would frequent the park. The numbers are declining. I am very concerned that this policy for your predator control has created this. With approximately 200 bears taken and 20 wolves there has been no change in the Caribou herd. But we do see the loss of bears. Soon we will see the loss of human visitation.

Please advertise viewing of the live wildlife. Please rethink this horrific means of a control policy. Please listen to the science. Please listen to your people. Please stop the killing. Please protect our wildlife and our earth.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Brandt

[redacted]

Moretown, VT 05660

PC161

Name: Branson, Peter

Community of Residence: Wrangell

Comment:

I'm a guide to a popular bear viewing site near Wrangell called Anan bear observatory. Bear viewing generates jobs and contributes greatly to the economy. The bear viewing on the katmai dwarfs what Anan generates. It looks to me like katmai bears are being killed for a caribou herd that is likely declining more due to climate changes to vegetation more conducive to moose, which are frankly a better subsistence animal. This misguided and outdated predator control program is bad science and bad PR for Alaskan tourism.

PC162

Name: Breinholt, Michelle

Community of Residence: Willow, AK

Comment:

I absolutely do not support the culling of the Malchatna Bears. Ever since moving to this state six years ago I am continually shocked by the lack of consideration for wildlife and their habitats. I was always under the impression that the Alaska wilderness was precious and important enough to keep safe and that people cared enough to protect it from going the way of most places in the lower 48. I was wrong. The lengths that the Alaska BOG and ADFG will go to in order to kill bears and wolves from the air is astonishing and just plain cruel. As I watch busloads of tourists passing my home along the Parks Hwy. I shake my head. If they only knew how this state treats the iconic animals they all come to see, they would take their gobs of money and go home. A coffee hut worker nearby told me the tourists always ask "Where are the bears?" Dead. They are mostly dead whenever it suits those in power.

PC163

Name: Brinkworth, Deborah

Community of Residence: Maine

Comment:

I urge you to close down the aerial hunting of bears in Alaskathese bears are already threatened by habitat loss, climate change, and it's only going to get worse as our planet continues to warm. These bears are keystone species and they play a vital role in maintaining the ecosystem balance.

These bears play a vital role in the ecosystems they live in, and when we protect them, we protect the balance of nature in those ecosystems.

Katmai as well as other nationally and state protected places bring in enormous amounts of money to be used in conservation and to bring tourism to your state. Please stop Ariel killing.

Additionally, there is absolutely no scientific evidence that the bears are decimating Caribou populations. If you leave the wild alone, they control themselves. Please stop the aerial killing.

If you want to bring more money to your state, and if you feel the need to spend money concerning the wild bears, put together an informational program or courses, teaching people how to responsibly view the bears. Teach people about our resources, and the actual environmental impacts, especially with the change in climatefor the entire ecosystem you Say you are protecting. Please stop the aerial hunting of bears.

Please do not move forward with the aerial hunting of bears. There is no evidence that the reasons behind your statements and desires are true. In fact, Yellowstone is a perfect example of how both Apex predators and keystone species all work together to create a healthy and natural environment.

Please stop the aerial hunting of bears.

PC164

Name: Brito, Pamela

Community of Residence: APT 101

Comment:

Bears deserve live.

PC165

Name: Bromley, Michael

Community of Residence: Westchester, NY

Comment:

I strongly support all protection efforts for the Mulchatna bears. In particular, hunting bear from helicopters is a barbaric practice - not worthy of our country and society. I belong to multiple large travel groups, am influential in their decisions, and would definitely propose canceling any future activities that would support Alaska's economy if this passed.

PC166

Name: Brooks, Brooks

Community of Residence: Washington State

Comment:

In opposition to this current crime of eradicating bears in Alaska, I am speaking as a former resident of Alaska, New Mexico, Nevada and Oklahoma. Bears, wolves, wild horses, etc…are all natives of the land and their populations have ebbed and flowed throughout time without the manipulation of government agencies pretending to "manage" them into extinction.

Human land use/hoarders has/have been more destructive to habitats and all of the living plants and animals within them (including other humans) than any one species throughout history. This is the moment to change the course of history.

Name: Brooks, Nathan

Community of Residence: PA

Comment:

Do not shoot the bears. Leave nature alone. Haven't we learned anything from man trying to play God? Maybe research Yellowstone and the wolves. You might as well try to hold water by squeezing it. Squeeze a little harder it might work.

Name: Browder, Karen Browder

Community of Residence: Austin , Texas

Comment:

Alaska is Gods country and you have decided that you know better in who lives and who dies ? Bears have a job to keep the populations in check with deer, elk and caribou. The animals are what brings tourists to your state. Bear killing will have social media will kill any tourist growth .

Name: Browder, Rachel

Community of Residence: Livingston

Comment:

Bears are why we visit Alaska. There is no proof killing these bears will help other populations. Plus killing is murder. Do you really want that on your hands, and a bunch of angry people. Tread carefully the world is watching!!

Name: Brown, Kellie

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

The killing of bears and constant interfering in nature and wildlife is absolutely disgraceful and must stop. As an example, in the United Kingdom we eliminated our apex predators which has led to population

explosion in deer which now in turn is culled by humans as means of population control. When humans intervene in the natural order of things it never works out well for the animals. What you are proposing is barbaric and unnecessary. Myself and my family have been talking about visiting Canada next year but I have read numerous times about culling of bears (including hibernating mothers and cubs), rounding up of wild horses and killing of wolves and this puts me off coming as that is what I long to see. Please consider that nature managed itself perfectly well for thousands and millions of years without us sticking our meddling noses in. Just because you can do something it does not mean you should. This is an embarrassment for your country!!

PC171

Name: Brown, Tatiana

Community of Residence: Westchester

Comment:

This is inhumane do better

Valerie Brown, Anchorage, Alaska

July 7, 2025

Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: Opposition to Predator Control Proposal in the Mulchatna Area – July 14-15, 2025 Meeting
[submitted via comment form linked at BOG website -
https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/0a6a2779ae8f4750aee9afb83d60451b

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed plan to kill bears in the Mulchatna region as part of a predator control initiative ahead of your upcoming meeting on July 14, 2025.

This proposal represents another attempt by ADF&G to put forward a troubling and scientifically questionable approach to wildlife management, outside of the normal board process, after both ADF&G and the Board of Game failed to accomplish this through a normal board process and a second emergency board meeting. Procedural and substantial legal problems with the proposal have been previously identified by two different Alaska Superior Court judges. This proposal suffers from the same flaws.

The Board and the Department have demonstrated a willingness to kill bears under the guise of increasing caribou populations. You have disregarding science, judicial orders, and complex ecological relationships. You do not have enough information about what your past actions in the Mulchatna area have already done to destabilize bear populations, and you have no information about the impacts from the currently proposed lethal control of bears.

You have no scientific evidence that the Mulchatna caribou herd numbers will be increased by predator control, yet the Department continues to advocate for it. Moreover, it is now well outside the timeframe proposed by the Department for the conduct of lethal predator control during the pre-calving season. Targeting bears in the spring during the calving season lacks scientific consensus as an effective long-term solution, targeting bears now without adequate information on how it will impact either the bear or the caribou population is reckless.

I urge the Board to end the third attempt this year to implement this flawed and misguided plan. Thank you for your time and for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Valerie Brown

PC173

Name: Browne, Rachel

Community of Residence: Ireland

Comment:

I am opppsed to this act.

Beats are a key stone species and have a huge benefit to biodiversity

The unlawful killing of these key stone species must be ceaee with immediate effect beats should be protected under enhanced laws

---

PC174

Name: Bruce, Melody

Community of Residence: Enterprise, Oregon

Comment:

I am opposed to the aerial gunning down of grizzly\brown bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Management area. Especially the killing of sows and their cubs. This is an absolutely inhumane slaughter of bears that have every right to be in their habitat. I have read that AFW want to greatly expand their bear slaughter area to be adjacent to several National Parks and refuge areas where the bears are protected. This would mean that bears, whose home is in these parks where people come to watch and observe them,(which I and my family have done when visiting Alaska) could\ would be shot if they cross the unseen boundaries of these protect areas. This is totally unacceptable.

I understand that the caribou herds have declined due to several factors. But it is unacceptable to put all the weight of this on the bears who were always there and not the cause of the original caribou decline(which was more about disease and loss of traditional habitat than bears.) They are now just the scape goat for the current situation. Why is it that the predators are always the bad guy when it is so often humans who are disrupting nature? These animals co-existed quite well for thousands of years before the influx and interruption of people over the last 200 years. It is really us that have disrupted the natural order of our wildlife.

I know that, In general, a bear's diet is only 10% meat. They are primarily an herbivore. Whereas, with wolves that is not the case. We should not treat\manage wolves and bears in the same manner. In effect, bears are taking the punishment for a problem that they did not originally cause. I.E. The decline of caribou herds. As humans we always want things to be just, fair. Killing bears for a problem that they did not originally cause is unjustified. As humans, we do not expect or accept punishment for something we did not do or cause. We get very upset if something seems unjust. Why then, does it always seem that humans think an innocent animal has to be punished\killed for something that it didn't originally cause? Bears are not the cause of the caribou situation. Slaughtering them in their own habitat from helicopters is unacceptable. Why is it that game animals, (caribou, elk, moose, etc always take priority? It should not be so.

I am from the mountains of northeastern Oregon. We have family in Alaska and have been there many times. I am from an area that has all the wildlife that Alaska has except for grizzly bears and caribou. We have wolves very close to the small town that I live in. I understand the problems with living with predators. But we do not gun down wildlife from helicopters!! There are better ways. The problem is that ADFW chooses not to manage this in a right or good way, but chooses the easy, unjust, and unacceptable way. And bears pay the price of man's poor stewardship and inhumanity. It is not up to man to decide which animal is more important or to favor one over another. God created both bears and caribou. They are equally important in His eyes and we should find ways to protect them both. Not sacrifice one for the other. Please do not allow the continued slaughter of bears from helicopters and the enlargement of the proposed slaughter area to be anywhere near National Parks, wildlife sanctuaries, or Refuges!!! This entire plan\ practice is opposed by many, many Alaskans as American s in general. And the Alaska courts have repeatedly also opposed this plan and ruled against it. Please do not vote to accept the ADFW plan for grizzly bear slaughter!

PC175

Name: Brune, Tena

Community of Residence: Kodiak, Ak

Comment:

Please do NOT kill this bear!!! She's an icon to the bear world that we only get a glimpse of!! She deserts live!

PC176

Name: Brush, Theresa

Community of Residence: Homestead fl

Comment:

Stop the killing of bears! I am completely against this horrible slaughter. Leave Gods critters alone!!!!!!!!

PC177

Name: Bryan, Td

Community of Residence: Tacoma, WA

Comment:

Please do not allow aerial killing if wild animals. So wrong. Thank you. Tana Bryan

---

PC178

Name: Bryant Jr, David

Community of Residence: Box 134

Comment:

All life is precious even bears. In some parts of the US there is no wild life left. Please don't kill any more bears!

PC179

Name: Bunyan , Georgia

Community of Residence: Alsager, England

Comment:

Stop killing innocent bears - it's disgusting and whoever does it should be ashamed of themselves.

PC180

Name: Burchett, Phyllis **Affiliation**: PhyllisBurchettPhoto, LLC

Community of Residence: GA

Comment:

I've had the incredible privilege of photographing Alaska's bears in their natural habitat, witnessing their strength, intelligence, and the tender bonds between mothers and cubs. These moments are deeply moving—and they underscore just how vital it is that we protect, not destroy, this part of our natural heritage.

The proposal to reinstate aerial gunning—using taxpayer dollars to kill bears, including sows with cubs—is not only inhumane, it's unsupported by sound science. Numerous studies have shown that such drastic measures do not lead to long-term benefits for caribou populations. Nature is complex, and healthy ecosystems depend on a balanced web of life, not the removal of one species to benefit another.

We must do better for our wild lands and the iconic species that call them home. Alaska's bears are not expendable—they're part of the American wilderness experience that so many travel across the world to witness. Let's uphold our responsibility to future generations and protect this extraordinary wildlife, not wipe it from the skies.

PC181

Name: Burgnon, Desiree

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please leave these animals alone. There is enough killing of the wildlife that is done legally and thru natural selection. It has been proven over and over that killing off one species does not save another. Leave the bears alone.

PC182

Name: Burleson, Nicole

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Bears are a critical part of our environment and with no science backing these slaughtering it is just senseless killing of an innocent animal

---

PC183

Name: Burmeister, Garrett

Community of Residence: St Petersburg

Comment:

I very much support ceasing the killing of these Bears. They don't understand human made boundaries and deserve to at least be replicated or redirected in an effort to save innocent wildlife

---

PC184

Name: Bush, Isabella

Community of Residence: KY

Comment:

I'm from Kentucky. A land filled with beautiful animals just like Alaska. This is their home too and I don't believe they deserve to die in the name of tourism. Of course if someone's life is threatened in the moment then you have to do what you have to do. To kill an animal that is just trying to survive is inhumane, and this thought process is why our earth is dying. We can live in harmony with the creatures our God placed on Earth.

PC185

Name: Buss, Cole

Community of Residence: Tualatin, OR

Comment:

We are the only thing standing between complete destruction of our children's future. If companies continue to take over the public lands and kill off wildlife, there will be nothing left. We have already crossed so many boundaries and may never fully recover from the damage we've inflicted on the environment, but that doesn't mean it's too late to try. Please stop and consider what it means to be human. We are the dominant species for a reason, and that reason is not to destroy everything that is beautiful. It is to be able to appreciate the beauty that is still here, and to try to preserve it for as long as possible. We have everything we could ever want, if only we could stop and admire it for a moment.

PC186

Name: Butler, Lacey

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

Please stop senseless bear killing.

PC187

Name: Butzke, Sabrina

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

Please reconsider shooting of bears. Please use only sound science and accurate data to ensure the safety of these lands and the animals that roam through it. This is appalling.

PC188

Name: Buza, Joshua

Community of Residence: Seward

Comment:

Stop letting it be an attraction don't kill the bears for a wildlife perimeter it's there home stop letting people invade

---

PC189

Name: Byrne, Kelly

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Protecting the life of animals

PC190

Name: C, Supriya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Save the Bears of Alaska ❤️‍🩹

PC191

Name: Cabanas, Vanessa

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Vanessa Cabanas

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed intensive management program that would facilitate the taking of brown and black bears near Anchorage as a means to boost the Mulchatna caribou herd.

There is no strong scientific evidence showing that killing bears will meaningfully benefit the caribou population in this region. In fact, studies have repeatedly shown that habitat loss, disease, climate factors, and human-caused disturbances play a much larger role in the caribou decline than natural predation.

Targeting predators as a scapegoat may seem like a quick fix, but it does not address the root causes of population shifts and could cause more ecological harm than good.

Brown and black bears are integral to Alaska's ecosystem, and killing them disrupts natural balance, harms biodiversity, and ignores the broader picture of wildlife health. These animals are also deeply valued by Alaskans and visitors alike - for cultural, ecological, and economic reasons.

I urge decision-makers to reject this predator-control plan and instead focus on science-based, ecosystem-level solutions to support the long-term sustainability of the Mulchatna caribou herd.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

PC192

Name: Caesar, Jeannine

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

Pleas do not kill these bears!

PC193

Name: Cage, Terri

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Where is the research that the killing of these bears helps the caribou population.

I have visited Alaska several times in the purpose of bear viewing.

PC194

Name: Caire , Andrew

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Mulchatna bear control program, which would involve gunning down brown bears from helicopters.

As someone who has traveled all the way from Australia to Alaska specifically to see brown bears in their natural habitat, I feel deeply connected to these animals. I first fell in love with the bears of Katmai National Park by watching them through the live Brooks Falls bear cams on Explore.org. That experience inspired me to travel across the world to witness them in person — a journey that was both meaningful and unforgettable.

These bears are not only iconic symbols of Alaska's wild beauty — they are living beings worthy of respect, protection, and awe. Killing them from helicopters is a deeply inhumane and scientifically questionable approach to wildlife management. It ignores the vital ecological role bears play, and it risks permanently damaging both the ecosystem and Alaska's reputation as a leader in wildlife conservation.

I urge you to reject this plan and instead commit to ethical, science-based strategies that honor the lives of these extraordinary animals and the global community who cares about them.

Thank you.

Name: Cairns , Nicole

Community of Residence: Honduras, Central America

Comment:

I am strongly opposed to the senseless culling of bears! It has never been needed in so many decades but now it is?? Nature can manage its self without man's selfish and blatantly dystructive ideas.

Name: Calderon, Tj

Community of Residence: Woodward Oklahoma

Comment:

I am in opposition of the actions taking place in Alaska. I am oppposed to shooting bears

---

Name: Calini, Olivia

Community of Residence: Lebanon County Pennsylvania

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed killing of bears to manage the caribou population. Bears are being killed for living according to their God-given instinct simply because they are unaware of when they step out of man's idea of a "safe zone." It is murder. People travel across the world to see Alaskan bears, and that population would be decreased if the killing of bears were to continue. There has been no proof that doing so has benefited or increased the caribou population. We need to protect all of Alaska's wildlife and not destroy one part of it in the name of protecting another.

Name: Call, Elissa

Community of Residence: Save the bears

Comment:

Stop doing this to our natural world!!!! Save the bears

PC199

Name: Calle, Naomi

Community of Residence: APT 1

Comment:

This is wrong and you know it

PC200

Name: Cambridge, Bell

Community of Residence: oregon

Comment:

In no world is it acceptable to be gunning down wildlife without scientific backed evidence that it would exponentially improve anything. Protect our wildlife, save the bears.

PC201

Name: Camp, Emily

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

As a wildlife biologist and graduate of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, as well as former Vice President of the Alaska Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, I strongly oppose the proposed regulation to allow the department to lethally remove brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. There is no robust scientific evidence demonstrating that predator reduction will lead to meaningful or sustainable increases in caribou numbers, particularly when caribou declines are primarily driven by habitat loss, disease, climate stressors, and overharvest. Predator control, especially without long-term monitoring and peer-reviewed justification, undermines science-based wildlife management and risks damaging trust from our fellow Alaskans and the American public! Alaska needs to prioritize actual evidence based, ecosystem level solutions over these reactionary and ethically questionable methods that lack proven effectiveness.

PC202

Name: Camp, Larry

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Let nature be wild. Humans should stop impeding. If predators kill their food, then they'll naturally move on the other sources or die off

---

PC203

Name: Camp, Reidar

Community of Residence: fairbanks

Comment:

don't kill the bears it ain't cool

PC204

Name: Campbell, Cheryl

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to killing the bears. I am opposed to killing bears by shitting them from a helicopter. I am opposed to killing mother bears and their Cubs. I'm opposed to killing the bears at all. Why do you do it? Your reasons are not valid. Men have no right to control the natural rights of animals in a natural environment.

PC205

Name: Campuzano , Ruben

Community of Residence: Sanger, Ca

Comment:

"save the bears"

PC206

Name: Cancela, Carmen

Community of Residence: Puerto Rico

Comment:

Killing innocent creatures for fun is abominable. We should start living in harmony with our surroundings.

PC207

Name: Canez , Jacquelyn

Community of Residence: Casa Grande, AZ

Comment:

I am completely in opposition of the slaughter of these beautiful brown bears in Alaska.

PC208

Name: Cannava, Mathew

Community of Residence: Soldotna

Comment:

Stop killing our bears!!! Any "science" that Doug, Tim and Ryan present is a far cry from "peer-reviewed." And please do not base a decision on what Stanley, a janitor from Bethel...says. We're supposed to be using science to manage our State...not personal whims. I and so many others spend thousands of dollars to spend time with these bears every summer...and you guys and F+G seemingly froth at the mouth to shoot them/wound them from helicopters. This is sick and needs to stop. What kind of person thinks this is ok???

Every year I travel across the Inlet to spend time with the bears in the estuaries there. It is such a joy to be with these amazing animals. I've spent tens of thousands for this privilege...as do others. These bears are worth FAR more to Alaska alive then dead. Considering there is no sound science to back up so-called predator control...and considering it's a despicable practice...shooting/wounding these animals as they desperately try to escape...I strongly oppose F+G's continued efforts to shoot OUR bears from helicopters.

PC209

Name: Cannon, Kat

Community of Residence: Planet Earth that the Good LORD made

Comment:

Nature can and will take care of itself when you let it. Human interference is the greatest cause of instability and disruption in an ecosystem. Killing these bears will only cause MORE damage to an already human-caused problem. LEAVE. NATURE ALONE! LET IT MANAGE ITSELF!! A much more sensible approach would be to have more caribou breeding programs that could expand the herds. Look at ways to increase life, not take life. Taking life is not the solution. It has been tried before and did not help. Do not kill the bears.

PC210

Name: Carbone, Michele

Community of Residence: Central NYS

Comment:

LEAVE THE BEARS ALONE. LEAVE NATURE ALONE. KEEP INGNORANCE AWAY!!!

PC211

Name: Card, Daylee

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Shooting any wildlife from a helicopter, is an inhumane and unethical act. There is no scientific evidence that the caribou population will go up as a result, so why are we going to allow senseless killing to take place in these bears' natural habitats? Bewildering that we are going to start killing bears because they inhabit an area where they belong. This cannot be allowed.

7 July 2025

Re: Opposition to Proposal 1 - 5 AAC 92.111 Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area

Dear Alaska Board of Game:

I am a wildlife ecologist and environmental attorney and write in opposition to Proposal 1. My background includes a B.S. in Renewable Natural Resources (major in Wildlife and Fisheries Science), J.D., and Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Management. I have worked in wildlife conservation since the late 1990s and began my professional career working in brown bear management at Katmai National Park.

Proposal 1 is a short-sighted and ill-advised approach to achieving Departmental goals. It perpetuates the intolerance and persecution of apex predators that have long characterized wildlife management in the United States. It deems these species expendable and lacks consideration of the overarching and complex role they play in regional ecosystem dynamics. Indeed, loss of apex predators is a major driver of ecosystem destabilization and collapse (Estes et al. 2011).

The Department's stated rationale for Proposal 1 is to increase enhance caribou calf survival by killing bears as a means of increasing the Mulchatna Caribou Herd population. This rationale relies on the overly simplistic assumption that predators are the only meaningful driver of caribou populations in the region, and that "reduc[ing] large predator populations in a small defined area for a short period" is the most efficacious means of "enhancing caribou calf survival, and increasing herd abundance" (see Frey et al. 2022). The Department fails to consider how predator culls may affect caribou behavior in ways that will influence future abundance and distribution (see Ethier et al. 2024). It neglects due consideration of the delimiting force that prey populations themselves exert on species like wolves and bears (see, e.g., McLellan et al. 2024). It also fails to analyze similar programs, like British Columbia's wolf cull, whose efficacy in protecting ungulate populations is questionable (see, e.g., Harding et al. 2020; see also Horne 2024 (concluding that removing bears is unlikely to be an effective strategy in removing predation on ungulate neonates)). Finally, the Department 's logic fails on its face, as there is no logical reason to believe that killing predators in a "small defined area" for a "short period" will lead to long-term caribou herd growth—presumably the program's goal (see #4 below).

The scientific literature contains extensive critiques of lethal predator control (see Bergstrom 2017 and literature cited therein). Bergstrom (2017) cites five primary reasons that wildlife managers should move away from these management techniques:

(1) Potential disruption of top-down forcing and consequent loss of ecosystem resilience and biodiversity;

(2) "Bycatch" or unnecessary killing of nontarget species of mammals and other wildlife that occurs with nonselective methods of lethal control;
(3) Population reduction of certain species of native wildlife valued by many parts of society for the benefit of a few favored interest groups;
(4) Ineffectiveness of lethal control of predators at either reducing livestock depredation or, secondarily enhancing game populations, over the long term; and
(5) Ethical considerations about both the intrinsic value of carnivores and humane methods of killing them.

(Id. at 2.) As to the last point, aerial gunning is horrifically cruel to the target animals, many of whom must be shot over the course of multiple passes before they are killed.

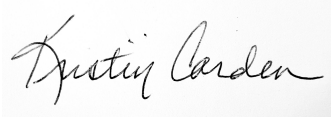
Proposal 1 fails to address any of these concerns. Nor does it consider the potential economic fallout of the proposal: the Department seeks to drive down bear populations in close proximity to Katmai National Park and Togiak National Wildlife Refuge—places whose visitors each spend thousands of dollars in the hopes of seeing the very species whose population the Department seeks to decimate. Katmai also hosts the infamous "Fat Bear Week" celebrating Alaska's brown bears. A slaughter like that proposed would be a public relations disaster for the state.

It is disappointing that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is proposing such an extreme, anachronistic, and regressive approach to wildlife management. As everyone in this field knows, wildlife management is not about managing wildlife—it is about managing human expectations. It is manipulating wildlife populations to meet the desires of a select group of constituents (see Musiani & Paquet 2004). Managers often search for a quick fix instead of addressing greater underlying challenges (e.g., climate change, habitat fragmentation) or working to redefine our relationship with the natural world and promote interspecies tolerance.

Alaska is a beacon of hope for our native wildlife heritage, a sanctuary for species like bears and wolves that have been exterminated from much of their pre-colonial range. Proposal 1 represents an outdated approach to wildlife management—one that would tarnish the state's reputation and fail to achieve long-term wildlife and ecosystem conservation.

The scientific literature cited herein is available at the Dropbox link below. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Kristin Carden

Literature Cited

Available at https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/5m1l5fis9tnqg6w3r5q17/AHSv02qOEoIRi5x-OPHK2Ws?rlkey=qm1rs18aze7vicb6prjwlvxt1&st=tlzpmq5y&dl=0

Bradley J. Bergstrom, Carnivore conservation: shifting the paradigm from control to coexistence, 98 J. Mammalogy 2017 (2017).

J.A. Estes et al., Trophic downgrading of planet Earth, 333 Sci. 301 (2011).

Claire A. Ethier et al., Lethal Wolf Control Elicits Change in Moose Habitat Selection in Unexpected Ways, 88 J. Wildlife Mgmt. e22620 (2024).

Sandra Frey et al., Predator Control Alters Wolf Interactions with Prey and Competitor Species Over the Diel Cycle, 8 Oikos e08821 (2022).

Lee E. Harding et al., No Statistical Support for Wolf Control and Maternal Penning as Conservation Measures for Endangered Mountain Caribou, 29 Biodiversity & Conservation 3051 (2020).

Liam Gleason Horne, Simulated Impacts of Black Bear Predation on Neonatal Loss in Boreal Caribou (2024) (M.S. thesis, University of Alberta) (on file with author).

Michelle L. McLellan et al., Restoring Historical Moose Densities Results in Fewer Wolves Killed for Woodland Caribou Conservation, 89 J. Wildlife Management e22673 (2025).

Marco Musiani & Paul C. Paquet, The Practices of Wolf Persecution, Protection, and Restoration in Canada and the United States, 54 BioScience 50 (2004).

Name: Carl, David
Community of Residence: Kipnuk, AK

PC213
1 of 1

COMMENT(S)

not only are the animals being predators it is as not only as being poachers. No one is perfect humans as well as being poachers. No one is perfect regardless what position you may be. We act. So as well with the biologists as deserters. whatever they do to any fish and wildlife it is always perfect for them even it really hurts the harvestors. As collaring which the life span for a caller is 6 years. within the period some do die for the rush the get for wearing their furs and skin. Females could produce more calfs and males as well if by the caller they don't lie.

By what means they had slaughter all the reindeers of Hagemeister Island not even giving their kill but say the are fertilizing the Island as well as what they done to the bision down whereabout one of the Islands. when asked they replied its costly to remove them. Lastly around Tuluksak when the caribou were trying to cross the Kuskokwim to the North side with aircrafts they intercept from crossing. Latter times the villagers investigated there they saw more than one calves which had been stampeded.

PC214

Name: Carneiro, Nicole

Community of Residence: Brazil

Comment:

I stand firmly against the current regulation proposed under the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management and especially against attaching wider territory to propagate this absurdity. It is nothing short of outrageous to consider the sanctioned killing of brown, black bears and wolves as a legitimate conservation measure. These apex predators are essential to the natural balance of ecosystems. I highly recommend studying the theory of predatory-prey dynamics proposed by Gause. Each species plays a distinct regulatory role within its environment, maintaining population fluctuation and ensuring the sustainable cycle of natural resources.

The idea that we can selectively remove predators without long-term ecological consequences is not only scientifically flawed, it is fundamentally irresponsible. Nature has never required human interference to function. On the contrary, it is our interference in this past century, particularly through habitat loss and territorial fragmentation, that has destabilised the base of these systems, leading to the fluctuation of the Caribou population at the present moment. Introducing further disruption through predator removal is simply accelerating ecological degradation with unknown consequences. In the eyes of those who do not recognise scientific studies, it seems to be an ideal short-term solution. But when we talk about nature, nothing is short-term. Keep that in mind.

There are plenty of well-established ecological theories, which I highly suggest reading, such as the concept of trophic cascades, which demonstrates how top predators influence the entire structure and health of ecosystems, from soil fertility and water quality to vegetation density and even climate regulation. Removing these key species does not "restore balance" to the Mulchatna Caribou—it will destroy it very shortly.

We must move beyond outdated, human-centred wildlife management tactics. Killing bears and wolves is not conservation. True conservation means protecting ecological integrity, not simplifying it for human convenience. This proposal is ecologically unsound and ethically indefensible.

PC215

Name: Carnevali, Laure

Community of Residence: Ulster County

Comment:

Shooting bears from helicopters isn't wildlife management—it's an inhumane, unfair practice that strips animals of any chance to flee or defend themselves. It turns the natural world into a one-sided battleground, where power and technology dominate over respect for life. This kind of aerial hunting isn't just unethical, it also disrupts ecosystems and teaches the next generation that convenience outweighs compassion. There are more humane, science-backed ways to manage wildlife—this isn't one of them.

PC216

Name: Carrier, Claire

Community of Residence: ontario

Comment:

I oppose the reinstating of the gunning program that targets bears to manage the caribou herds.

PC217

Name: Case, Tori

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Save the bears

PC218

Name: Caselgrandi Silla, Andrea

Community of Residence: Brasil

Comment:

Save the bears please

PC219

Name: Casias, Abby

Community of Residence: Manhattan, KS

Comment:

I am deeply concerned about the Alaska state government's decision to address caribou population declines by targeting bears and wolves. I am firmly against this strategy, as research shows that large-scale predator culling rarely results in lasting increases in prey populations. Numerous studies and wildlife experts have pointed out that factors such as habitat loss, disease, and harsh weather often play a much greater role in caribou declines than predation.

Eliminating bears and wolves disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems, where these predators play a crucial role in maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health. Removing them can lead to unintended consequences, such as increased disease among caribou and imbalances in other wildlife populations. I urge the state to reconsider this approach and instead prioritize ethical, science-based management that protects all of Alaska's wildlife.

PC220

Name: Catero, Travis

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed regulation change. This practice is inhumane, unethical, and contrary to the values of fair chase and responsible wildlife stewardship. As someone who visits Alaska specifically to admire its' wildlife. Bears are arguable the most iconic part of Alaska's ecosystems and should be respected, not treated as targets for aerial gunning.

This method undermines science-based wildlife management. If population control is truly necessary, it should be carried out using ethical, evidence-driven approaches that respect both animal welfare and the long-term health of Alaska's wild lands.

This proposal does not reflect the values of conservation-minded Alaskans or the broader public. I urge you to reject this policy and instead invest in sustainable, humane, and scientifically sound wildlife management strategies.

PC221

Name: Celento, Geenie

Community of Residence: Juno

Comment:

Stop the endless killing. Bears are vital to the ecosystem

PC222

Name: Centala, Amba

Community of Residence: 20 Bedford Square

Comment:

This is a ridiculous thing to have to argue against.

Have you no compassion, have you no heart?

The world is currently in chaos with Palestine, potential world war and the cost of living crisis.

And you want to hurt innocent animals for what?!

PC223

Name: Cesario, Paula

Community of Residence: LOS angeles

Comment:

This is beyond crazy. Not logical. Now we are KILLING BEARS? Who are you nasty people? Should be fired.

PC224

Name: Chabrova, Maria

Community of Residence: Russia

Comment:

Hello! I'd like to express my concerns regarding the killing of the wild bears in Alaska. Im strongly opposed to such an unnecessary and cruel practice targeting innocent animals and violating the environment. Please put an end to this immediately.

PC225

Name: Chagnon, Bryon

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

If there is no evidence to support the claims that bears are responsible for caribou decline then there should not be needless killing. All creatures are crucial to ecosystem to which they live, unless they are an evasive species which beats are not.

PC226

Name: Chandler , Scott

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

Members of the Board of Game,

Concerning changes in regulation around 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I.

I submit my opposition to the aforementioned regulatory changes as an Alaskan resident for whom all wild species in this state are managed for our residents' benefit and sustained yield. I do not outright object to "intensive management", aka predator control as a tool to aid in the management of other species, it has the potential to be quite powerful. However, I have not seen evidence that the state is adequately assessing whether this tool is being appropriately used. Many factors likely contribute to the reduced abundance of the Mulchatna caribou herd, with predators only being a portion of the pie. I am

concerned about the future of both predators and caribou if intensive management does not seem to be bringing about desired results. Say we remove hundreds of bears from the landscape and caribou do not increase in abundance, what do we do then? Kill more bears? At what point does the removal of bears become unacceptable when caribou don't rebound? When happens when so many bears have been removed that they are now also a population of concern in addition to caribou?

What I'm getting at is that intensive management should be performed with a carefully contracted plan to assess if it is actually working while ensuring that undo harm isn't being placed on the multiple species involved, and I haven't seen effort being invested into any plan at all aside from killing predators and surveying caribou. No effort has been made to justify the number of predators killed and the impact that has on their populations. No effort has been made to prove, without a doubt, that predators are killing caribou that otherwise would have lived (calves may be destined to die, or already have died, from weather and/or malnourishment due to climate variation and predators are finding them after or before this event.) Instead it seems the state is ram-rodding a program together because intensive management is the only tool they have to address the problem without investing in climate change mitigation, to which the Board of Game and ADFG have been taken to court and lost numerous times.

Act in good faith for the residents of Alaska. Put together a management plan for all species involved, actively study the effects of intensive management, and truly invest in whether this idea can work. Predators and prey are vital parts of Alaska. If you remove more predators than absolutely necessary to benefit prey and send those predators into states where we should be concerned about them, you will have done unjust harm to me and every other Alaskan who you are responsible for the sustainable management of the wildlife in our state.

Sincerely,

Scott Chandler

PC227

Name: Chandler, Sherry

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

Stop this nonsense, stop killing animals. This is such disturbing behaviour from humans to think they have this right just enough is enough

---

PC228

Name: Chaouch, Hanna

Community of Residence: 5 domaine Cantagrill

Comment:

Bears should NOT be shot ! The ecosystem is a very dangerous system supporting all of us. Humans have been derailing it for long enough. Killing the natural predators of Alaska would result in catastrophic natural chain of events that we will not be able to go back on. Do NOT kill bears

---

PC229

Name: Chapman, Mabel

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Please stop the absolutely barbaric practice of shooting predators from helicopters! Please allow them to live. There is no scientific evidence that the caribou herds are dying out due to them.

It disgusts me that fish and wildlife officials think this is ok

---

PC230

Name: Chardi, Sanela

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I am in opposition of reinstating of taking the bears. There is no evidence this helps the caribou herd recover and it only hurts the bears.

PC231

Name: Charles, Allison

Community of Residence: NC

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed of this propsal and am asking all State legislators oppose this. As a yearly visitor to the State of Alaska my family and I come for Alaska's beauty and wildlife. Bear control programs like Mulchatna, which kill bears regardless of age or sex, can have a massive, negative impact on a local bear population's ability to replenish itself. Just like the Russians who owned Alaska first almost eradicated sea otters for their fur, or later our damning and over killing of salmon, you are destroying what makes Alaska special with this propsal and will eventually impact tourism. After a recent stay in Anchorage I would suggest you use the money to assist with making Anchorage's streets safer and help the prevalent homeless population.

PC232

Name: Chavez, Christina

Community of Residence: State of CA

Comment:

I am very strongly against the targeting and killing of bears when the evidence doesn't support it will make much impact on the herds. It's disgusting to think of someone in a helicopter picking off bears simply living their life. This is not the answer.

PC233

Name: Chemaly , Sean

Community of Residence: Plettenberg Bay

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of bears in the Caribou region as a means of wildlife management. This practice is not only ethically troubling but also ecologically shortsighted. Rather than targeting apex predators like bears, we should focus on science-based, sustainable solutions that respect the balance of nature and address the root causes of ecosystem imbalance. Targeted killing of intelligent, sentient animals like bears raises serious ethical questions. Wildlife management should prioritize coexistence and minimally invasive methods rather than resorting to lethal control, which often lacks public support.

PC234

Name: Cheng , Shu Yun

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Leave the Bears alone!!! This is not wild animal management! wild bears matter not just for their own sake but because they help nature thrive—and humans benefit from that balance, too.

PC235

Name: Chester, Suzann

Community of Residence: Tucson

Comment:

Please leave the bears where they are. They are such a precious resource. We need the bears and the bears need us to leave them be. They are beautiful animals! Thank you for your consideration

---

PC236

Name: Chichester, Jennifer

Community of Residence: South Carolina

Comment:

Alaska is said to contain over ninety-eight percent of the United States' bear population, and over seventy percent of North America's (Alaska Department of Fish and Game). This percentage holds an estimated 30,000 bears. Since the founding of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), the aggression in predator control towards these bears has increased over time. This aggression has culminated into an acceptance of unethical practice. The ADFG's predator control programs aim to reduce the population of wolves and bears in Alaska, as they are a main predator to their food source in moose and caribou. However, more than half of the resources and research conducted to back their Intensive Management programs is dated pre-two-thousands ("Intensive Management in Alaska - Research and Resources"). They have repeatedly used outdated evidence and data to support their recent board decision. This decision was a unanimous vote on January 17th, 2025, to accept Proposal seventy-five which allows for

aerial-based removal of wolf and bear populations in a new unit (land division) of Alaska. The aim of this proposal is to protect the population of moose and caribou in the state, in fact majority of units in Alaska allow for state regulated hunting and removal. Aerial removal is currently banned in all states, with exceptions (National Archives). Alaska applies for permits to allow them to remove predators on the stance of protecting livestock. This is not only an unethical way of removing the population, but there is also a lack of evidence supporting the involvement of bears in decreasing prey population. Along with the contradicting evidence, it has received many oppositional comments from citizens of Alaska and the entire United States. Those who are in favor argue that they have experienced bad seasons of hunting. They blame this on the decreased population of prey but fail to account for all aspects that effect this decrease not just bears and wolves. To prevent the unjust removal of brown bears, the Alaskan government should restrict the authority of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game regarding proposal seventy-five.

There is minimal evidence of bears causing a population decrease in Alaska, in reference to both humans and prey. According to the U.S. National Parks Service (NPS) bear attacks on humans are rare, and the average death per year at the fault of bears is only 1 person. For an average citizen in Alaska, they are over twice as likely to die from a firearm accident while hunting than from the bear itself as shown in research by the National Center for Health Statistics. This is not the first time the Intensive Management programs of the ADFG has failed to provide accurate evidence and reasoning for the disruption of the bear population in Unit 16. The ADFG openly states that their first attempt at the management of predators in Unit 16 was “ineffective” and was therefore suspended. Proposal seventy-five aims to be effective but will likely cause unnecessary disruption to the ecosystem. Another group of animals effected by this policy is the wolf population. While bears are a main predator in Alaska, they are not the only predator. Wolves, bears, and humans are all predators of the moose and caribou populations. Since there are multiple predators in Alaska, it is not possible to give an accurate estimate mortality rate caused by each. Dr. Sterling D. Miller, an expert in wildlife management and conservation, and colleagues, originally hypothesized that “the harvest of predators was positively correlated with moose harvests” (Miller et al.). They collected over four decades of harvest data and eventually concluded that their hypothesis was incorrect. With no research to base their actions from, the ADFG is overstepping their control of predators.

Moose and caribou are a major part of Alaskan food and culture, but they are not close to being the only option. As stated, hunters are a larger part of the decrease in moose population than they’d like to admit. They hunt for many reasons including food, finances, and cultural significance. There are many other animals of land and sea that provide Alaskans with a reliable food source. Fish, goats, and sheep are just a few examples of food sources for Alaskans (Alaska Food Safety and Sanitation Program). While Alaska relies heavily on imported goods, they do have an agriculture system. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, “Alaska has the highest rate of new and beginning farmers in the U.S.” (Agriculture in Alaska | USDA Climate Hubs). Contrary to popular belief there are many native plants and imported plants that can survive Alaskan climate and still provide food for the inhabitants. Not only is agriculture on a rise, so is aquaculture. In the past five years, aquaculture has seen a significant increase in Alaska (State of Alaska Aquaculture Report February 2024). Alaska is surrounded by water on three out of four sides of the state. Given that there is already an increase in agriculture to provide food for citizens, why is there a need for the removal of bears for the purpose of prey protection?

The main predators to bears are humans and wolves, removing them disrupts the nature of the environment. There are currently eight national parks in Alaska, in which the policies of the Alaskan state are not adopted. According to a rule announced by National Park Service on November 13, 2015, “This

rule provides that the National Park Service does not adopt State of Alaska management actions or laws or regulations that authorize taking of wildlife, which are related to predator reduction efforts (as defined in this rule).” (“Alaska; Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves”). While there is protection from all hunting in national parks, there is little protection in most other units of Alaska. In the whole state there are only two areas where hunting is completely prohibited, and few that prohibit hunting of bears (ADFG). There is a natural predator-prey relationship in Alaska, and human interference is the only proven disturbance to this. As stated before, there are three main predators to the moose and caribou populations. Bears account for less than half of the mortality to these animals, with humans being the leading cause. Bears hibernate during the winter in periods of five to seven months, without the need for food due to fat reserves that they gained during warm season. The opposite is true and bears only hunt for seven to five months a year (U.S. National Parks Service). Alaskan citizens have no season that they are completely prohibited from the hunting of prey and are allowed to do so year-round. While most seasons that are regulated are opposite of bear’s hunting schedules, it is not always the case. Proposal 75 is questioned due to the method of removal. It calls for the aerial removal of predators. According to a work by Allison J. Russel, she states “the AHA allows Alaska to issue permits for aerial hunting, which is considered “unsportsmanlike, unethical and nearly impossible to regulate.” (Russell). The habitat of these animals has been increasingly overstepped and will continue to be if change is not made.

Some believe this proposal is necessary for various reasons, but none that prove to be anything more than preference. There are measures put in place to prevent residents and non-residents from removing unnecessary amounts of the bear population, but there is no federal or state regulation of the ADFG from doing so themselves. Proponents of the proposal, argue that they have experienced seasons of bad hunting due to overconsumption of moose and caribou. They fail to account for excess hunting of these animals by humans and have no evidence to show the main source of the decline in their population. It is important to keep in mind the importance of bears to the Alaskan ecosystem. As stated by the U.S. National Park Service, “Bears are a vital part of natural ecosystems of national parks and other wild places.” (U.S. National Park Service). It is also argued that it is deeply rooted in Alaskan tradition, which is true but not for all. This mostly applies to the Native Americans of Alaska, who use moose and caribou for their skin, meat, and for spiritual significance. However, according to the United States Census Bureau, Native Americans only account for 15.6 percent of the population (United States Census Bureau). The entire state should not be held accountable for the decisions of less than a quarter of the population. Without proper evidence or research, the removal of these predators cannot be seen as a necessary practice.

It is in the best interest of the Alaskan ecosystem for the state government to intervene with the acceptance of proposal seventy-five to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. There is no evidence that shows bears nor wolves are singularly responsible for the decrease in prey population. Along with this, no single predator control program has been proven to work standing alone, and other measures are still a necessity. The aerial based removal practices of the ADFG are cruel use of their power. This attempt is not the first of the ADFG to control predator population, and based on the evidence provided, will likely fail as the last one did. This proposal has already caused a significant level of distress to the citizens that do not wish for the ecosystem and environment to be disrupted in this way. Agriculture is already on a rise in Alaska, and with these new sources the change in environment is unnecessary. Relocation, or humane ways of removal is arguably the best option if there is more evidence to prove the ADFG’s viewpoint. Overall, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is abusing their power, in favor of inhumane removal of Alaska’s bear population.

PC237

Name: Chilton, Patricia

Community of Residence: Homer Alaska

Comment:

I oppose this regulation as there is no scientific evidence that taking bear lives benefits wildlife populations.

PC238

Name: Chow, Betty

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Not only is this illegal, but also this is not based on scientific evidence and will cause irreparable damage to the wildlife / ecosystem / food chain.

PC239

Name: Clancy , Hannah

Community of Residence: Thousands Oaks California

Comment:

I am in opposition to the program that oversees the killing of bears. Save the bears!

PC240

Name: Clark, Elyse

Community of Residence: NC

Comment:

Killing these magestic bears is literally a crime against nature! Think of the damage you would be doing before it's too late! Please consider the irreparable harm!

PC241

Name: Clark, Lex

Community of Residence: Montgomery County

Comment:

To be able to sit in a helicopter having a free for all to shoot innocent bears just trying to live their lives, especially mother with cubs, has no words. You have to be a special kind of sick to think that's okay.

PC242

Name: Clarke, Heather

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

I am in strong opposition to this regulation. Grizzly bears need at least a 50 mile radius from Katmai to be protected. Please rewrite your regulation to be note reasonable.

PC243

Name: Clawson, Jadyn

Community of Residence: Norco

Comment:

Mulchatna Caribou are not at risk because of bears. Science proves that they are declining because of climate change, over harvest, and habitat loss. Killing these bears would be completely unnecessary, they deserve their life.

PC244

Name: Cleaver, B.

Community of Residence: Santa Fe , NM

Comment:

I completely oppose more killing of the bears.

This is bad science, and in fact, instead of being helpful, it is very damaging.

It is yet another example of bureaucrats simply arranging to kill wildlife instead of understanding the delicate ecology of a region.

This scenario has been repeated over and over, while almost always discovering later that this did not solve a perceived problem, but simply decimated wildlife for no good reason.

It is time to stop this random useless, killing and instead preserve our precious wildlife and resources.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

For every person that gets this in time to comment and sign, please know that there are hundreds more who would passionately protest this indiscriminate slaughter, if they only knew about it in time to lodge their protests.

I sent this in the names of five members of my family, who strongly oppose the killing of the bears.

PC245

Name: Cloos, Rikki

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am in opposition to dispatching of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the caribou herd. Surely there must be other ways of preserving the health of the caribou herd without taking the lives of so many bears. This management technique is surely also emotionally damaging on the humans who have to carry out these orders.

PC246

Name: Cohen, Jen

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please DO NOT kill bears for population control of caribou. There is no direct link and you are threatening their ability to survive in the wild. Wildlife deserve to live in peace and humans and lawmakers continue to murder them, destroy and their habitats, food, etc. this then makes them more desperate and vulnerable and misperceived to be a threat. Please PROTECT these bears and wolves and do not kill them. We need to be more reciprocal and not offset the balance of nature more than we already have.

Thank you.

PC247

Name: Cohrs, Kelley

Community of Residence: Bakersfield, California

Comment:

I oppose this proposed legislation. There is no scientific evidence to support that killing these bears will protect the caribou.

PC248

Name: Cohrt, Katherine

Community of Residence: San Bernardino, CA

Comment:

I don't believe killing bears from helicopters will help the caribou population. There is no scientific evidence to show or prove that less bears will improve the caribou population. Do not open the option for this.

PC249

Name: Cole, Laura

Community of Residence: Greensboro

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill proposal. It is not science based and unnecessary.

PC250

Name: Coleman, Terry

Community of Residence: NA

Comment:

We can't keep destroying what our creator has given life to... We have to stop destroying the nature of life, (wildlife)...humans.. earth!

PC251

Name: Conklin, Lori

Community of Residence: Eagle River, AK

Comment:

I am opposed to this proposal. As an anesthesiologist who deals with the scientific method in my profession, I studied your data and this slaughter will not impact caribou numbers. It will only paint ADF&G in a negative light. No licensed hunters are allowed to harvest brown bears from helicopters and with good reason. We can't even use a WiFi signal to ascertain if our bait has been hit during bear baiting season. If you are that convinced the caribou herd will magically increase in population, open up an extra season for Residents to participate in a fair game hunt.

PC252

Name: Connell, Greg

Community of Residence: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Comment:

Please assist and assist all bear killings and torture. Barbaric insanely inhumane and criminal. The process that is unfolding air to for.. immediately stop the random bear killings Alaska overly evil

---

PC253

Name: Connors, Kate

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

There should be no extended use of guns to hunt brown or black bears in Alaska. This is a horrible piece of legislation.

PC254

Name: Contreras, Yaniel

Community of Residence: Y

Comment:

Stop killing bears.

PC255

Name: Conway, Chris

Community of Residence: Fairmont Hot Springs, BC, Canada

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of Alaska's bears.

This is not responsible wildlife management—it's a cruel and unnecessary slaughter. Shooting bears from helicopters, including mothers and cubs, is inhumane and scientifically unjustified. The state's own reports show that bear predation is not the main reason for caribou decline, yet hundreds of bears are being targeted anyway.

This kind of action erodes public trust, damages Alaska's natural balance, and sets a dangerous precedent. It's time to stop hiding behind flawed policy and start treating Alaska's wildlife with the respect it deserves.

End the bear killings now.

PC256

Name: Cook, Corban

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I oppose the killing of all animals

PC257

Name: Cook, Ember

Community of Residence: British Colombia

Comment:

These bears should not be killed in their own home!

PC258

Name: Cooper, Keith **Affiliation**: West End Ecology Tours

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

This is an abomination...stop killing wildlife...sick people in government...

PC259

Name: Cooper, Sally

Community of Residence: 98 Main Road

Comment:

All wildlife should be protected. It seems to be particularly cruel to kill these beautiful animals from a helicopter. To run them down and terrify them. Please reconsider this terrible decision. .

PC260

Name: Cooper, Salvades

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Stop this horrific act of killing bears. Let them live their life. They're not harming anyone. Humans need to stop being so invasive and killing every creature we share this land with.

PC261

Name: Copley, James

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

I don't think anything should be killed without a good reason, the bears and their natural habitat should be respected and not harmed.

PC262

Name: Corless, Logan

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

We decided to be in their land, don't punish the wildlife for being in the wild. The circle of life exists and we do not need to be a part of it to this extreme amount

---

PC263

Name: Correz, Frederico

Community of Residence: Brazil

Comment:

Stop to kill animals! You are [redacted]

PC264

Name: Corson-Foster, Jamie

Community of Residence: Olympia WA

Comment:

I LITERALLY CANT BELIEVE HOW CRUEL YOU PEOPLE ARE. You want public comment? You should be ASHAMED. I am heart broken and outraged. Shooting hundreds of bears from helicopters is COWARDLY, CRUEL and should be CRIMINAL. This benefits no one but your EGOs. Shame on you!!!

PC265

Name: Cortez, Rochelle

Community of Residence: 10

Comment:

Save the bears from humanity thinking they are more important

---

PC266

Name: Corum, Marianna

Community of Residence: Madison

Comment:

alaska is not only the home of humans, but also bears. they are not a threat to us as long as we stay away and they should not be shot

---

PC267

Name: Coskun, Peter

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I completely oppose any measure that allows for the option for anyone to violently remove bear cubs or any other wildlife for that matter. There is no reason for culling these animals, none whatsoever. Relocation of wildlife in a safe and ethical manner is a far better option. Please take this into consideration as someone who visits the Alaskan wilderness to see these incredible creatures in their natural habitat.

PC268

Name: Cottrell, Kaylee

Community of Residence: Oklahoma

Comment:

Growing up in Oklahoma I'm well traversed in hunting, for gathering. Not even for sport. So why are taxpayers dollars being used for such a cruel and unusual "sport"? Please do not reinstate this program, leave the bears alone.

PC269

Name: Courie, Haley

Community of Residence: Southern California

Comment:

Shooting every bear with no tracking is absolutely abhorrent.

There's no scientific evidence this helps caribou.

It's a waste of taxpayer money.

And it's ethically indefensible.

There is no reason for this to continue and if it does we will be furthering the indescribable amount of damage humans have done to the natural environment. We cannot save one species at the risk of another. These animals don't deserve to die.

PC270

Name: Covert, Bradley

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

If interactions with humans are the issue then close off the area to people. Don't kill bears because people are dumb, the bears are just doing what they do naturally. This really shouldn't even have to be explained.

PC271

Name: Cox, Lisa

Community of Residence: Jupiter, Florida

Comment:

Please do NOT kill or hurt the bears! Their lives matter! Please PROTECT them!!!! I oppose killing the bears!

PC272

Name: Cox, Shallon

Community of Residence: Yukon

Comment:

I am opposed to the taking of bears. Do not kill them in favor of the herd, that is not our responsibility as humans. Killing innocent animals, which may or may not solve the problems at hand, is a gross misstep in excuting our authority as the apex predators of this land.

PC273

Name: Cox, Tara

Community of Residence: Missouri

Comment:

I am highly against the senseless killing of these bears. This isn't science, this is cruel. Caribou heards are not at risk because of bears. Where is the science to back that up. Please, I urge you to not let this happen. Thank you for your time.

PC274

Name: Cozzi, Marybeth

Community of Residence: Greenlawn

Comment:

Please protect the bears in Alaska. We need to protect our wildlife and this is illegal killing of these bears.

Please do everything humanly possible to STOP this illegal killing of these beautiful bears.

Protect our wildlife

Please stop shooting the bears in Alaska. This is absolutely disgusting and so unnecessary.

We need to protect our wildlife and that's all wildlife. This is just so cruel and very upsetting.

Please do not continue this disgusting act.

PC275

Name: Crabb, Romy

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

There is no excuse for this atrocious violation of animal rights. These bears have done nothing wrong, and should be protected by the Alaskan government instead of left to be killed off like vermin. The safety of this wonderful species is at risk, and they must be protected.

PC276

Name: Cramer, Sally

Community of Residence: Seattle

Comment:

Save the bears.

PC277

Name: Crawmer, MaryAnne

Community of Residence: Agoura Hills, California

Comment:

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the aerial shooting of brown bears by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game near Katmai and Lake Clark National Parks.

The decision to kill nearly every bear spotted from helicopters — including mothers with cubs — is scientifically unfounded, ethically indefensible, and ecologically reckless. There is no credible, peer-

reviewed evidence showing that this type of predator control benefits caribou populations long-term. In fact, broad-scale predator removals often destabilize ecosystems and can create cascading negative impacts.

This action also undermines the values of conservation and responsible wildlife stewardship. The bears in this region are part of a globally recognized and economically valuable ecotourism industry. People travel from around the world to witness these wild animals — particularly in places like Brooks Falls — and killing them just miles outside park boundaries risks erasing an irreplaceable experience and resource.

A judge has already ruled portions of this killing spree illegal, yet the state continued — a blatant disregard for lawful process and ethical wildlife management. This program is a misuse of public funds and a betrayal of public trust.

I urge the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and relevant decision-makers to immediately halt this program and invest in scientifically grounded, ecologically sound, and humane wildlife management strategies.

Sincerely,

Maryanne Crawmer

Agoura Hills, CA 91301

PC278

Name: Crissman, Emma

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

Oppose. How does taking of brown and black bears benefit them? Why does it have to resort to killing? Killing bears in their natural habitat does not make sense. I believe we can do better.

PC279

Name: Crocker, Sandra

Community of Residence: Silver Spring, Maryland

Comment:

I strongly oppose the senseless killing of the bears. The is no scientific evidence that thinning the bears with help the caribou population. You may be thinking why does a lady that lives in the lower 49 care about what happens in Alaska, well it has been a dream of mine to visit Alaska. (Since I was a child) when I think of visiting the first animal that I was to see is the bears. Don't take that away. There are other ways to redirect the bears or deter the bears. Even here in Maryland we have a deer issue, when Maryland Natural resources thin the deer they only kill the Bucks, never the Doe or the fawns. Please don't kill my dream before I can make it a reality!!!!

PC280

Name: Crofton, Sameena

Community of Residence: Kenai

Comment:

There is no scientific evidence that this will revive the Caribou population. Please stop taking animals from their homes. Let nature be the bears only enemy. This is unjust.

PC281

Name: Cronan, Mary

Community of Residence: Midland Park, NJ

Comment:

I oppose the proposal.

The best method to ensure a healthy population of caribou and a healthy environment is to allow nature to balance the bear population. There is no need for the mass execution of the bears.

PC282

Name: Crosby , Lindsey

Community of Residence: Wilmington

Comment:

Please save the bears and stop the illegal killing.

PC283

Name: Cruz, Ashley

Community of Residence: WA

Comment:

DO NOT KILL THE BEARS!

PC284

Name: Cruz, Gina
Community of Residence: Los angeles

Comment:

Gina Cruz

Opposition of Bear killing to manage Caribou

This bear killing is a barbaric practice and should be stopped. There is no science to support that removing bears will increase the numbers for the Caribou. Humans have already taken so much of what was their land please do not allow the proposed shooting of these bears from helicopters to continue or restart. Many taxpayers do not want their monies used like this! Please stand against this. You are so fortunate to have the honor of managing this beautiful land of Alaska that so many of us visit. Many of the bears in jeopardy are the same ones we enjoy seeing at Brooks Falls and Katmai. This brings far more tourism to Alaska than the hunting for Caribou from a financial standpoint.

Please, please do not allow this change in policy to pass. Please save the bears for future generations!

Gina Cruz

A loyal Alaska visitor

PC285

Name: Cruz, Stephany

Community of Residence: Minooka IL

Comment:

Please don't do this! Please save the bears and do not allow this to take place!!!!

PC286

Name: Cullen, Meagan

Community of Residence: Southern Ontario, Canada

Comment:

Opposition to Proposed Predator Control Regulations

I strongly oppose the proposed predator control regulations targeting bears and wolves as a means to increase Mulchatna caribou numbers. Scientific evidence shows that predator control is ineffective and overlooks root causes such as habitat loss and disease. Bears and wolves are vital to ecosystem health and deserve protection and empathy. Please see the attached detailed comment for my full reasoning.

Written Comment to the Alaska Board of Game

July 8th, 2025

Introduction

To the Alaska Board of Game,

I strongly oppose the proposed predator control regulations under 5 AAC 92.111(c) targeting bears and wolves in the effort to increase Mulchatna caribou numbers.

Background on Mulchatna Caribou Decline

The dramatic decline of the Mulchatna herd is deeply concerning, but science has shown that predator control is not a proven solution. Multiple studies and field observations suggest that habitat loss, nutritional stress, disease (such as brucellosis), and illegal harvest are the primary drivers of the caribou population crash—from nearly 200,000 animals in the 1990s to around 12,000–15,000 today (Alaska Department of Fish and Game [ADFG], 2023; Joly et al., 2021). Aerially killing 200 bears and dozens of wolves has not brought measurable recovery—and cannot address the root causes (ADFG, 2024).

The Ecological Role of Bears and Wolves

Bears and wolves are not the problem. They are intelligent, sentient, ecologically essential beings who shape the landscape in ways we still do not fully understand. Bears distribute seeds, fertilize soils, and regulate prey species (Noyce & Garshelis, 1997; Boulanger & Stenhouse, 2014). Wolves cull the weak and diseased, contributing to the health of prey populations (Mech & Boitani, 2003). To blame them for the consequences of human disruption—overhunting, climate change, industrial development, and habitat degradation—is profoundly unjust (Ripple et al., 2014).

Ethical Considerations and Empathy

More importantly, they deserve empathy. These animals are not merely tools in a game-management equation. They live, parent, roam, and exist in harmony with the land—until we interrupt that balance with helicopters, bullets, and fear.

Killing these creatures may give the illusion of control, but it only deepens the ecological imbalance and public distrust. The recent court ruling that halted this program emphasized the lack of transparency, scientific review, and public process. It is not just biologically misguided—it is legally and ethically flawed (Alaska Superior Court, 2024).

Recommendations for Effective Conservation

If we are serious about restoring the Mulchatna herd, then we must take serious, long-term action:

- Restore and protect lichen-rich tundra habitat (Joly et al., 2021),
- Monitor disease impacts with transparency and peer-reviewed research (ADFG, 2023),
- Enforce hunting regulations and support Indigenous-led conservation strategies (Harris et al., 2022),
- And above all, replace fear-based management with science, compassion, and coexistence.

We have the intelligence to find better answers. We have the responsibility to do better. And we have the opportunity, right now, to be the generation that chooses empathy over extermination—responsible guardianship instead of destructive intervention.

Conclusion

Please reject this proposal. Let’s build a future where bears, wolves, caribou, and people all belong.

Sincerely,

Meagan Cullen

A 27-year-old concerned citizen from Ontario, Canada. I come from a family of farmers and was raised to respect the land, its rhythms, and the creatures who depend on it. I care deeply for animals—not just as individuals, but as essential threads in the fabric of healthy ecosystems. I believe we must choose compassion and thoughtful care over forceful control and short-term fixes.

References

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG). (2023). Mulchatna Caribou Herd Status and Management. Retrieved from https://www.adfg.alaska.gov

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG). (2024). Predator Control Program Reports and Environmental Impact Statements.

- Alaska Superior Court. (2024). Decision on Predator Control Program Litigation.

- Boulanger, J., & Stenhouse, G. B. (2014). Distribution and abundance of grizzly bears in Canada. Journal of Wildlife Management, 78(6), 1233–1245.

- Harris, C., Berkes, F., & Wenzel, G. (2022). Indigenous-led conservation and wildlife stewardship in Alaska. Conservation Letters, 15(1), e12800.

- Joly, K., Cameron, M. D., & Wettstein, W. (2021). Habitat and nutritional factors affecting caribou populations. Arctic Science, 7(2), 201–217.

- Mech, L. D., & Boitani, L. (2003). Wolves: Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation. University of Chicago Press.

- Noyce, K. V., & Garshelis, D. L. (1997). Using bear-scats to assess wildlife community ecology. Ecological Applications, 7(3), 731–737.

- Ripple, W. J., Estes, J. A., Beschta, R. L., et al. (2014). Status and ecological effects of the world’s largest carnivores. Science, 343(6167), 1241484.

PC287

Name: Cullen, Shawna

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Dear Board of Game, please reconsider this culling plan and appreciate the disastrous effects it will have on the ecosystem of Alaska. There has been no high-quality, scientific research conducted which indicate that the mass killing of these bears will preserve caribou populations. This will be a gross misuse of tax payer dollars and an assault on the balance of nature. Please make the proper choice to terminate this plan promptly. I am in opposition of this plan.

Sincerest thanks, Dr S. Cullen PhD

PC288

Name: Culver, Shelley

Community of Residence: Rocky mountains

Comment:

As someone who with a degree relating to water quality, I feel the reminder is needed since you are reinstating this asinine program. Native predators like bears (and even wolves) are NECESSARY for a healthy aquatic ecosystem in every biome in animal kingdom, especially Alaska. Populations of their prey get too high and lessen the water available for EVERYONE, including alaskan constituents. There is less greenery, less oxygen, and less carbon absorption when the prey animals are left unchecked in their NATURAL ORDER OF THE FOOD CHAIN. I always dreamed of living in Alaska, but with taxpayer money being used for such dumb and cruel practices, I will never visit again. I will never consider Alaska a liveable place, how could anyone in the shadow of such SENSELESS death? I will never support the economy of a state who does not use science in its environmental management. I will never recommend Alaska for anyone to visit ever again if this continues for even one more day.

PC289

Name: Cumba, Melissa

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please leave the animals alone. You are what keeps Alaska full of wildlife & beauty. Please don't take that away from your beautiful country. Keep them safe. Keep them alive. Protect your natural habitats. Don't destroy them

---

PC290

Name: Curtis, Carrie

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am against hunting any animal without specified amount. I agree the state has an obligation to maintain a balance of the herd, but without limitations it would be dangerous to the bear population. There needs to be a boundary of how many, in my opinion. I would like to preserve a balance in nature.

PC291

Name: Cutshall, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Portland OR (former Alaska resident)

Comment:

This slaughters of our precious and healthy wildlife and apex predators is completely inhumane. If Alaska cannot embrace a humane protocol, there is little hope. The lower 48 depends on a thriving Alaska…they are not exclusive. We cannot slaughter majestic animals without a devastating price on the ecosystem and global warming. I don't know about you, but I don't need another golf course instead of wilderness. I staunchly oppose the relentless and thoughtless killing. Protection our last wild places, protect the inhabitants, and save our precious

---

PC292

Name: Cypra, Steven

Community of Residence: Fishhook

Comment:

I am opposed to this lame effort to circumvent court orders. Surely the State of Alaska can do better despite who is directing this.

PC293

Name: Czerwinski , Karin

Community of Residence: Germany, Bavaria, Bayreuth

Comment:

If the caribou population is dwindling due to negative environmental impacts and the removal of caribou for human consumption, it is hardly the right course of action to kill natural enemies of caribou in order to consume caribou as humans. Rather, wildlife should be left to fend for itself and, above all, every effort should be made to halt climate change. Humans can easily do without game meat, bears and wolves cannot.

So please stop killing bears and wolves.

Thank you.

PC294

Name: D, Cara

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Save the bears.

PC295

Name: D, Jessica

Community of Residence: Boston, MA

Comment:

I wholly oppose the initiative of killing the vital bear population in question.

PC296

Name: Dabis, Sonya H

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!!!

Thank you!

PC297

Name: Dadourkova, Barbora

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Just don't

PC298

Name: Dahlmann, Alison

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

Bears are symbols of the Alaska

Protection them is part of your duty

PC299

Name: Dailey, Maria

Community of Residence: Austin, Texas

Comment:

I strongly oppose Proposal AAC 92.111, which seeks to re-establish department-led control of brown and black bear populations within the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH) Predation Management Area. While the stated objective of increasing the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH) for human consumptive use is understood, this proposal represents a problematic intervention that prioritizes a single species for human benefit at the expense of ecological balance. The intensive management (IM) of predators, specifically the lethal removal of bears and wolves, disrupts the natural predator-prey dynamics and undermines the fundamental principle of allowing Alaska's wild ecosystems to function without constant human manipulation.

Furthermore, the prior intensive management program targeting bears in this area was vacated by the Alaska Superior Court in March 2025, indicating significant legal and ethical concerns with its implementation. Simply re-proposing the same measure without a comprehensive re-evaluation that addresses the court's findings and provides robust evidence of the long-term sustainability of the bear population under such pressure is insufficient. Alaska's wilderness is defined by its intact natural processes, where predators like bears and wolves play crucial roles in maintaining the health and resilience of prey populations by culling the weak and diseased. This natural selection fosters stronger, more adaptable caribou herds in the long run. Embracing coexistence means allowing these natural systems to operate, recognizing the intrinsic value of all species, and refraining from interventions driven primarily by a desire for increased human harvest.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Citizen

PC300

Name: Daku, Lindsey

Community of Residence: Ambler, PA

Comment:

I do not support kill-methods of wildlife management. It’s cruel and not backed by evidence to support sustainable conservation efforts. Please delay or deny the modification of the regulation and explore other means to protect the caribou population.

PC301

Name: Dalal, Shari
Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed reinstatement of Alaska's taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears, including mothers with cubs.

This program is not only inhumane and unethical, but it also lacks scientific justification. Studies have consistently shown that predator control efforts—such as aerial gunning of bears—do not reliably lead to increases in ungulate populations like caribou. For example:

• A 2016 review published in Biological Conservation found limited or no evidence that large carnivore removal leads to meaningful prey population increases in most ecosystems.

• A 2020 peer-reviewed study in Nature Ecology & Evolution emphasized that ecosystem health depends on predator-prey balance, and that removing apex predators often creates long-term ecological damage.

• According to Alaska Department of Fish & Game's own data, caribou populations are more influenced by habitat quality, weather conditions, and human disturbances than by bear predation.

Killing 99 bears in 2023 and another 80 in 2024 through aerial gunning is not "wildlife management"—it is a brutal massacre that ignores modern science, public values, and the ecological role of predators. Bears are vital to nutrient cycling, seed dispersal, and overall ecosystem health.

As someone who believes in science-based conservation, I urge you to reject this cruel and outdated program. Please protect Alaska's iconic bears and preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

Sincerely,

Shari D.

I urge you to oppose the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. Killing wildlife from the sky—especially mothers with cubs—is not only inhumane, it is NOT backed by science.

Peer-reviewed studies, including one in Biological Conservation (2016), found little to no evidence that predator removal boosts prey populations long-term. More importantly, caribou numbers are affected by climate, food availability, and habitat disruption—not simply predation. Removing apex predators destabilizes ecosystems and harms biodiversity.

In 2023 and 2024, nearly 180 bears were killed this way. This is cruel, costly, and ineffective. Alaska must adopt science-based management—not outdated and brutal methods.

Please stop this program.

I am horrified by the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska—especially knowing that mothers with cubs are being slaughtered. Nearly 180 bears were killed in just two years. For what? There's no conclusive science showing this helps caribou herds recover.

Instead, decades of research show that ecosystem health relies on predators, and that caribou populations are more affected by weather, habitat quality, and human activity than by bear predation.

Please don't let this needless violence continue. Alaska's bears deserve protection, not extermination.

I strongly oppose the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. This practice is inhumane, ineffective, and unscientific. Scientific studies, including those in Nature Ecology & Evolution and Biological Conservation, show predator removal rarely benefits prey species long-term, and it disrupts ecosystems.

Bears are critical to ecological health. Killing them from aircraft—at taxpayer expense—is a reckless policy that must be stopped. Caribou recovery depends on addressing habitat, not waging war on predators.

Please cancel this program immediately.

I respectfully ask you to stop the proposed aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. As someone who values science-based wildlife policy, I am deeply concerned by this brutal program.

Killing nearly 180 bears over two years has no proven benefit for caribou herds. Leading ecological research, including a 2020 study in Nature Ecology & Evolution, shows that predators are vital to functioning ecosystems, and that prey populations are driven more by environmental factors than predation.

Let's protect Alaska's iconic wildlife—not destroy it based on outdated assumptions.

PC302

Name: Dallas, Heidi

Community of Residence: Malvern

Comment:

There are humane methods of limiting bear populations if that's what you are so determined to do (such as baited birth control, relocation, or even surgical methods while the animal is tranquilized). Please find your empathy. - Heidi

---

PC303

Name: Dalman, Gillian

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Bears are beautiful living creatures who cannot understand the idea if a boundary extending. Killing bears for existing when they have done nothing wrong is cruel and inhumane. Predators are important parts of the food chain and ecosystem. Do not kill these bears.

PC304

Name: Dalton, Bob

Community of Residence: APT 627

Comment:

Caribou heards would do better with the present of this beautiful and wonderful predator . Really no excuse to terminate them . Unless they present danger to humans . The balance will present lot of the natural biodiversity. A Winn for all !!!! Don't kill below reproduction rates. Keeping Caribou and bear in a balanced environment . We know these things now learned from past generations.

PC305

Name: Daly, Colleen

Community of Residence: Lewiston, New York

Comment:

If there is no data indicating that this method worked, let nature take its own course. Very cruel almost like poaching.

PC306

Name: Damanis, Allison

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Enough bears are lost every year to human/bear interaction. Stop eliminating the ones that aren't a problem. You could be benefiting from bears like "the boss" when these animals are given an identity people begin to understand and respect them. These bears could be a financial gold mine if managed properly.

Bio diversity and a robust population is key to long term survival. Just stop with trying to manage wildlife life for the convenience of humans. Do better

---

Commentor: Carol Damberg

Location: Anchorage, AK

Email: [redacted]

PROPOSAL 1 : 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area. Modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd as follows: Allow black and brown bears to be removed by department staff as part of the intensive management plan for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH).

I OPPOSE PROPOSAL 1:

"To date, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has failed to produce evidence that their control of both grizzly bears and black bears has been successful at increasing focal prey abundances. They have failed to implement the active, adaptive management necessary to demonstrate the efficacy of their intensive management. Such extreme predator control is unacceptable to the public, especially when there is no evidence of its efficacy, and the lack of science flies in the face of the North American Model." (June 2025 Journal of Wildlife Management).

The above statements are from an article published in the June 2025 Journal of Wildlife Management: Bears in North America: Habitats, hunting, and politics. The review was developed for the meeting of the International Association for Bear Research and Management in September 2024.

The Board of Game (BOG) should take note of the influential group of Wildlife Scientists that stand behind these statements. The Journal of Wildlife Management is one of the premier scientific wildlife publications produced in the world. The Journal of Wildlife Management publishes original research contributing to fundamental wildlife science. The Journal of Wildlife Management is a journal by The Wildlife Society. The Wildlife Society is an international network of over 11,000 leaders in wildlife science, management and conservation who are dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship. The International Association for Bear Research and Management (IBA) is a professional organization for biologists, wildlife managers, and conservationists focused on the conservation of eight species of bears. It supports effective management and advances scientific understanding of bear species worldwide.

The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (Model) (noted in the quoted statement above) is a unique framework that emphasizes the public trust in wildlife, sustainable management practices, and the importance of science in conservation efforts. The Model is a set of principles that guide wildlife management and conservation in the United States and Canada. It emerged in the late 1800s as a response to the overexploitation of wildlife resources and the need for sustainable practices. The following are the key tenets the BOG and State continue to violate.

1) **Wildlife as Public Trust Resources:** Wildlife is considered a public resource, managed by government agencies on behalf of all citizens. This principle ensures that wildlife is preserved for current and future generations. (The BOG and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (State) continue to ignore 1000's of comments from the public that includes hunters, guides, tourists, tourism specialists, indigenous people, biologists, etc.. There has been zero deliberation about the content of the comments other than – "we got a lot of comments"! This is disrespectful and violates the trust of the public. The BOG has not been sincere to address the concerns of the diverse public that have submitted comments.)
2) **Rule of Law:** Wildlife management is governed by laws and regulations that are developed and enforced by state and federal agencies. This legal framework guides the responsible use of wildlife resources. (The courts have found multiple times the State is violating the rule of law = The AK State constitution. Conducting IM practices without the science to prove it is working is violating the rule law. Killing significant numbers of bears and wolves without assessing the impacts to these populations violates responsible use of public resources. Aerial gunning bears is clearly not responsible use of wildlife resources – wont and waste when not retrieved or discarded in unknown locations. There have been no records provided to the public of the disposition of the animal's meat, fur, etc.)
3) **Legitimate Purpose for Killing Wildlife:** Wildlife can only be killed for specific, legitimate reasons, such as for food or self-defense. This principle discourages wasteful killing and promotes ethical hunting practices. (Clearly the State is violating this principal with all of its IM programs – bears and wolves are not being eaten, there are no self-defense issues, and if furs and parts are being sold there are no public records. The legitimate reason for their Kill program is to "increase the Mulchatna Caribou Herd" however there is no science available to show it is working.)
4) **Science as the Basis for Policy:** Decisions regarding wildlife management are informed by scientific research and data, ensuring that policies are based on sound evidence. (The State is clearly violating this principal. There is no scientific data and analysis showing the Mulchatna IM program is working to increase the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. They have a few collared calves/caribou they claim is the evidence. The State has no study design or statistical analysis to account for other variables impacting the herd. Empty Science! As for the bears and wolves, the State is clearly violating this tenant as they have no idea what the impacts are to the bear/wolf populations other than speculation and opinion. There are zero data available on bear and wolf populations to prove they are being managed sustainably.)

In summary, the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation is a foundational framework that promotes sustainable wildlife management through public trust, legal regulations, and scientific principles, ensuring that wildlife resources are preserved for future generations. Sadly, the State is ignoring the Constitutional requirement to manage all species sustainably, has blatantly tried to ignore the courts, ignored the premier tenants of the North American Model, and have violated the public's trust.

I sincerely ask the BOG to act in an objective manner and engage in the kind of deliberative, reasoned analysis required by law to assure the sustainability of the bear populations. Please do not disregard the prior court decisions, the State constitution, the greater scientific communities' evaluations (former State biologists, Wildlife Society scientists, International Bear management experts, etc.), the collective perspectives of all the public (hunters, non-hunters, indigenous, etc.) and the North American Model.

YOU CAN MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION AS A BOG MEMBER – VOTE NO ON PROPOSAL 1. PLEASE STAND UP FOR SCIENCE AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION THAT REQUIRES SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ALL RESOURCES USING SCIENCE!

Alternatives to this proposal:

1) Re-evaluate and adopt a science-based population objective for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd so the future harvest of all species can continue without the need for IM practices.
2) Ask the ADFG to request an independent peer review of the Mulchatna IM program to identify if the bear removal is making a significant difference to the recovery of the caribou herd. Note: 13 years of aerial gunning wolves made no difference! Nutrition, habitat changes, weather conditions, disease and illegal harvest are primary factors influencing the population and have not been accounted for in the States "analysis" of the IM program.
3) Promote the investment of future funds (millions- that will be spent if this program continues) in evaluating the bear and wolf populations in the region to understand their status (populations), their importance to maintaining healthy sustainable ecosystems, and their importance to the economic and social wellbeing of the American Public and Alaska's economy.

Interesting FACTS:

1) IM progress reports for the Mulchatna herd (Units 9B, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, 19B, Alaska Department of Fish and Game) allude to nutritional problems among adult caribou and many calf deaths due to malnutrition, dehydration, and "failure to thrive" that are nowhere mentioned in ADF&G reports to the BOG. Statements to the BOG that there are no nutritional problems in the MCH are inexcusable.
2) The 2024 Mulchatna Caribou Herd Photo Survey IM progress report concludes that, "It may be appropriate to consider revising the current population objective of 30,000 to

80,000 given historic and recent population trends." No mention of that in any recent ADF&G presentations to the BOG. In fact, failure to reach the current IM population and harvest objectives is the primary basis for ADF&G's declaration of an emergency situation that requires reinstatement and continuation of the bear removal program.

PC308

Name: Dampf, Christin

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I am opposed to your decision to shoot bears from helicopters. There needs to be a better plan that doesn't take the life of sows with cubs in this indiscriminate culling of bears. Where is the science that backs up what is taking place in Alaska. As a taxpayer and a citizen of the United States I find this sort of unchecked government overreach unacceptable. These animals suffer after being shot . You are killing older senior bears who pass along vital information to the younger bears which impact generations

There have been numerous studies showing the predator control program does not positively affect the caribou population regrowth. There are however other factors impacting the caribou herds Brucellosis disease and the lichen that the caribou follow, leading to habitat decline. Wolves and bears generally hunt the weaker and older prey which ultimately keeps the herds healthier. Please stop the killing of our keystone species and consider listening to the biologists who agree that the predator control program does not work. Thank you.

PC309

Name: Daniel, Eric

Community of Residence: Lorient (France)

Comment:

I am opposed to this way of taking off brown and black bears because it will not help to save Multchana caribou herds. First because scientific studies proved it doesn't work and secondly because caribous'calves are more killed by eagles than by bears. And finally it is horrible to think you can kill pregnant bears or their babies : it is inhuman !!! Let them live.

PC310

Name: Daniels, Hopi

Community of Residence: Murfreesboro, TN

Comment:

I am OPPOSED to the proposal to modify Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

Bears of all kinds contribute significantly to the local ecosystem and deserve respect. Please consider public input on this matter and stop this proposal.

PC311

Name: Dante, Mikala

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Please do not continue this practice. We can peacefully co exist with the bears.

PC312

Name: Darsana, Helena

Community of Residence: Bali Indonesia

Comment:

You have NO RIGHT you take the life of another. We stand up for the voicless animals. Do not murder out planets wildlife, you do not have the right to do such hienous action on innocent creatures living in their own habitat.

PC313

Name: Dasilva, Toot

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Stop the slaughter of these bears in Alaska

PC314

Name: Dauk, Laurie

Community of Residence: Prince Albert

Comment:

It is unethical and unscientific as a plan-you can and should do better. Please don't go ahead but look at the full picture and how important all wildlife is.

PC315

Name: Dautel, John

Community of Residence: Solomon Kansas

Comment:

I am against the killing of bears as it is proposed by the Alaska fish and game.

PC316

Name: Davis, Gabriel

Community of Residence: Dillingham

Comment:

My name is Gabriel Davis

I am writing this letter in opposition to the intensive management program I.

I am a Guide and pilot out of Dillingham, Alaska and make my living from hunting bears in unit 17 and 19 in Western Alaska.

Over the last couple years, the Alaska department game illegally added bears to the intensive management program through very deceptive measures that resulted in the killing from helicopters of 200 bears.

This act, according to the judge who ruled on it was done without due process and without scientific basis.

I have worked in Western Alaska for over 20 years as a pilot and Guide and I'm intimately familiar with the regions wildlife. I have a few major problems with the intensive management program, Firstly, the Department of fishing game has virtually no scientific data on the density of bears in the region, the number of bears in the region and have done little to no research on the impact of killing hundreds of bears.

My second problem with the intensive management program is that the department has done Little to include the stakeholders in this region to include guides the public or landholders. When the initial intensive management program was initiated, the Park Ranger for the Wood Tikchik State Park was completely unaware of the states plan despite rhe fact the a large part of the killing would happen inside her park. I know this because when I called her and asked what she thought about the intensive management program for bears she had no idea it was even a plan.

Thirdly, the state has failed to articulate what number of bears they think with satisfy their need in this management program. It makes no sense to me or anyone I know, how a state entity that should be science based can kill hundreds of bears and want to kill hundreds more with no end in sight and no quota that would satisfy their end goals.

The following is a quote from superior court judge that illustrates my sentiments about the lack of scientific basis to make this management program viable.

"The State's admission that the BOG lacked sufficient bear population and distribution information illustrates the BOG failed to consider all the factors that are important and relevant to assure sustainability of the bear population. The State's position misapprehends clear directives contained in case law. Other than the anecdotal evidence in the record when the BOG heard testimony suggesting that "brown bears are widely distributed in Unit 17 in abundance," there is no credible scientific evidence in the record or discussion by the BOG to support the conclusion that bears could be killed sustainably."

In the same ruling the judge submits that the Board Of Game Did not follow constitutionally required Standards

Adopting the previous predator control program.

This also illustrates one of my main complaints that the Alaska people have not had a fair or legal say in how the management of protected mammals have been managed.

Despite strong opposition to the intensive management of Brown Bear‘s and a vary assertive decision by the superior court, the state continues to proceed with a program that Has not been vetted by the public, By the courts or by science.

I strongly oppose this intensive management proposal and hope that the department of fishing game can come up with a legal and scientifically based alternative to this current program.

Thank you for your time Gabriel Davis

Jake Davis, Esq.
AK Bar No. 2505026
CO Bar No. 54032
Wasilla, AK
"Disinterested love for all living creatures, the most notable attribute of man."
Charles Darwin, *The Descent of Man* (1871)

IN OPPOSITION:

ADF&G has not undertaken a legally mandated "relevant population study" of brown bears and therefore this proposal will be found legally invalid (again) if adopted

Brown Bears:

On March 14, 2025, Judge Andrew Guidi (ret.) of the Superior Court for the State of Alaska found the Alaska Department of Fish & Game ("ADF&G") had unconstitutionally killed 94 brown bears in the spring of 2023, and the same for 81 brown bears in the spring of 2024. His reason was straightforward, ADF&G did not know how many brown bears there were prior to beginning its taxpayer funded slaughter:

> Having carefully reviewed the record and the arguments advanced by the State, it is apparent that the State did not have adequate, relevant population studies or any genuine data about bear sustainability in the area of the control program prior to adopting a proposal that would have an obvious impact on a constitutionally protected public resource.

Alaska Wildlife Alliance v. State of Alaska, p. 8 (Case No. 3AN-23-07495CI).

On March 21, 2025, ADF&G asked the Board of Game ("BOG") to adopt an emergency regulation reinstating IM for the caribou (RC009). I testified against RC009 and submitted an extensive legal memorandum (at the request of a BOG member). It explained RC009 couldn't be adopted until ADF&G had a brown bear count. I warned BOG that readoption would disregard Judge Guidi's Order and expose ADF&G to legal liability. As I wrote:

> Therefore, unless the Board of Game seeks exposure to further litigation, it must not pass "Go" on ADFG's Petition until it has material scientific evidence of the population of brown bears (including their sexes) who are exposed to the intensive management under the Petition. The Board of Game must **demand** this information

from ADFG before voting on RC009 to determine the sustainability of the brown bear population subjected to the Petition.

The BOG did not heed my advice and a few days later ADF&G was sued, again. On May 9, 2025, Judge Christina Rankin found that RC009 was invalid because ADF&G "did not address the deficiencies identified by the Superior Court" in Judge Guidi's Order. It was clear to everyone but ADF&G, without (1) adequate public notice and (2) a brown bear count, ADF&G could not kill brown bears. Nevertheless, ADF&G moved forward and killed 11 bears before they were back in court.

On May 12 (and again on May 19) Judge Rankin affirmatively restrained ADF&G from further killings until they complied with Judge Guidi's original Order. She then made two extraordinary findings. First, she found ADF&G had acted in bad faith: "the Emergency Regulation was passed (and implemented) in bad faith." Second, she found Ryan Scott (Director of ADF&G's Division of Wildlife Conservation), was "mostly not credible."

Nevertheless, ADF&G remains undeterred by four court orders and is still trying to reopen their unconstitutional brown bear killing, this time through a Special Meeting Regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou. The meeting's announcement came with accompanying materials, which appear to be ADF&G's attempt to placate the legal requirement that it have a relevant population study of brown bears before further killings. However, the materials come nowhere close to meeting Judge Guidi and Judge Rankin's mandate that there be "relevant population studies" of brown bears before any further action. Let's take a look at a few examples of ADF&G's "science."

On the webpage for the Special Meeting, ADF&G posted a document entitled, "Mulchatna Caribou herd presentation – March 2025." Available here: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/mch-presentation.pdf.

- On page 14 of the PDF (items 27 and 28), ADF&G provides an Alaska Brown Bear Density Monograph overlayed with the current intensive management area. The monograph is from 1997, almost thirty years old and at least one generation (likely more) behind the current brown bear densities in Alaska today. This minor but telling example shows how lazy (or unwilling) ADF&G can be when undertaking a legally required scientific analysis of brown bear population and sustainability. **I believe this warrants repeating, instead of undertaking a modern brown bear density survey, ADF&G is citing a study from 1997.**

Also on the webpage for the Special Meeting is a document entitled, "Mulchatna Caribou herd IM Status – March 2025." Available here:

https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/mch-im-status.pdf.

This document is rife with statistics but much of the citations are decades old, inapplicable or simply wrong in their conclusions. Moreover, there is nothing but anecdotal commentary on whether killing *more* than the 186 brown bears already killed for the Mulchatna caribou will be sustainable. For example:

Page 1:

- "In 2023, 94 bears were removed (82/1,000 mi2) from a 1,200 mi2 area; and in 2024, 81 brown bears (152/1,000 mi2) were removed from a 530 mi2 area representing an 80% and 147% reduction, respectively."
    - Plain and simple, this is an unsustainable overharvest. Again, ADF&G is conceding that in 2024 they killed 147% of the brown bears present in the subject area.

- "[T]he department excepts bear densities to return to pretreatment levels within 3-5 years."
    - ADF&G cites nothing for this statement. Brown bears have the lowest reproductive rate of any land mammal in North America. Females typically do not breed until they are 5 or 6 years old. It is inconceivable to think that with sport hunting occurring simultaneously, brown bear populations will be back to normal in 3-5 years. They cannot be back to normal because of reproductive cycles and the fact that ADF&G is not distinguishing between females and males when killing them from helicopters.

Page 2:

- "Ongoing and future nutritional, disease, and habitat research will complement the understanding of the relationship between caribou nutrition and parturition rate, and how climate change may be affecting habitat suitability for caribou in the MCH range."
    - The question thus becomes why is ADF&G seeking to kill *more* brown bears when work is being done to determine if other factors have an outsized role in the continued caribou population decline?

Page 4:

- "While the department did not conduct a comprehensive survey of available habitat across the range of the MCH, high rates of parturition from 2-year-old and 3-year-old caribou indicated that habitat would likely be able to support increased herd sizes or densities."

- ADF&G does not even know if the caribou's traditional range can support an increased population. It is plausible the herd has been reduced, in part, because of resource competition. Not knowing whether the caribou you are killing on behalf of can even survive at increased numbers is a galling admission.

Page 5:

- "Most of the affected bear population is conserved within the much larger refugia that is the nontreatment area where removals do not occur. Given the ample area not affected by department bear removals, large effects on the overall bear population are highly unlikely, and any minor effects are likely to be of short duration."
    - Here, I would direct ADF&G to its own work on brown bear dispersals, which shows that bears can and do move great distances (https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildlifenews.view_article&articles_id=756). Moreover, the entirety of the "affected bear population" (i.e., the brown bears being killed by ADF&G) might be majority female brown bears that migrated to the calving grounds *from* a protected area. The truth is, ADF&G has no idea whether it is shooting male or female brown bears from helicopters, and it has no idea if those bears are migrating from somewhere else. Simply saying there are protected areas in the larger refugia means nothing. That is like me saying although my house is in a high crime neighborhood for children, my children are safe because there's a school with a good reputation on the outskirts of my neighborhood. The existence of a safe space means nothing when you are killed when you leave it or try to return to it. The brown bears being killed are unaware of these artificial designations.

- In the final paragraph on page 5, ADF&G justifies its "pretreatment" (i.e., pre-killing) determination of bear density by citing two studies, one from 2001 that relies on a 1993 brown bear survey and one from 2010 that relies on a 2003-2004 survey. **The bottom line, ADF&G is basing its population estimates on data that is over 20 years old, at minimum**.

Page 6:

- "Miller (1993) reviewed research from multiple areas of Alaska and conservatively judged 5% of the population as a sustainable harvest rate for brown bears but was later corrected to 5% of the female portion of the population. Further, a study conducted in Canada described sustainable harvest rates of 4–10% of the estimated population (Mclellan et al. 2016). More recent estimates in less productive (smaller salmon returns) areas of Alaska estimated that up to 7.7% of the bear population may be sustainable (Schmidt et al. 2021). **Although more**

recent estimates of sustainable yield for brown bears are substantially higher (Brockman et al. 2020)."

- Here, ADF&G prioritizes data from the early '90s. It leaves a study from 2020, which shows sustainable yield for brown bears is far lower than originally estimated, for a passing remark in a conclusory sentence. This appears to be ADF&G's modus operandi: cherry-pick its science, if it cites any at all.

Alaska's predator control program has already been an unmitigated management failure. The Mulchatna caribou herd shows no signs of recovery, even after the state has spent more than a decade killing wolves and three years gunning down nearly 200 brown bears. That's not surprising. Research shows disease and food scarcity — not predation — are the top causes of mortality for the vanishing herd. In 2020 scientists found that brucellosis, a bacterial disease, had infected more than a third of the caribou they tested. And climate change is shifting the herd's habitat, resulting in less lichen for caribou to eat.

Brown bear tourism is a massive earner for the State of Alaska. According to a study by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, bear tourism in Southcentral Alaska generated $34.5 million in 2017 and contributed $10 million in direct wages and benefits to the region, supporting 680 jobs. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/notice_6-9-25.pdf. Why does ADF&G insist on killing a lifeline for so many Alaskans?

Until ADF&G does the requisite homework on brown bear sustainability in the Mulchatna calving grounds and ancillary territory, until it has a "relevant population study," it cannot legally proceed with killing more brown bears.

Wolves:

As for wolves, after 14 years of aerially gunning, it is crystal clear that killing wolves from aircrafts has been found NOT to have any benefit to Mulchatna caribou. ADF&G simply has more dead wolves, not more living caribou. The enactment of A.S. § 16.05.783(a) by citizen ballot initiative in 1996 currently probits the aerial shooting of wolves. ADF&G should not be so quick to disregard the will of the Alaskan public.

Finally, wolves kill sick and weak caribou. They allow the stronger genetic lines to persist, and the weaker genetic lines to disappear. In nature, nothing exists alone. By killing wolves for nearly a decade and a half simply because a gunner needs his or her "fix," is not wildlife management. Its sport hunting. It does not help caribou; in fact, many biologists believe less wolves means sicker and weaker caribou overall.

ADF&G should remember there are others that want to share experiences in the wilderness with wolves and brown bears. These animals are not ADF&G's to use as target practice. Each wolf and each brown bear killed is a unique individual who deserve better than a bullet from the sky.

ADF&G should use $1,000,000 more wisely than shooting constitutionally protected wildlife: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/notice_6-9-25.pdf.

PC318

Name: Davitch, Paula **Affiliation**: Wildlife initiative

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

I don't believe humans should play God

PC319

Name: Davydova , Oxana

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I strongly oppose the shooting of bears. There are no borders between protected parks and unprotected areas, and the bears roam freely between both, which means you don't truly know what percentage of the population is being exterminated. The bears attract tourism and keep eco system in check. This policy is just cruel and inhumane.

PC320

Name: Dawson, Denee

Community of Residence: Winnipeg

Comment:

I am completely and utterly disgusted by the senseless murders of these sweet, innocent bears. Shame on the Alaska Board of Game for allowing this!!!!!! I do NOT support this act. Please reconsider your abhorrent decisions in this matter. We need bears as part of a healthy ecosystem. We do not want them to become extinct. Respectfully, give your heads a shake.

PC321

Name: De bel, Mary

Community of Residence: Nederland

Comment:

We do not need or should even want to shoot bears

PC322

Name: De Gasperis, Elena

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

My name is Elena De Gasperis and I'm against the killing of bears.

No scientific evidence supports this method in order to benefit the Caribou wellbeing.

Bears are majestic creatures and an important part of the ecosystem.

These practices must be stopped.

PC323

Name: De La Fuente, Monica

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

SAVE OUR BEARS !!!!! Uphold the constitution!!!

PC324

Name: De Ridder, Mary

Community of Residence: Weeze

Comment:

I oppose the shooting of the bears! Stop the slaughter of the bears. The caribou herds are being affected by man. Let nature do its own work.

PC325

Name: Deblasio, Frank

Community of Residence: Nutley, NJ

Comment:

Population needs to be reduced to help out the caribou population, but let hunters do it, not from helicopters. Bear meat is very good, don't let it go to waste.

PC326

Name: Deel, Malissa

Community of Residence: WV

Comment:

I know that this has been done in the past.. but one thing I have learned in my 44 years on this planet is that we should learn from the past..not repeat it!! I know that each of you, deep down in your hearts, know that this is not the solution or answer to the issue at hand!!.. I do understand the concern that there is for the people and would go so far as to say that I agree that something needs to be done to either deter the bears or encourage them along when they're crossing..but in today's world with everything else we as humans have accomplished.. there NEEDS to be a better way!!.. as a committee, instead of taking the easy way and senslessly killing these bears..I implore you to take the time and find a different solution!!??.. restrict public access during certain times/days for now if you have to until you can peacefully find a resolution!!??.. hire a separate committee to come up with some ideas and implement them!!??.. Just PLEASE don't kill anymore bear!!??.. PLEASE, PLEASE, find a different way so that they are around for our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren..etc. to see and experience the joy and fear of seeing them!!.. I would just like to repeat..that I truly believe that all of you know this is wrong!!.. so PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS and let's work together to figure out how we can DO BETTER!! BE BETTER!!.. Thank you for allowing me a minute of your time and I hope you really take all of these comments to heart!!..

PC327

Name: DeFrain, Jourdan

Community of Residence: Boynton Beach, FL

Comment:

Strong opposition— There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover. Not only is the slaughtering inhumane, it's reckless and the long-term efficacy is questionable as the root of the problem is not being addressed. With that said, brown and black bears are both keystone species. Strong public opposition nationwide towards this proposal continues to grow. Further consultation on other, more humane and well-thought out approaches are strongly desired. Thank you.

PC328

Name: Degener, Angela

Community of Residence: 19

Comment:

Stop animal cruekty !

PC329

Name: DeHaas, Larissa

Community of Residence: Idaho

Comment:

I am strongly opposed to this regulation. It has not been proven to increase caribou herds. This honestly just sounds like a morally deplorable way for humans to inflate their egos through murder of bears.

It is pretty obvious that the climate apocalypse we as humans created is pushing animals to extinction points. Murdering bears from air planes and helicopters only contributes to the exacerbation of climate impacts.

If you really cared about cairbou populations you would heavily fine anyone driver behind the wheel who chooses speeding over animals on roadways safety. You would cut down on the ever decreasing wild land available for caribou migration. etc.

Listen to the science already. Stop murdering for a "problem" you created by habitat destruction & climate apocalypse.

PC330

Name: DeHaven, Kelsy

Community of Residence: Bend, Oregon

Comment:

There is zero scientific evidence that your predator control program assists Caribou. Primary causes for the decline in population are contributed to starvation and dehydration. Please stop using taxpayer dollars to fund what has been declared unconstitutional in your state.

PC331

Name: Del Rosario, Maja

Community of Residence: Phoenix Arizona

Comment:

Please stop the killing of the bears. This is not right!

PC332

Name: Deleu, Morgane

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the inhumane killing of bears in Alaska. Practices such as shooting mother bears with cubs, baiting, and aerial gunning are not only cruel, but ecologically irresponsible.

These actions damage Alaska's reputation and threaten the balance of its wild ecosystems. I urge you to stop these brutal methods and implement stronger protections for bears and other wildlife.

Thankyou

PC333

Name: Delport, Tiané

Community of Residence: North Dakota

Comment:

The Bible states we are to "work and keep the grounds" in Genesis. Keep means to protect and to love, and that is not what is happening when we shoot the bears. It is such an inhumane thing to do. God put the bears on this earth and he made sure there is food for them, we are meant to coexist with animals. Stop killing the bears!!

PC334

Name: DeLuca , Victoria

Community of Residence: Phoenixville

Comment:

STOP KILLING THE BEARS!!!!

PC335

Name: Dempsey, Della

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

Date: 07.07.2025

To: The Alaska Board of Game

Subject: Opposition to Proposal 1

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

Today I write to you to express my strong opposition to Proposal 1, which seeks to add black and brown bears to the Mulchatna Predator Control Plan.

I am deeply concerned that this program, which permits the aerial shooting of bears and the killing of cubs and sows, undermines the ethical standards and scientific principles that should guide wildlife management. Predator control of this magnitude, especially with limited supporting data and uncertain outcomes, risks damaging the integrity of Alaska's ecosystems and reputation as a leader in conservation-based tourism.

In Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) Proposed Regulatory Changes accompanying this proposal, the Department states that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area encompasses approximately 39,683 square miles, and that multiple predator control areas may be utilized within the management area. This ~40,000 square mile control area is:

50 miles from McNeil River State Game Sanctuary

30 miles from Katmai National Park

3 miles from Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

While brown bear home ranges can be quite large, the average is between 50 and 150 square miles. Thus, the iconic bears that are marketed for viewing around the world at McNeil and Brooks Falls very feasibly travel into this proposed Control Area and would be subject to aerial gunning. Many children are beside themselves, worried the bears they know and have studied in school that live in all the proposed areas could be gunned down and killed. Leaving nothing to show they even exisited but a hide for the trappers to auction off. I worry about the youth and future generations of Alaskans. Will slaughtering animals cruelly en masse become the norm of society? What kind of message does this unscientific, unsupported, barbaric plan send to the public? How can completely wiping out multiple generations of bear familes be allowed or justified? How will we save our incredible, diversified, pristine ecosystem from collapse without the support of our Apex predators?

According to a study by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, bear tourism in Southcentral Alaska generated $34.5 million in 2017 alone and contributed $10 million in direct wages and benefits to the region, supporting 680 jobs. The study focused on four areas: Katmai National Park & Preserve, McNeil River State Game Sanctuary, Lake Clark National Park & Preserve, and the Cook Inlet Region. These areas attract thousands of visitors to witness the bears fishing for salmon, playing with their cubs and interacting with each other. The study estimated that each bear in Southcentral Alaska is worth $1.3 million over its lifetime, based on the tourism revenue it generates. At a time when State and Federal

budgets are being slashed, we should be protecting the wildlife assets in our state, not spending hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to gun them down. Many Alaskans have built their businesses catering to visitors who want to see bears and wolves in the Alaskan wilderness. What happens to their livelihood? How will they continue to support their families?

The assumption that bear predation is the primary driver of the Mulchatna caribou herd's decline is not conclusively supported by the available research. Singularly targeting predators may yield short-term gains at the cost of long-term ecological and reputational harm.

Furthermore, I feel this process lacks good faith and transparency. Holding this meeting in the middle of the busy summer season when most Alaskans are unavailable to comment does not solicit meaningful public engagement. Further, there is an unsettling lack of transparency around where aerial gunning would take place within the control area and how many bears would be killed under this plan. It is my understanding that, if this proposal passes, ADF&G could create a bear culling program anywhere within the 40,000 square mile control area until 2028 without any further public input.

I urge the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to reconsider this policy and to pursue alternatives rooted in sound science, stakeholder collaboration, and respect for the diverse economic and cultural values Alaskans and our visitors hold for wildlife.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Della Dempsey

PC336

Name: Dennenberg, Dani

Community of Residence: Washington DC

Comment:

I oppose the new Mulchatna bear control program and am urging you to join this effort. Mulchatna bears are sentient beings who deserve to live free in their wild lands, free from harassment, intervention that does not represent true sustainability and unconscionably cruel practices such as being gunned from helicopters.

Judge Guidi of the Superior Court of Alaska already ruled in favor of the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, finding that the Mulchatna Bear Control program—through which the State has aerially gunned nearly 200 brown bears—was unlawfully adopted.

The following was cited during that ruling, "…it is apparent that the State did not have the adequate, relevant population studies or any genuine data about bear sustainability in the area of the control program prior to adopting a proposal that would have an obvious impact on the constitutionally protected public resource."

Defend the Mulchatna bears today. Have your legacy be compassion, empathy, leadership and good science.

Dani Dennenberg

Masters in Humane Education

Board Certified Acupuncturist

PNW resident of 15 years

PC337

Name: Dennenberg, Hava

Community of Residence: Pacific Northwest

Comment:

STRONGLY OPPOSED.

As a tourist to your state and as someone who supports your wildlife preserves and refuges, protection of the Mulchatna Bears is beyond crucial and dear to me. Alaska's bears are also a constitutionally protected resource and they need your help and protection. It is as simple as that.

As you are already aware I am sure, in 2022, the Board of Game deliberated on a proposal to extend an already existing wolf predator control program in Western Alaska. The Board

discussed the proposal behind closed doors and amended the proposal to include bears, despite not having any population data on bears in the area. They then passed the proposal unanimously, creating the Mulchatna bear control program. The public was not given an opportunity to comment on the proposal, and the Board never discussed the sustainability of the program on the local bear population.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)'s proposal is nothing short of unconscionable, wildly out of step with science and preposterous. They have requested that the Board of Game deliberate on regulation changes that would create a ~40,000 square mile black and brown bear control program (which includes aerial gunning) in western Alaska. This is undoubtedly in response to AWA's recent court victories, which found that the State's 2022 Mulchatna bear control program was illegal and void. The Court also ruled that the State acted 'in bad faith' when they proceeded to kill 11 bears this May, despite two judges ruling that they were doing so illegally, and that the testimony of the State's Director of Wildlife Conservation was "mostly not credible".

The State has scheduled a Special Meeting on July 14th in Anchorage for the Board of Game to vote on the proposed regulation changes. The proposed changes would allow ADFG to KILL AS MANY BEARS as they deem fit within a 40,000 square mile area already undergoing wolf control.

The area that ADFG is asking the Board of Game to open to bear control is surrounded on three sides by federal lands that have historically been safe havens for bears. If the regulation changes are adopted, aerial gunning of bears will be allowed to occur approximately:

3 miles from Lake Clark National Preserve

30 miles from Katmai National Park

50 miles from McNeil and Brooks Falls

Along the Alagnak, Nushagak, and Mulchatna Rivers

On the borders of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Yukon Delta National

Wildlife Refuge

It is crucial to remember that bears have some of the lowest reproductive rates of any land mammals. Female brown bears don't reach breeding age until they're five to eight years old, only have one to three cubs per litter, and only give birth every four to five years. Black bears also have low reproductive potential, with late maturation and small litters.This slow reproductive cycle means that the death of a single bear, particularly a breeding female, can significantly impact the population's ability to recover. Bear control programs like Mulchatna, which kill bears regardless of age or sex, can have a massive, negative impact on a local bear population's ability to replenish itself.

Why would you hasten this low birth rate by allowing for this unconscionable killing of them? Do you really want this blood on your hands?

Respectfully,

Hava Dennenberg & Family

PC338

Name: Dennis, Sherrie

Community of Residence: Earth

Comment:

Nature and the bears themselves already cull bears. Nature is a self-righting organism. We're the ones who throw things out of balance. We need to back off and allow nature to swing the pendulum back. Every time we interfere, unless it's to rehabilitate wild areas, or protect species we've harmed, it's a mess. This is not the way we play at being heroes. There is a segment of the bear population near Brooks Falls in Katmai National Park that is closely observed by people around the world. What is Fat Bear Week without bears? If we let things be, nature will balance things. Even our past mistakes. I can't believe humans shooting bears from the ground isn't enough. And where is consideration for the indigenous folks who rely on bear hunting? Have you thought through how you're going to adversely affect their access to bears? It's not just the meat. Bear grease is used to treat drums, bear skins and claws are used in regalia and ceremonies. Where is consideration for their music, their dancing, their ceremonies? Isn't there enough killing in the world already? Enough. Enough. Enough.

PC339

Name: Derby, Logan

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE DONT KILL ANY MORE BEARS!! Apex predators are crucial for maintaining healthy environments for all animals. Caribou populations are not in decline from bears, wolves, or any other natural predators, but from human interface. Logging causing habitat loss, over hunting, human settlements and highways are causing the herds to collapse. Deal with these issues and the herds will regenerate. STOP KILLING PERDATORS. STOP HABITAT LOSS. LEAVE NATURE ALONE.

PC340

Name: Deshmukh, Dimple

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Please save those bears. They dont deserve this.

PC341

Name: Desjardins , Jessica

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed expansion of the predator control program near Brooks Falls, Lake Clark, and Katmai.

The aerial killing of nearly 200 brown bears — including mothers and cubs — is deeply disturbing, especially considering this program was previously ruled illegal. Attempting to reinstate it through a rushed process raises serious ethical and legal questions.

What's more troubling is that there is no solid scientific evidence showing that killing predators benefits caribou herds. In fact, past efforts — including the killing of 250 wolves — failed to prevent the collapse of the Mulchatna herd. Predator control not only fails, but it causes lasting, irreversible harm to Alaska's iconic wildlife.

As a wildlife lover i urge you to reconsider. Wildlife management should be backed by science not by political pressure or outdated methods.

Please protect the beauty that is Alaska's ecosystems- not destroy them.

PC342

Name: Deutscher, Brett

Community of Residence: PO BOX 3541

Comment:

Please do not murder bears! Use relocation instead. Use taxpayer money for that.

PC343

Name: Devenport, Dael

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I strongly oppose the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) proposal for a new black and brown bear control program over 40,000 square miles in western Alaska, which includes the use of aerial gunning. This drastic measure lacks scientific credibility and raises serious ethical and legal concerns.

First and foremost, the State's previous bear control effort in the Mulchatna region was deemed illegal and void by the courts, with judges ruling that the State acted in bad faith and continued killing bears despite explicit legal injunctions. The court also found the testimony of ADF&G's own Director of Wildlife Conservation to be "mostly not credible," calling into question the integrity of the agency's scientific and procedural justifications.

Now, rather than address these serious issues, the ADF&G is pushing for a sweeping expansion of predator control without presenting new, peer-reviewed science to support the claim that bear reduction will effectively aid the Mulchatna caribou herd. There remains no robust evidence that such lethal control measures are necessary or effective in achieving long-term caribou recovery. The use of vague, unspecified numbers of bears to be killed, along with the sheer scale of the proposed area, suggests a policy based more on politics than on sound wildlife management.

The Board of Game should not endorse a program riddled with legal deficiencies, ethical concerns, and a glaring absence of transparent, science-based evidence. I urge the Board to reject this proposal and instead invest in non-lethal, habitat-focused solutions that are grounded in credible ecological science.

PC344

Name: Di Girolamo, Paola

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

Save the bears because killing them in their natural environment is just non sense.

PC345

Name: Diaz, Angel

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

I am writing to show support of the natural area and resources that Alaska is home. It may be easy to overlook comments from someone of a different state, but speaking from a point of view where nature is scarce and curated environments are everywhere, being able to have the foresight to see how the encroachment of these animals impacts not only residents in your localities, but everywhere else is imperative. While many protections lie in the great state of Alaska, it is an important reminder that Alaska remains as one of the few areas on Earth that remains wild. Alaska is a representative of these fragile

communities and regardless of how externalities impact these regions, us humans have the autonomy to determine how we shape these ecosystems. I hope the board of Anchorage is able to preserve these natural areas for future generations because without them, the value and connection that humans have with nature erodes until we ourselves become displaced like the animals we seek to protect.

PC346

Name: Dibrova, Yana

Community of Residence: Winnipeg

Comment:

Bears need to live! It's live form and we can't murder them!!!

PC347

Name: Dicosola , Claudia

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I clearly do not support. Not because Im just an animal lover, because there is no scientific proof to support it. Just be clear, not supporting.

PC348

Name: Dietlin, Kathy

Community of Residence: Honolulu

Comment:

After several trips to Alaska and seeing firsthand the awesome beauty of the brown bears, I cannot imagine that there would even be the possibility of allowing hunting of these majestic creatures. As the scientific evidence has proven, decreasing the apex predators has not saved the caribou herds from dwindling. Killing the bears will just cause irreparable damage to the balance of the ecosystem in the area. Please, please do not even consider killing the bears!

PC349

Name: Dill, Katie

Community of Residence: Homosassa Florida

Comment:

There is no evidence that killing bears will help protect caribou and not effect the environment in a negative way. This is unjust and cruel. Just like killing elephants to save Africa did the opposite of what it was supposed to do. Please be smarter

---

PC350

Name: DiLorenzo, Matthew

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please have the decency to either work relocating animals in a safe manner or using other methods to control bear migration/population. These are highly intelligent creatures that deserve our respect. Thank you.

PC351

Name: Dimitrov, Lina

Community of Residence: Atlanta

Comment:

I oppose this proposal for the unnecessary killing of bears in Alaska. Not only is there lack of evidence for such predator control methods. Furthermore, if the sentiment is that predator control is needed, there are non lethal options for predator control that should be explored first, rather than defaulting to a lethal approach.

PC352

Name: Dinh, Karry

Community of Residence: Vancouver BC

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears!!!

PC353

Name: Dittloff, Deanna

Community of Residence: Depere, WI

Comment:

I am in opposition to this proposed regulation change. Bears are a highlight of Alaska & bring thousands of people to Alaska for tourism. It is my understanding that the killing of these bears will have no effect on the caribou herds. I am an avid viewer of the bearcams at Brooks Camp in Katmai National Park & would be devastated if any of the bears were killed by this proposed change. Please follow the science & save the bears of Alaska!

PC354

Name: Dixon, Janna

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I oppose the killings of bears and wolves.

PC355

Name: Dixon, Linda

Community of Residence: Calgary Albertta

Comment:

Leave the bears alone, people should not be in their territory, start breeding caribou if the population is getting low

---

PC356

Name: Doan, Donna

Community of Residence: Langhorne PA

Comment:

I oppose the killing of the bears. Human interference into the natural lifecycle is inappropriate. When prey species diminish, so will the predator population. Violence against America's wildlife should NOT be tolerated, much less financed with tax dollars. I suspect a strong hunting lobby that does NOT reflect the sentiments of the majority of Americans is behind this ill-conceived initiative. I strongly urge the decision makers to REJECT this plan. The eyes of America are on you, and we are waiting for you to DO THE RIGHT THING, vote against slaughtering the bears.

PC357

Name: Dobner, Caitlyn

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

To the Board of Game, I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes to 5 AAC 92.111 regarding Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Allowing for aerial gunning of bears and any wild animal for that matter, is not wildlife management. It is tax payer funded killing with no scientific support that it supports and increase in caribou herd numbers. There is absolutely no evidence killing predators helps the caribou herds - evidenced by the killing of wolves which has not resulted in increases to the herd numbers. Continuing with this practice will continue damage to our precious wildlife. Additional, this has been found to be an illegal program by multiple judges. Please hear the people and do not move forward with this program change. Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Warm Regards,

Caitlyn Dobner

PC358

Name: Doe, Jordan

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

You're absolutely idiots if you think this is an OK thing to allow....go after the board members if it's passed!!

PC359

Name: Doehring, Francesca

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

All animal populations have already been diminished because of humans. Bears are already endangered enough without us doing extra things to murder them.

PC360

Name: Dolan, Erin

Community of Residence: Lambertville NJ

Comment:

Allowing the destruction of brown bears in this instance has already been proven ineffective in protecting the caribou herds. As we have seen over and over, interfering with the natural order causes more problems than it solves. I have never been to Alaska but hope to get there one day soon and i hope there are wild bears and other wildlife left to see.

PC361

Name: Dominguez, Maria

Community of Residence: Guatemala

Comment:

The planet is for all of us, not just humans. Maybe it seems like there are too many bears, but that's not true — the real problem is that they have very little space left.

Bears go where they can survive. The solution isn't to kill them. Taking away a life is never the answer. What we really need to do is protect their space and learn how to live together.

PC362

Name: Donnelly, Lilly

Community of Residence: Pocatello, Idaho

Comment:

Bears should be killed more ethically, only if absolutely necessary controlling populations is important but it's important not to just murder vital species that protect the earth and the environments they live in every animal has a unique purpose that should be protected over everything

---

PC363

Name: Donovan, Brian

Community of Residence: Dillingham

Comment:

Hello, this is Brian Donovan. Owner of Nushagak Guides outfitters and I am totally against the bear eradication program that they have been doing. Fishing game has not provided adequate research to me trying to kill the bears off the Caribou calving grounds. I rely on the Brown bear population, provide for my family. Thank you very much.

PC364

Name: Douaire , Twyla

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Science is important. Real science. The science is clear. Killing bears will not help save the caribou herds. They are in decline due to logging and oil and gas extraction, since they need huge contiguous swaths of land undisturbed by machinery, roads and humans. Killing the bears will do absolutely nothing but kill the bears. And the caribou will still die. Please go back to the drawing board, keep these ecosystems wild, no logging or drilling or exploration.

PC365

Name: Dougherty , James

Community of Residence: West Orange

Comment:

Please preserve and consider other options besides the massacre , let's find symbiotic systems , thank you

---

PC366

Name: Douglas, Brianna

Community of Residence: Seminole

Comment:

I strongly oppose this new plan for caribou management in Alaska. As we have seen many times in the past, predators are important to keep nature in balance. Using helicopters to manage the bears is unethical. If management of bears is needed, it needs to be done in a better more controlled way without killing mothers and babies.

PC367

Name: Douglas, Deborah

Community of Residence: Placerville, Ca

Comment:

Please spare the Bears

PC368

Name: Douthit, Caroline

Community of Residence: New Market, Maryland

Comment:

I oppose this action. As a science teacher, we have studied the predator-prey relationship of many animals, and slaughtering bears in Alaska won't solve the caribou population. There are many other strategies that could be implemented to help their population grow, and not kill one of their predators.

I also just got back from visiting alaska, and the bears are one of your most valued resources for tourism. I went on se et excursions with experts and heard what local people did to protect the bears , while protect themselves. So much of it is education and only man can find solutions for both to safely coexist and promote bear conservancy.

So I absolutely OPPOSE this proposition, they are a critical part of Alaska's ecosystem & state. Man needs to put their brains & resources (so many exist already) to work and find another solution to increase the caribou population.

PC369

Name: Dowell , Melissa

Community of Residence: Kenai

Comment:

There is ample research showing predator control programs do not help recovery of ungulates and could harm infection mitigation because there are less predators eating the sick/infected animals. Please do not allow this practice to continue. These bears are some of the most sought after from a tourist perspective and are incredibly valuable to the ecosystem.

PC370

Name: Downs, Christine

Community of Residence: Denver, CO

Comment:

Although not a resident of Alaska, I am a regular visitor and have been to Katmai as well as surrounding area. As an ecologist I make it my priority to stay on top of BMPs for wildlife management and cannot support this proposal. Past efforts to manage predators and scientific studies do not support the success, efficacy, or sustainablity of the proposal's predator control in improving the viability or longterm health and numbers of the herd. In fact, shifts in climate, and thus habitat and food availability, as well as disease have been shown to be the primary stressors on caribou herds including the Mulchatna herd. The board should prioritize addressing these known and confirmed stressors above all else to properly manage and support the caribou population, not the take of bears. Additionally, due to the proximity of the proposed predator control area to Katmai NP, as well as other popular natural resource areas/sites, the board risks impacting public perception and outcry at the loss of individuals and species that they specifically travel to your beautiful state to see. For these reasons I ask that the proposal to allow for the take of brown and black bears be denied.

PC371

Name: Doyne, Stacey

Community of Residence: Seattle, WA

Comment:

I'm writing from Seattle to strongly oppose the proposal to reinstate Alaska's aerial gunning program targeting brown bears—including mothers with cubs.

This practice is not only inhumane, but scientifically unsupported. There is no conclusive evidence that killing predators like bears helps caribou herds recover. In fact, the Mulchatna herd continued to decline even after the state killed over 250 wolves in the region.

Reinstating a program that was previously ruled illegal—through a rushed comment process—sets a dangerous precedent. Expanding predator control zones near world-renowned protected areas like Brooks Falls, Katmai, and Lake Clark also threatens vital ecosystems and the wildlife tourism economy.

We should not be using taxpayer dollars to fund an ineffective, brutal program with irreversible consequences for Alaska's iconic wildlife.

Please stop the aerial gunning. We owe it to future generations—and to the integrity of Alaska's wild lands—to do better.

Name: Drescher, Melanie

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Please leave the bears in peace. Learn from your mistakes in the past where your actions did nothing to preserve the caribou herd's population. We are not the deciders of the fate of the bears, nature is. Leave them alone to live and die as nature intended. You want visitors to photograph them and spend their money in your area right? Well how will it be when they discover your horrific ways of killing these bears they have come to see.

Name: Dsouza, Duane

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

save the bears. please do not hunt the bears for sport. they are majestic creatures and deserve to be wild and free.

thank you.

duane.

Name: Duarte, Xiomara

Community of Residence: APT B

Comment:

There is absolutely no reason to be killing bears in their own home.

PC375

Name: DuCharme, Adrienne

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

As a biodiversity and conservation major, I took classes that would have prepared me for working for your organization. We know that killing apex predators destroy ecosystems. Your whole point in killing wolves and bears is to protect the caribou herd for later hunting??? Why so much killing to local animal herds just for a food source. Why are you not allocating the resources of killing animals instead to sustainable growing methods? Grow breadfruit. You make a mockery of humanity and make me ashamed to be related to you as another human on earth. Stop the unnecessary slaughter of wolves and bears for the eventual planned slaughter of caribou. None of you have a heart. This should make every woman and man in America ashamed to be a human alongside you and your senseless cruelty. You can't claim ignorance, We learned at Yellowstone the importance of protecting wolf populations. All of you need to resign.

PC376

Name: Dudley , Kristina **Affiliation**: Kristina Dudley Locum Veterinarian

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

There is no good data showing these culls will be effective in preserving caribou populations.

IF a cull were shown to be a viable solution, it must be CONTROLLED based on scientific knowledge about the bears' habitats etc - and done in the way that minimizes harm.

This is not that way!!! You can do better, you need consultation with more scientists in these fields.

PC377

Name: Duis, Jamie

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I am wiring to oppose the Mulchatna bear "control" proposal in Alaska. The elk population is not in danger of reduction due to bear, but is likely if human hunting and habitat destruction are increased. This is unnecessary and cruel and will generated negative public relations in the Alaskan tourism economy. As an avid traveler to Americas parks, I will boycott visiting Alaska if the state government continues to support this type of policy.

July 5, 2025

Comment to the Alaska Board of Game supporting the bear and wolf reduction program for the Mulchatna Caribou herd.

By Dan Dunaway, Dillingham Alaska

Dear Board of Game members and Commissioner Lang.

I am a long time member of the Nushagak Advisory Committee and Vice Chair of the Bristol Bay Federal Subsistence Advisory Council (BBRAC). The following comments are mine alone and are not representative of either group.

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the intensive management program to remove predators of the Mulchatna Caribou herd as outlined in RC 009 and RC 010 of your March 2025 Statewide Meeting. Rather than repeat myself, I submitted RC 187 to the March meeting supporting the ADFG intensive management. My RC187 included a copy of the letter of support written and submitted by the Nushagak AC dated 16 November 2023. I can supply a fresh copy of RC 187 if requested.

At the time I submitted RC 187 I could not locate the letter of support written and submitted by the BBRAC. I have located that letter and it is attached to this comment. The short version is, the Bristol Bay RAC supports the effort of ADFG to reduce wolves and bears on the calving grounds. In a recent discussion I had with BBRAC Chair Nanci Morris-Lyon she said she still is in strong support for the program and gave me permission to say so.

I am in contact with numerous residents of the Bristol Bay area and my sense is that many or even most of us believe there are TOO MANY BROWN BEARS in the region. We continue to have huge unprecedented sockeye salmon runs and record breaking escapements into the far interior reaches of the region. These runs are fueling very strong cub production year after year. One comment I commonly hear is: " mammas used to have 1 or 2 cubs but we see lots of litters of 3 and 4 now and many are surviving these mild winters." The strong runs feed the cubs allowing them to enter winter denning in top condition. AND the adult males are doing so well on salmon there is less interest in preying on the cubs. In fact for these reasons and the hassles of the DLP process I remind you that you graciously made the brown bear season year-round in GMU 17 - thank you.

You should know the BBRAC is also proposing a Federal Subsistence regulation to allow year 'round brown bear season in GMU17 .

About mid-May of this year I was in the Dillingham airport and overheard two young men who appeared and talked as if they were associated with bear guiding operations. One said he was hunting pretty close to the reduction site but they had no issues finding good bears. The other hunter noted his group was a little farther away but they saw no effects at all from the 2 years of the project. He further noted " those bears move all over....". The airport was very crowded and I was unable to get over to them and get names or more information. However what I heard underscores my belief that this intensive program could very much help the caribou while have no lasting impact on the overall bear populations of the area.

Further, given the surprising numbers of bears taken in the first two years, I strongly believe this area has many many more bears than ever imagined and the fear of detrimental population impacts are grossly overstated by those who are opposed. I sympathize with those wishing for more and higher quality bear population data - it would be great to have it. However I can't count the number of Advisory Committee meetings around the Bay I attended as an ADFG Sport Fish biologist (89-02) where the Bristol Bay public demanded 1) more moose and caribou, 2) less bears, 3) predator control. These demands usually led to extended discussions on the real difficulties and expenses of counting all these critters and especially bears. ADFG Biologist Dick Sellers (long retired) had an extensive project to count bears in the Chignik/ Black Lake area. It had a modicum of success but the cost and extreme difficultly made it clear the process could not be easily or quickly replicated at numerous other locations in the state. Such studies take a lot of time and the low number of Mulchatna caribou may not be able to spare that time.

I want to acknowledge this program may temporarily impact some local guides, people I greatly respect. But I don't know that it has hurt them at this time. The goal of this program is to restore a critical food resource (caribou) for many people over a wide area. A critical subsistence food supply has to take priority over a few bear trophies.

Please restore the Mulchatna project as outlined by ADFG. I think we have an excellent local team working on it and given the success seen in the Cold Bay wolf effort years ago, it is worth continuing this for a couple more years.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

I expect to attend this meeting in person and will be available to discuss it if you would like.

Dan Dunaway
PO Box 1490
Dillingham Alaska 99576

BBRAC letter to BOG on following pages

Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
c/o Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: (907) 787-3888, Fax: (907) 786-3898
Toll Free: 1-800-478-1456
In Reply Refer To:
OSM 24013
Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett
c/o ADF&G Boards Support and Office of the Commissioner
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Dear Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett:
I write to you on behalf of the Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council). The Council wishes to give support to the Intensive Management Program the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has been conducting and to future efforts from ADF&G on reducing predator populations to increase calf survival.
The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Bristol Bay Region in Southwest Alaska. The Council was established by the authority in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establishes the Council's authority to initiate, review and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their regions that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities served by the Council. The Council provides a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations regarding any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.

During our fall meeting held October 24-25, 2023, in Dillingham, the Council met to discuss fisheries and wildlife management concerns and to develop wildlife proposal and closure review recommendations for the Federal Subsistence Board (Board). During this meeting, the Council received a report from the ADF&G Area Biologist, John Landsiedel, on the recent Intensive Management Program that had been conducted the previous spring on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's (MCH) calving grounds. At this meeting, the Council agreed to express support of the Intensive Management Program ADF&G has been conducting and to future efforts from ADF&G on reducing predator populations to increase calf survival. We also greatly appreciated the report from Mr. Landsiedel.

The MCH, an important subsistence resource for residents of the Bristol Bay Region, has been closed to hunting since the fall of 2021. The Council has repeatedly reported to the Federal Subsistence Board through recent Annual Reports their concerns over the health of the MCH and on the effects of the increased bear population on the recovery of the herd. The region has experienced record-breaking Sockeye Salmon returns that have fueled an increase of the bear population, resulting in increased bear sightings and issues with public safety. The Council supports ADF&G's Intensive Management Program future control plans that will aid herd recovery.
The Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council appreciates ADF&G's attention to these matters and the support of the subsistence needs of the region's residents. If you have any questions

regarding this letter, please contact me via Leigh Honig, Council Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management, at leigh_honig@fws.gov, or 1-800-478-1456 or 1-907-891-9053.

Sincerely,

Nanci Morris Lyon
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
Office of Subsistence Management
Interagency Staff Committee
Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Mark Burch, Assistant Director, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Administrative Record

Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett 2
on the effects of the increased bear population on the recovery of the herd. The region has experienced record-breaking Sockeye Salmon returns that have fueled an increase of the bear population, resulting in increased bear sightings and issues with public safety. The Council supports ADF&G's Intensive Management Program future control plans that will aid herd recovery.
The Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council appreciates ADF&G's attention to these matters and the support of the subsistence needs of the region's residents. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me via Leigh Honig, Council Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management, at leigh_honig@fws.gov, or 1-800-478-1456 or 1-907-891-9053.
Sincerely,
Nanci Morris Lyon
Chair
cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Bristol Bay

PC379

Name: Duncan, Teresa

Community of Residence: Franklin

Comment:

I oppose the aerial gunning of bears. Doing so would be extraordinarily cruel and unnecessary. Bears in these areas are valuable to the community due to the tourist dollars that they attract.

PC380

Name: Dunlop, Jordana

Community of Residence: Scotland

Comment:

OPPOSED.

Not one, but two judges have already ruled that last year's bear-killing program was illegal-and found the state acted in bad faith by killing 11 bears after court orders were in place. This latest proposal is no different and should not be allowed to go ahead.

Nearly 200 bears have been killed in the last two years - including cubs - without ANY credible science, population data, or evidence that it helps caribou recovery.

The actions of Alaska Department of Fish & Game are totally reprehensible. What they are doing is not conservation. It is slaughter.

PC381

Name: Dunn, Julie

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Do not kill wildlife that have not posed a risk to their own or human safety, if relocation is needed to provide that safety for bears and humans we should explore this. Killing is inhumane and not justified

---

PC382

Name: Dunn, Leo

Community of Residence: Seattle Washington

Comment:

Leave gods plan alone. Bears play and important role in the circle of life. They are beautiful animals not meant for humans to kill. We are the risk not them . I do not support killing of theses bears.

PC383

Name: Duprey, Michelle

Community of Residence: Morgan Point

Comment:

I am opposed to the proposal to the change that would allow ADFG to kill as many bears as they deem fit within a 40,000 square mile area already undergoing wolf control. These are sentient beings and it is deplorable that you are considering making this change. We have taken over so much habitat, that there are only a few remote places on earth where they can exist in peace, this area being one of them. Additionally, one of the biggest economic factor for Alaska is tourism and bears are part of that draw as well. Compromising the healthy population puts this economic engine at risk. I hope you reconsider this proposal and not hunt black and brown bears in this area.

PC384

Name: Dvorak, Thomas

Community of Residence: South Dakota

Comment:

I testified 15-20 years ago that the Mulchatna caribou herd should be put on a limited draw so they wouldn't have to shut the season down completely. That management scheme has been PROVEN to be an effective game management tool in Alaska and all over the United States.

Members of the APHA and other audience members called me an anti-hunter, "Adolf", and "a gopher hunter from SD who knows nothing about wildlife." The State CHOSE to leave the season wide open with a two-tag limit per hunter. That was a huge mistake. Only 2-3 years later, the season was shut down. Better management would have helped the problem of falling caribou numbers.

Communities were punished by that mistake.

Sending aerial killers out to kill more wildlife (bears) in an UNPROVEN attempt to remedy a self-created problem is an extension of horrible management. When I had read the State had already killed nearly 200 brown bears over a two year period I was stunned.

When the only tool you have is a hammer, all your problems are nails.

Continued aerial killing high value brown bears from communities is the most foolish thing I can think of. It punishes communities.

The caribou depletion caused economic loss to communities and the state. Following it up with killing those bears punishes the communities further and takes away their opportunities further. That is a big deal.

"Don't expect us to believe that it's in everybody's best interest just because a person of authority speaks it." WD

"Support your country all the time and your government when it deserves it." Mark Twain

I'm reaching the end of my years. As my dust settles, the F&G does not deserve the authority to fly out and kill high value brown bears which will punish communities.

Thomas "Willie" Dvorak

PC385

Name: Dwight, Margaret

Community of Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Comment:

I am adamantly AGAINST killing brown and black bears at Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. This is why: 1) Brown Bears, Black Bears, and salmon sustain a crucial ecosystem in Alaska. Ecosytems are biological communities of interacting organisms and their physical environment. Bears expertly catch salmon in rivers and eat them in the water, alongside rivers, and in the forests. Scavengers, such as coyotes, eagles and other birds eat the remains of the salmon. The salmon carcasses provide essential nutrients to the trees, plants, and water systems, including feeding and maintaining ecosystems of insects. All parts of the ecosystem are necessary for continual renewal, and bears, as apex predators at the top of the food chain, are necessary to start and maintain this cycle of life. 2) Brown Bears and Black Bears are unique, intelligent, emotional animals at the top of the food chain. They are able to learn new methods of fishing by adapting to changing situations, they have memories and can identify other bears, and mother bears take care of and defend their young cubs with passion, loyalty, and consistency for 2-3 years to ensure they are successful at surviving as cubs, yearlings, sub-adults, and adults that live well into their 20s. 3) Each bear is unique and can be identified by experts and volunteers alike as having particular personalities, mannerisms, and methods of fishing, walking, running, swimming and playing. Tagging them is completely unnecessary because each bear is completely unique, distinctive, and special to other bears as well as human observers. 4) I love observing the Brown Bears at Katmai and the Black Bears at Tongass National Forest, both protected areas in Alaska close to Mulchatna bears. Please don't kill the bears.

PC386

Name: Dyar, Candace

Community of Residence: Washington State, United States

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably. There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. And, per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then please ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people choose.

Name: Echenique, Tomas

Community of Residence: Salem

Comment:

Very saddening to see the senseless deaths of these beautiful creatures.

Name: Edelmann, Jolene

Community of Residence: Eagle

Comment:

This is not a fair way to regulate overpopulation. Not only that, but it's also incredibly cruel!! These bears don't have a voice to speak up but they deserve to live.

Name: Edmunds, Ricky

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

This is absolutely disgusting. Why would you want to shoot wild animals. I mean I know the orange taco tits loves all things evil, but seriously? Grow up.

I am a wildlife photographer, this is their planet as much as ours and we need to respect their boundaries.

Humans are just so self entitled. Leave these bears alone.

PC390

Name: Edney, Joanne

Community of Residence: Lake Clark National Park

Comment:

I strongly oppose the culling of brown and black bear in the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. As you know, brown bears have already or are in the process of becoming extinct in many areas of the world. Tourists travel yearly from all parts of the world to witness the rich resource that Alaska still enjoys. This brings money and jobs into Alaska. There has not been any reliable research to convince the Board of Game or anyone else that this will significantly alter the Mulchatna Herd. If there is such evidence then the Board should share it with the public whom they serve and stand strongly behind it - however it does not appear to exist. Why would the Board of Game support a regulation that is so short sided and damaging to Alaska.

Thank you for considering my comments.

PC391

Name: Eggert, Shiloh

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

This cannot happen! They will go extinct without this happening soon enough. Leave the bears alone. They need to live. Slaughtering for no reason should be BANNED

HUNT PREDATORY HUMANS INSTEAD

PC392

Name: Ehrke, Niki

Community of Residence: Pioneer, CA

Comment:

I oppose the slaughtering of bears in Alaska – especially aerial slaughtering. This is inhumane and unnecessary. This would cause bear cubs to lose their mothers, which is unconscionable. There's no evidence that this is going to protect the Caribou herd. This must be stopped. Please do the right thing, look inward and listen to your conscience. Please stop this.

PC393

Name: Eischens, Kolton

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

Yes yes and yes.

I would love to see the board help out hunters as well and allow same day airborne for wolves/bears. In these predator areas. Set a quota or whatever needs to happen and allow more hunter harvest.

I'm all aboard for more predator control!

PC394

Name: Ellifrits, Jane

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

They should go to jail for shooting these in ocent animals

PC395

Name: Ellis , Leanne

Community of Residence: Yukon

Comment:

Do not kill the bears! They are on their land, doing what bears do! They are feeding ND filling up for the winter... that shouldn't be a death sentence,.especially in Alaska of all places!!! In Haines the bears walk freely around the rivers, parks ans creeks and have for thousands of years before anything was paved! Bears have a right to eat and humans might not like it so maybe humans should leave them alone!

PC396

Name: Ellis, Maddy

Community of Residence: Aspen

Comment:

I am vehemently opposed to the slaughter and massacre of bears and any creatures. Human beings do not get to play God and gun down animals for zero reason. Leave nature be. Appreciate it from afar and respect all beings.

PC397

Name: Ellis, Makenna

Community of Residence: Po Box 3124

Comment:

Trying to control a population of animals from a helicopter is gross incompetence. Especially when in past years murdering innocents bears and wolves have not helped the caribou as eagles were found killing calves more than any other predator.

Do not be snipping bears out of helicopters. Take a [redacted] look around you and use your energy and power to do something actually beneficial for your state and its citizens.

PC398

Name: Embalsado, Genevieve

Community of Residence: Roseville, California

Comment:

I don't support this because it's animal cruelty. The Bears help regulate the ecosystem and their disappearance might result to overcrowding of other species which is not good either. So if that species overcrowded, they'll kill them also. When does the massacre stops?

PC399

Name: Emmins, Tayla **Affiliation**: The wildlife collective

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

It is animal cruelty they aren't hurting anyone. There are very few bears left in the wild.

PC400

Name: Enes, Michael

Community of Residence: The Heights Amesbury, Massachusetts

Comment:

Madness…. This repetitive culling of bears is reprehensible……..!!!

We demand for you to stop this and allow the population to grow naturally without intervention by anyone……!!!

PC401

Name: Englar, Tammy

Community of Residence: Hillsborough, Florida

Comment:

I've gone to Alaska twice with the intention to see the bears. If this bill goes through I will never return. This is just plain cruel. Save the bears, we have enough death.

PC402

Name: Enochs, Erin

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of the bears in any form by humans. They are a natural part of our wildlife system that will regulate its self. It is their land.

PC403

Name: Equihua, Ebony

Community of Residence: Paramount

Comment:

These bears are integral to their ecosystem and there has been no proof that murdering them truly benefits their neighboring species! They are not at fault nor do they deserve death for a problem that surely can be solved other ways!! Don't murder these bears! Don't charge tax payers to murder these bears!

PC404

Name: Erb, Jessica

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

I support Alaska's bears and am highly opposed to the poaching of them. Killing them for no evident reason is inhumane.

PC405

Name: Erb, Kristen

Community of Residence: Edmonton, AB

Comment:

this is barbaric. absolutely awful and a knee-jerk reaction with no proven scientific evidence for positive outcome.

PC406

Name: Erickson, Diana

Community of Residence: california

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to the slaughter of bears to benefit Caribou. The bears in Alaska are a national treasure. Bears and Caribou have coexisted for eons. Why do you want to meddle with this?

PC407

Name: Erlenbach, Joy

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

I'm writing to urge the Board to not support PROPOSAL 1 - 5 AAC 92.111 and the modification to include bears in the intensive management plan for Mulchatna. Scientists around the nation are watching what has unfolded between the Department and the courts over the last several months. A recently released peer-reviewed journal article titled Bears in North America: Habitats, hunting, and politics (Boyce and Derocher, 2025) titled the section on Alaska "Alaska: What science?" and pointed to the Department's lack of science and lack of evidence to support their actions as directly disregarding the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation – the foundation of wildlife management. I guess you could call my request an appeal to the honor of the Department- a request for the Department to act in a way that others will watch and be proud of rather than disparage. For the Department to be an organization that scientists want to work for, collaborate with, and reference in their work because what they did was done well and done honorably. Proceeding without meeting the courts mandates for science-backed decision-making should certainly call into question the Department's honor for all those that are paying attention.

PC408

Name: Erny, Michaels

Community of Residence: DR

Comment:

We need to preserve protected areas for bears. Let the people stay out and let them have some natural habitat. This is outrageous and we should not allow this to happen.

PC409

Name: Ershova, Masha

Community of Residence: 15500 middlebrook dr

Comment:

Stop killing bears

PC410

Name: Escamilla, Sofia

Community of Residence: Mexico

Comment:

Stop the killing of the bears

PC411

Name: Estabilio, Jalea

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

I oppose the killing of bears.

PC412

Name: Esteves, Meghan

Community of Residence: CT

Comment:

Please consider the lives and nature of these animals. What you are doing is heartless and inhumane

---

PC413

Name: Evans, Cassandra

Community of Residence: Calgary, Alberta

Comment:

This is honestly a despicable and vile act that fish and wildlife is hoping for especially when there is no scientific evidence that these brown bears are even affecting the herds of Caribou. Absolutely zero reason to gun down mothers and cubs or any bar for that matter, especially from helicopters when they don't even have a fighting chance. It's illegal It's disgusting and you should be ashamed that this is even in conversation - do not do this. The public out cry is already immense. This would be a horrendous thing for the government to do and support. You've already killed innocent wolves and now you want to kill innocent bears? Vile. SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS SAVE THE BEARS

PC414

Name: F., Jonah

Community of Residence: Portland, OR

Comment:

Please do not implement the new Mulchatna bear control program. This is a cruel, unnecessary and ineffective way to protect the Mulchatna Caribou. Predator control has been found to have no positive impact on the caribou population, and since predators prey on weaker animals, they even help stop the spread of brucellosis. When 250 wolves were killed to try and protect the caribou in 2017, the caribou still rapidly declined at the same time. Predator control is not an effective solution. Please don't implement this control program.

PC415

Name: Facin, Tom

Community of Residence: Deep River CT

Comment:

Leave nature alone all too many times humans try to control nature and create a disaster

---

PC416

Name: Fahey, Michael

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

It is unacceptable to me that we are attempting to control a population of wild bears by murdering them. There is no scientific research that deems this necessary or effective. This is murder.

PC417

Name: Fannin, Liz

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Humans are invasive, leave the damn bears alone

PC418

Name: Faria, Ayesha

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Killing innocent animals with or without scientific knowledge is unacceptable and absolutely inhumane. We have to protect our wildlife and not eliminate one to save another.

PC419

Name: Farley, Amber

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

Save the bears! They are innocent and not invasive. Humans are the invasive species. Killing for the sake of killing is sick and wrong! Please stop. Please save the bears for generations to come. They are magical.

PC420

Name: Farmer, Susan

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

I cannot support killing of bears if the evidence does not support that it truly affects another species. Inform the public about the dangers of getting too close to wild animals. Pet a stuffed animal, not a real one and give your phones a rest and watch with your eyes.

PC421

Name: Farrell, Nicolette

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

This is so cruel and unnecessary! How dare we humans think we are superior!! Absolutely heartbreaking. This planet is to be shared amongst humans and other species. Please do what is rights and allow the bears to live in peace. If it's not bears we trying to protect, it's sharks, lions or rhinos. Humans are selfish and I am embarrassed to be one!

PC422

Name: Farris, Annie

Community of Residence: texas

Comment:

I am writing today to express my deepest discontent with the unlawful and morally corrupt killings of bears in alaska. To protect our planet we must protect all of it, every tree, animal, mountain and lake! This will change the outcome of alaskan history forever. SAVE THE BEARS NOW!

PC423

Name: Fattorini , Joseph

Community of Residence: Long Branch, NJ

Comment:

I do not even understand why we are having such conversations on a regular basis. How is it that so many ideas get passed through without any consent of the people? Natural habitats are being invaded every moment of every day and almost nothing is ever done about it. I highly suggest some immediate intervention with all forms of law makers especially when it comes to the sacred wildlife of this planet. We have created enough extinction that our children will never know existed and it is time to reevaluate our relationship w nature

---

PC424

Name: Faucher, Sue

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

we need to reconsider the killing of wildlife because "mankind" "feels" we know how to run wildlife population, is it so wrong to let wildlife take care of itself. animals have been on earth long before all this technology, charts, graphs, etc. we really need to become more respectful of "all animals" and take a step down from practicing our 'know-it-all god-like knowledge.

PC425

Name: Faust, Nina

Community of Residence: Homer

Comment:

P.O. Box 2994

Homer AK 99603

July 3, 2025

RE: Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou

To: Board of Game Members

I followed the last episode of aerial bear killings in the Mulchatna area and found that project an unwarranted, unscientific, senseless slaughter of Alaska's bears. I am strongly opposed to a repeat of this senseless killing of bears. With our tight state budget, this is one program that can be cut completely.

ADF&G keeps trying to go around the public notification process for comment periods by declaring emergencies that do not exist. Now the proposal is to slaughter as many bears as they can, no limit declared, in an area of 40,000 square miles by opening this wolf control area to unlimited hunting of black

and brown bears. To compound this travesty, there are many important federally protected monuments, parks and refuges surrounding one of the areas, some only 30 miles away.

World renowned bear viewing occurs at Katmai National Park and at McNeil River, a state game refuge, and Brooks Falls, site for the famous fat bear competition. Killing bears in the more southerly, slaughter zone could eliminate some of these famous bears thereby affecting the world class wildlife viewing those two places are known for.

The Board of Game needs to stop this rushed aerial hunt that has no real scientific basis nor any proven effect on the caribou. Before any predator control program is implemented, there needs to be a scientific assessment of the consequences of the last round of bear killings. What effects has taking so many bears out of the population had on the overall health of the species. Bears are slow to reproduce. Did it really help the overall caribou population or are other factors causing the decline? And there needs to be a thorough vetting of this proposal by the public instead of being rushed through a special meeting.

It is not in the public's best interest to move forward on another hastily introduced aerial killing program. This is not such an emergency that ADF&G can't first do the science on the effects of the last aerial killing of so many bears. People care deeply about bears and aerial slaughters like this do not sit well with the public. Please do not let this regulation pass.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust

PC426

Name: Faye, Faye

Community of Residence: APT G

Comment:

Keep BEARS SAFE

PC427

Name: Fedak, Mary

Community of Residence: St. Louis

Comment:

Please reconsider this proposal. This is not the answer to bear management and would leave many cubs vulnerable without their mothers. It seems to be a very radical and cruel proposal so please do not not allow this to be approved. Thank you very much for your time and thoughtful consideration… Mary Fedak

Please reconsider the aerial assault on native bear and wolf populations. Both of these iconic species represent huge parts of Alaska's natural resources and attract tourism to the state. These majestic animals need and deserve to live as nature intended and not have their population decimated by man in such a brutal capacity. It would be inhumane treatment of one of nature's most valuable gifts to Alaska and also detrimental to the natural balance of the environment. This is NOT a solution. Please disallow this proposal. Thank you very much…Mary Fedak

PC428

Name: Feek, Adrian

Community of Residence: Gloucester

Comment:

I think it's not right to cull the bears they should be left alone

---

PC429

Name: Feijen, Stef

Community of Residence: Belgian

Comment:

I strongly oppose the aerial killing of bears in Alaska, especially when it is justified as a method to support caribou populations. In fact, studies show no consistent evidence that predator control of this kind leads to long-term recovery of prey species. This practice is not only ethically troubling, but also ecologically unacceptable and unsupported by robust data. Wildlife management must be based on science and not outdated assumptions or political convenience.

Finally, bears are worth far more alive. They are a major draw for wildlife tourism all around the world, which brings significant revenue to Alaska's local communities.

PC430

Name: Felix , Alexander

Community of Residence: Oklahoma

Comment:

As one of the leaders of the galactic federation I order you to stop the killing of innocent animals.

PC431

Name: Feminella, Amy

Community of Residence: Hamilton Sq, NJ

Comment:

I am opposed (and appalled) by this proposal. Please do what you can to preserve and protect Alaska's beautiful wildlife.

PC432

Name: Fennessy , Christine

Community of Residence: Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As I understand it, no credible scientific evidence supports the idea that bears can be culled sustainably.

There is, however, overwhelming evidence that predator control such as this will not re-establish populations of moose and caribou. As you know, the Mulchatna caribou are in decline because of disease and lack of food due to the effects of climate change.

Please don't misunderstand me – I want both caribou and moose populations to succeed. But this kind of unlawful bear control is not the way to restore stable numbers of these animals.

I believe that any such decisions made by the Board of Game should be rooted in credible science, and in what the people decide. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

PC433

Name: Fernandez, Erika

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I oppose the slaughter of brown and black bears. There is no science to prove that this will benefit the herd

---

PC434

Name: Ferrarese , Jennifer

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I am oppose the proposed regulation because bears should be left alone to live in peace, free from harm and danger. Moreover, the initiative would be a waste of taxpayer money.

PC435

Name: Ferraro, Erica

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please do not let humans go out and purposefully kill the bears, let nature take its course.

PC436

Name: Ferraro, Robert

Community of Residence: APT C B

Comment:

Stop the killing, unless it's proven that the elk or whatever is down because of bears !

PC437

Name: Fiege-Howard, Natascha

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I strongly oppose shooting bears from helicopters and hunting bears period! I made two recent trips to Alaska to view brown bears and black bears. On each trips we spent around $12,000. Most of that money was spent inside Alaska especially in the Katmai area. Protect the brown bears, don't kill them. Mother Nature does a great job keeping the population in check. First of all by delayed implantation. Secondly only 33% of brown bear cubs make it past the age of 2. Preserve and protect the brown bear and black bears population. They are immensely popular making international news every single year worldwide attracting lots of tourists. Imagine the bad publicity Alaska will get if bears are shot from helicopters…. Not a good look!

PC438

Name: Fields, Alicia

Community of Residence: Phoenix, AZ

Comment:

I am deeply opposed to culling the bear population. If you are trying to manage caribou population there are better ways to do so. There is no evidence killing the bears helps at all when trying to increase caribou. These animals have coevolved together and the natural balance should continue to be able to thrive. Humans are the demise of populations of animals, it's better to find solutions there with that than destroying Alaskas amazing biodiversity. Please stop the killing.

PC439

Name: Finch, Alora

Community of Residence: Kansas

Comment:

I oppose the hunting and shooting of the mulchatna bear.

PC440

Name: Fine , Emily

Community of Residence: Denver

Comment:

Let the bears in Alaska be wild and free. Just like the Buffalo used to be in America

---

PC441

Name: Fine, Brice

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Opposition, bears are a fundamental part of Alaskas ecosystem.

PC442

Name: Fintel, Brittany

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

There is no reason to kill off grizzly bears especially in areas that the bear population brings tourists & locals to see them. This would also hurt touring companies that promise these people to see bears.

PC443

Name: Firman, Madilyn

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed regulation changes that would allow the aerial gunning of bears in the Mulchatna region.

My relationship with the bears of Mulchatna is one rooted in years of observation, respect, and deep concern for the ecological integrity of the region. These animals are not just isolated figures on a population chart they are a vital part of the land's balance, and their presence represents the wildness and resilience that make Alaska unique.

I've spent countless hours watching bears swim through salmon streams with the grace but also power that only a wild creature possesses. What you propose risks not only their lives but the very spirit of this land.

Aerial gunning is not management it is eradication by convenience. This method is indiscriminate, inhumane, and violates the principle of fair chase that many Alaskans and outdoor enthusiasts deeply

value. It reduces the bears to targets, not sentient animals with an important role in their ecosystem. Studies have long shown that predator control efforts like these often fail to achieve their stated goals and can destabilize ecosystems in unintended and irreversible ways.

We should not sacrifice bears especially in such an aggressive and controversial manner because of assumptions about their impact on caribou populations. The Mulchatna caribou herd has declined due to a complex mix of factors, including habitat change and disease. Killing bears from helicopters won't solve this problem.

I urge the Board to reject this proposal and instead invest in ethical, transparent, and science-led approaches to wildlife management. The bears of Mulchatna deserve better. This is their home, we are simply visitors.

PC444

Name: Fisk, K

Community of Residence: Puyallup, WA

Comment:

Killing of bears with justified cause should be halted until scientific evidence would justify such actions

---

PC445

Name: Fitzpatrick, Angela

Community of Residence: Windsor Ontario

Comment:

I oppose the killing of the bears

PC446

Name: Fleck, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Aspen Woods - Ward 6

Comment:

Absolutely stop gunning down innocent bears, including the most innocent cubs. This is atrocious activity and is being spread widely how inhumane this is as well as unnecessary!!

PC447

Name: Fleck, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Aspen Woods - Ward 6

Comment:

Stop shooting Bears!! There is no need for this barbaric act.

PC448

Name: Fleming, Deena

Community of Residence: IL

Comment:

I am in opposition of killing the bears. Please save the bears in Alaska.

PC449

Name: Flores, Abigail

Community of Residence: Lakewood, California

Comment:

Stop the killing of bears. Bears are an integral part of our ecosystem. Killing the bears are cruel and disgusting. Leave nature to balance the system. Human intervention is unnecessary and pointless.

PC450

Name: Flores, Carolina

Community of Residence: Cataluña, spain

Comment:

These measures are not science supported, killing bears that cannot understand they have "tresspassed" is inhumane and poor and lazy policy. Do better

---

PC451

Name: Flores, D

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Save the bears, the wildlife! Eliminating bears will have consequences upsetting the balance in nature.

PC452

Name: Flores, Dante

Community of Residence: West New York

Comment:

I don't even live in the immediate vicinity or even close to it. But killing these bears from afar will definitely have a negative impact. There has to be a way to create more food or move some of them to a more sustainable environment.

PC453

Name: Flores, Deborah

Community of Residence: Colorado USU

Comment:

Unnecessary eradication of Bear is wrong.

PC454

Name: Flores, Nora

Community of Residence: Comunity of the people

Comment:

Please don't kill these innocent bears 🐻, It's called survival of the fittest, the Caribou will over populate and become sick and cause diseases. The bears can also be relocated and spayed and neuter. Please save the w

---

PC455

Name: Flynn, Maura

Community of Residence: Out of state

Comment:

I will cancel my families trip to Alaska and tell every single person I know to stop visiting as a tourist (I am a travel agent) until you start protecting wildlife including the bears!! We come to see the wildlife. The unjust and useless slaughter of these beautiful animals is insane! And no one is eating them, it's not like deer or duck.

PC456

Name: Flynn, Susan

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I don't want my tax dollars to be used towards killing bears, I love animals

---

PC457

Name: Fondran, Jade

Community of Residence: Euclid, Ohio

Comment:

I do not believe it is fair to commit these terrible acts. It has been proven to not be effective so why continue the suffering? The killing of these bears is sadistic and strange. Often many mother bears and cubs are endangered by these killings which will further cause disruption in this fragile ecosystem. If this program allows killing in these areas what's to stop if someone wants to expand the regions outward? People visit Alaska to see these animals free and alive. This is a main reason why so many come to your state to visit. Tourists fund the protection of these animals not their death. If this passes I will definitely not be traveling and supporting the region and will share with others not to as well. Please protect the bears.

PC458

Name: Fontaine, Mariel

Community of Residence: America

Comment:

As a bachelor of animal science and current veterinary student, the slaughter of apex predators without extremely strong, unbiased scientific evidence is both unethical and cruel. This is ridiculous and makes me embarrassed to be American watching my own government participate in such cruelty.

PC459

Name: Forbes, Tracey

Community of Residence: Alberta, Canada

Comment:

These beautiful animals have just as much of a right to walk this earth as we do. Please stop the slaughter.

PC460

Name: Foryan, Melissa

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

Hello. I am STRONGLY opposed to the horrible and useless killing of bears via helicopter/plane. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex

predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters, ignores scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power.

PC461

Name: Foss, Kelli

Community of Residence: Santa Cruz, CA

Comment:

Please stop indiscriminately killing bears. The bear population is part of a healthy ecosystem and they should be protected as such. Relocation of trouble bears is a better option as humans encroach on their environment.

PC462

Name: Foster, Maureen

Community of Residence: Church Street

Comment:

More animals they don't tell us what to do!! Just leading their own lives 😋 😋 😋

PC463

Name: Fowler, Leah

Community of Residence: Maryland

Comment:

Save the bears. This is wrong to use tax payer money to shoot bears from a helicopter.

PC464

Name: Fox, Deborah

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Save the Bears they are God's creatures on this earth and are a great part of our ecosystem. We weren't created to kill, we were created to love and protect life. Please put a stop to killing these beautiful creatures. Thank you 🙏 😇

PC465

Name: Fox, Lori

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bears. No more killing bears and wolves just because they exist.

PC466

Name: Franco Vera, Angelica

Community of Residence: Houston

Comment:

If we want humanity to be restored one must begin by respecting and valuing wildlife lives.

PC467

Name: Frank, Nina

Community of Residence: Munich

Comment:

Save the bears, stop the killing immediately!

PC468

Name: Frankini, Andrew

Community of Residence: New Jersey

Comment:

The world is changing and we must save the environment for future use

---

PC469

Name: Fraser, Jeanette

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

No to shooting and killing the wildlife/bears for population control or any reason. Quit messing with the ecosystem in Nature. We have learned this does not help anything.

PC470

Name: Frazier, David

Community of Residence: Marquette, MI.

Comment:

Stop killing the Bears. They have more than enough space to coexist-especially in Alaska-and shooting them from the sky is hardly an honorable means of hunting. Why are you hell bent on a creating a world where your grand kids dont have the option to see these beautiful and iconic animals? To build hotels and casinos?? Are you really folding on your wildlife to big business like that Alaska??? If its not that, then seriously why? We all thought you were better than that, and we all thought your state gov. cared about its native dwellers, but I guess even Mighty and Wild Alaska can be shaken by corporate greed. This is shameful.

PC471

Name: Fredericksen, Donovan

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

The state needs to open all areas of the mulchatna caribou heard to same day airborne hunting for black and brown bear hunts. The state uses tax payer money to send officials out to shoot them by helicopter, residents should be able to hunt same day airborne to helps save taxpayer money, and allow for more sporting opportunities.

PC472

Name: French , Linda **Affiliation**: deepcovens@gmail.com

Community of Residence: Nova Scotia

Comment:

Killing bears is disgusting when you kill from helicopter. No evidence that carribou are being killed by bears when more are killed by humans. You are breaking the laws. I supposeyou consider that normal.

PC473

Name: Friars, Maddie

Community of Residence: Stouffville

Comment:

It's unacceptable to kill these bears. Destroying the natural habitat and wildlife in Alaska and doing irreversible damage. I'm absolutely appalled by whoever thinks they have the right to kill our animals, and that's there home not ours. Our country deserves better people here to protect our wildlife and our beautiful and beloved home.

PC474

Name: Friese, Kimberly

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I oppose this regulation. The killing of bears and other predators is not scientifically proven to help increase caribou/other animal populations. In the government's own research, it states declining populations are due to lack of food because of climate change. Please stop the unnecessary killing.

PC475

Name: Frith, Michele

Community of Residence: 28 North Shore Road

Comment:

Please do not kill our natural environment! DO NOT kill these bears! We are sabotaging our planet and have already destroyed so much of it!! There is a natural process going on and leave it that way!

PC476

Name: Frldman, Melodye

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

It is the epitome of cruelty to kill these bears in the wild minding their own god damn business. Hunting them from the air is not hunting, it is called brutality and involves no skills. Shame on you disgusting people!

PC477

Name: Frost, Madilyn

Community of Residence: Delaware, Ohio

Comment:

As a United States citizen it terrifies me to see this beautiful country be torn apart and destroyed due to human ignorance. I'm begging you to take a chance and see what benefit this is giving you by hunting a species that has been on this land longer than our country has existed. If this hunting is for no apparent reason then I do not see why it would be opposed to cease fire. If there is a reason, I demand an explanation.

PC478

Name: Fuller, Rosemary

Community of Residence: Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Comment:

YOU CANNOT AND MUST NOT kill the Brooks Falls grizzly bears, or any other bears in Alaska or elsewhere. They are an endangered species, much beloved and treasured by people around the world . Bears bring in much valuable tourism income for your state, apart from their God-given right to exist on this planet.

Thousands of fans around the world watch the Fat Bear contest each year, organized by your excellent Park Rangers.

These bears have done nothing wrong. Think of the damage you would do to the already terrible reputation around the world as a nation that elected Trump AGAIN by slaughtering innocent bear victims. THINK ABOUT IT AND THINK AGAIN!!!!

SAVE THE BEARS NOW!!!!

PC479

Name: Funk, Candace

Community of Residence: Idaho USA

Comment:

Slaughtering essential wildlife in their home is equivalent to me moving into a strangers home and killing all the occupants. Nature manages wildlife! Human "management" stems from greed. Stop the human assault on nature and her wildlife!

PC480

Name: Fuoco, Jamie-Lee

Community of Residence: Vancouver

Comment:

There has to be a better way to manage our forests. Apex predators keep everything in balance and are essential to the environment

---

PC481

Name: Fuss, Brandi

Community of Residence: # 178

Comment:

Someone needs to stand up for wildlife we cannot keep allowing this it needs to stop

---

PC482

Name: Fyle, Nadia

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!!!!

PC483

Name: Gadoya, Lasya

Community of Residence: Mumbai

Comment:

I stand for and speak for every positive point made to save the bears. Every life matters. There needs to be a balance in ecosystem for future generations to survive

---

PC484

Name: Galvez, Jesse

Community of Residence: Las Vegas Nevada

Comment:

AGAINST meddling with the bear population. We need our apex predators population healthy. Do not use my tax dollars to kill one of my favorite animals. They need protection not destruction.

A million times NO!! DO NOT KILL HEALTHY BEARS!!

PC485

Name: Garcia, Adrianna

Community of Residence: Orange County

Comment:

Animals were here before us and should still be here after us. Leave them alone and let nature be !

PC486

Name: Garcia, Andrea

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bear and save all animals.

PC487

Name: Garrett , Jeff

Community of Residence: Beavercreek Ohio

Comment:

Killing these beautiful animals to protect the caribou is absurd. If the bears are not there the caribou will overpopulated and more will die from overpopulation and starvation!

PC488

Name: Gartner, Sonja

Community of Residence: Kootenay boundary

Comment:

Stop slaughtering innocent creatures that have done nothing to deserve this, in the guise of 'control'…. The best thing humans can do is stay out of it!!!! Who says that caribou have more right to live than the bears…. Why are you constantly trying to play god?!

PC489

Name: Garza, Shadicy

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Please STOP the madness with bears. They are sentient beings who love their cubs and feel emotions and pain! Please let them live comfortably where God designed them to live. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE have a heart. What Would Jesus Do?

PC490

Name: Gates, Randy

Community of Residence: Az

Comment:

Please don't kill Bears with helicopters or any other means

PC491

Name: Gatica, Jodi

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the board and games proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

The ruthless slaughtering of brown and black bears is disgraceful. No scientific rationale is present to support a belief that killing young and adult bears is helping caribou. Stop pulling the trigger!

PC492

Name: Gatti , Maria

Community of Residence: Toronto

Comment:

This is animal cruelty and needs to stop.

PC493

Name: Gayle, Maddie

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

It is very unfortunate that this is the proposed solution for protecting the caribou of this region, please do not reinstate any legislation that would legally allow the killing or "population control" or bears or any predictor from a helicopter. Please reconsider another form of caribou protection instead of this. I'm not an expert in this field by any means, but please listen to those who are who have more experience in this field. Please keep Alaska's animals protected while there are still here.

PC494

Name: George, Roberta Ann

Community of Residence: # 502

Comment:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters, ignores

scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power.

Bobbie george

As a supporter of brooks fall bears this is devastating news so I am writing to stop the senseless killing.

PC495

Name: Georges , Ericka

Community of Residence: Miami,Fl

Comment:

Stop the ruthless killing if animals that were here before us. Learn to coexist like they have to with us. Or have a fair fight, no weapons just yoi and them a holes!

PC496

Name: Gerber, Jasmine

Community of Residence: Riverside, CA

Comment:

This is wrong!

PC497

Name: Germain, Jillian

Community of Residence: Mechanicville

Comment:

I think it is honestly disgusting how people want to use taxpayer money to murder these beautiful creatures who are innocent. I'm ashamed that humans are taking out everything beautiful in this world. They can't protect or speak for themselves while your shooting them dead from a [redacted] helicopter, i'm truly disgusted. We must protect not only the bears, but every wildlife because they deserve to be free and safe, just like us. And for TWO YEARS ?! THESE PEOPLE ARE HEARTLESS AND EVIL

PC498

Name: Geurts, Madison

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I am opposed to this. Bear should not be gone down via a helicopter that is cruel inhumane and not wildlife management.

PC499

Name: Gibson, Michele

Community of Residence: Northern hemisphere

Comment:

I am against the shooting of bears in Alaska. As an educator, we should embrace our natural world and protect wild animals for ourselves and future generations. I camp in remote area, and I am knowledgeable about protecting myself. Education is key. Take a page from our native Indians, and embrace our natural world and it's inhabitants, not destroy.

PC500

Name: Gibson, Trina

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please stop bear hunts. Learn to co-exist with these amazing animals. Take lessons from Churchill, Manitoba

---

PC501

Name: Gilbert, Susan

Community of Residence: Kasilof, AK

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the Mulchatna Bear Control proposal. Aerial shooting of bears without a clear understanding of the number of bears in the area, including transient bears, reflects poor scientific and research work which is essential in formulating any type of animal control program. Additionally, non-discriminatory gunning is likely to kill the wrong types of bears and is very likely to produce negative outcomes, potentially leading to the near extinction of bears in this area. Historically, the environment tends to regulate itself so that there is not an overpopulation of any species for any appreciable amount of time. I do not think the DFG has done their due diligence on this issue, and allowing an unlimited number of bears to be gunned down from the air is patently wrong. Sow bears could be gunned down, allowing her cubs to die slow deaths. Given the slow maturity rate of bears and low reproduction numbers, this could be an ecological disaster. Bears are a vital part of Alaska and important to its citizens, of which I am one. I ask that the Board consider the voices of Alaskans and refuse to approve this proposal. Thank you.

PC502

Name: Gingras, Celine

Community of Residence: Canada alberta

Comment:

This is not necessary. Bears were there before us. Let them live!

PC503

Name: Giroux Chaves, Samantha

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Please don't hurt the bears or animals. It's very unnecessary. Always the animals get killed. Leave nature alone.

PC504

Name: Glaubitz, Susan

Community of Residence: Castricum

Comment:

Unbelievable that you are trying to change The law so these bears can be killed. There is no scientific evidence That this Will help The herds. More likely is will ruin The eco system

---

PC505

Name: Gliemann , Hannah

Community of Residence: [redacted] Fayetteville AR 72703

Comment:

My name is Hannah Gliemann. I am a mental health professional from Arkansas, a nature lover, an advocate for the voiceless.

It has been brought to my attention that the ADFG is proposing to reinstate a taxpayer funded aerial gunning program targeting bears - including cubs. There is no scientific evidence that culling the bear population will help caribou populations recover. Almost 200 bears about been killed by air in 2023 &2024.

It is time for humans to respect nature and coexist peacefully with bears.

I absolutely love this country, and I love to explore every acre of it. Will I put Alaska on my travel list when there's no bears, no moose, no pristine land?

Please do not use taxpayer money to slaughter bears. We are all nature. We are all One.

In Love,

Hannah Gliemann

PC506

Name: Goggins, Morrah

Community of Residence: UNIT 1227

Comment:

I ask that the Alaska Board of Game does NOT adopt regulation changes in title 5 of the AAC. There is absolutely no evidence that The slaughter of bears and wolves will help the Caribou population in this area. I ask that our taxpayer dollars not be used to senselessly kill these animals, who just like the Caribou, are vital to the native ecosystem of Alaska. Please consider collecting at minimum another's year's worth of data on these Caribou populations and the impact specifically of bears and wolves on them in comparison to other threats. If the data concludes that this regulation is necessary, we as taxpayers will understand that you will have to reconsider. However, at this time, the data does not show that this measure will help. Please consider alternative measures to aid in the survival of the Caribou population of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. Thank you.

PC507

Name: Goh, Gracia

Community of Residence: Singapore

Comment:

There are many tourists that go to see the bears which provides economic benefit to the community.

Also, for ecological purposes, the intrinsic value of the bears' lives, and ethical concerns, it would be good not to kill them.

PC508

Name: Göksel, Gülsen

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

One day the human being will feel alone on the earth if they continue to seduce themselves into killing animals according to the compromised sport the name hunting! One day, our children will not find a drop of water, a leaf to get cool under its shade, or an animal to let the balance survive nature and humans.

You're not right to kill them without asking for my consent. I'm a part of life and your activity hurt me.

PC509

Name: Goldhaber, Gordon

Community of Residence: Minocqua, WI

Comment:

There is absolutely no evidence that killing brown bears helps caribou populations recover. If anything this program is nothing more than an endeavor driven by greed, bad science, and trophy hunting interests. It's time this madness stopped.

PC510

Name: Goldsboro, Karli

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

I oppose this "bear management" regulation. Let nature be and stop interfering with natural habitats and ecosystems for the sake of trophy hunting and an ego boost.

PC511

Name: Gonzales, Valerie

Community of Residence: Citizen

Comment:

Bears are important and do not deserve to die. They are part of an ecosystem system that needs to stay intact. When bears are killed a kink is put into the ecosystem. Please do not kill them!

PC512

Name: Gonzalez, Alayna

Community of Residence: Lawrence, Ks

Comment:

I'm sick just imagining all of the wildlife that is being harmed in our nation. No one has more of a right to our land than the animals themselves that have been here for years and help our ecosystem.

PC513

Name: Gonzalez, Gaby

Community of Residence: Simi valley

Comment:

Animal control has been ineffective therefore it will only put wildlife at more risk and damage it.

PC514

Name: Goodman, Siobhan

Community of Residence: San Antonio

Comment:

I oppose this cruel and unethical practice. We are on the brink of extinction crisis for many species and practices like this contribute to that crisis. Allow these species to roam THEIR home in peace. Leave the wildlife untouched.

PC515

Name: Gordon, Aylla

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

These bears are apart of our ecosystem. They are living creatures with souls not your target.

PC516

Name: Gorman , Julie

Community of Residence: United kingdom

Comment:

Comment Opposing 5 AAC 92.111 - Intensive Management Plans I

To Whom I May Concern:

I am writing to most strongly oppose the proposed changes to 5 AAC 92.111. I oppose these changes on the following grounds:

This has already been declared illegal by the courts, two times. Only recently a judge ruled that the killing of bears in this way is not allowed.

Yet despite the court's ruling, bears were still killed.

The courts have already said that it is wrong to make such changes without letting the public have input. And yet, as previously, the public are not being allowed reasonable time for this before the court hearing.

It seems that there has been a blatant disregard of the law.

There has been no change to the facts that support the original ruling against this slaughter of bears. As such, it makes no sense to try again, to push for this.

Caribou numbers are in trouble primarily because of loss of food and habitat, partly due to climate change. When nature and an ecosystem are in balance, then animal numbers naturally find their correct levels as to what the land can support.

While bears may take a few calves, as is part of nature, they don't hunt grown caribou. However, caribou can produce young every year, and so have the potential to restore their population, whereas bears only have cubs every four to six years, and most of those do not survive. These figures just do not support blaming bears for decreasing caribou numbers.

If caribou numbers are in such decline, then surely it makes more logical sense to stop all unnecessary hunting. Obviously Native communities hunt them and should be allowed to continue to do so, as they rely on them for food. Trophy hunting, however, is not necessary.

The way these bears have been killed, by being shot from planes, is just pure slaughter. Even females with cubs. This combined with the continued trophy hunting of caribou, when their numbers are already decreasing, does not seem like wildlife management, but more like there's a hidden agenda for the land.

These natural areas already generate a large income from tourists from all around the world. In fact Katmai National Park has many people who return multiple years specifically to view the bears. The bears of Katmai are also watched remotely, and have a huge worldwide following. They are very important to me personally, and I hope to get to see them one day. It's a huge worry that these bears, that so many have come to know and love, could be lost to this proposed kulling. Bears are known to have home ranges of up to 195 square miles, which could certainly see them leaving the protection of the Parks and Preserves and entering the kill zones.

So much of the world's nature and natural places have been destroyed, gone for good. What's left should be treasured for what it is, and protected at all costs, otherwise we will not have a habitable planet.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

Julie Gorman

PC517

Name: Govea , Yvonne

Community of Residence: No

Comment:

No animal should be slaughtered from a helicopter to protect another animal. How about we put into law some humane laws to protect both animals.

PC518

Name: Grace, Keli

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

rs, and black bears across a 40,000 square mile area!! This area is bordered by the purposeful YUKON DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TOGIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PRESERVE!!

This operation is inhumane and unethical, causing unnecessary suffering to the bears... AND represents a troubling approach to wildlife management. In addition, AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, it lacks a scientific foundation as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor determining the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. ADFG is sidestepping the fact that such action will disrupt ecosystems for the obvious purpose of sport killing vs scientific foundations.

The practice is not only seen as unethical and inhumane but seen as damaging Alaska's reputation as a responsible steward of its natural resources and will most certainly if enacted, filter down to boycotting Alaska's economy because of this obvious uneducated attack on apex predators.

In addition, you would also know in your position, that the killing of older, experienced bears can lead to the loss of vital survival knowledge for younger bears. If you proceed with this egregious act, it is a stamp of approval that your commission does not care about the viability of the targeted species.

A similar Alaskan predator control operation in 2023 killed approximately 100 brown bears (including cubs) and black bears, far more than the original planners estimated. This suggests that the Department cannot control the true mortality levels during these exercises.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management which we the people expect of those placed in vital positions such as yours. I may not live in Alaska, but all wildlife is a concern or should be to all of us. There is no need to keep killing. With regards, ,Keli Grace

---

PC519

Name: Grace, Patrick

Community of Residence: Victor, ID 83455

Comment:

Dear Alaska Game and Fish Board,

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the culling of resident bears in the Mulchatna Management Area. It is striking clear that scientific research has concluded that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been in decline for a number of reasons that hugely overshadow the depredation experienced by the local bears and wolves. Overpopulation of the herd during the mid 1990's causing lasting damage to sustainable forage, coupled with the presence of Brucellosis have had a devastating effect on population numbers. Those factors combined with the warmer seasons we have been seeing have shifted the landscape biotically making it alot harder for the caribou to recover to healthy numbers.

Predators are the knife that cuts the disease from the herd, making the herd stronger in the long run. It has been shown time and time again that predator numbers self regulate with the rise and fall of available prey. Please consider your decisions based on sound data and science, the future of our most valuable national treasures are shouldered on the choices we make today.

Respectfully Yours,

Patrick Grace

PC520

Name: Gragert, Cynde

Community of Residence: Ashland oregon

Comment:

I do Not support the slaughter of bears including mothers and their cubs. This is despicable "management." There is no proof that killing hundreds of bears will improve caribou herds. And who is this for? Trophy hunters?

PC521

Name: Graham, Madison Graham

Community of Residence: Lake County

Comment:

Bears play a vital role in our ecosystems, from seed dispersal to balancing populations. But their habitats are shrinking, their food sources are threatened, and too many fall victim to poaching and unnecessary hunting. These intelligent, powerful creatures deserve better.

We can’t undo the damage already done, but we can stand up now—to protect their homes, regulate harmful practices, and ensure future generations get to see bears in the wild, not just in storybooks.

Let’s raise our voices for the voiceless. Save the bears. 🐾 🌲

PC522

Name: Granfield, Pat

Community of Residence: East Hampton

Comment:

Government officials 👿 no respect for nature

Guns are toys for men 👿

PC523

Name: Grant, Isabel

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Greetings Board of Game,

I have followed this issue closely since the predator control of wolves and bears was first approved by this committee. I am deeply disturbed by the lack of critical thinking and involvement of science in the management decisions regarding the Mulchatna caribou herd. Statements made by this board suggest that while you may acknowledge that the primary cause of the population decline is related to disease and climate change, you feel that the only thing you can do is remove predators.

However, research presented to you by ADFG's own scientists strongly suggests that because wolves and bears are not the primary causes of herd decline, removing them will not raise the population. You could remove every singe bear from that area and still see the population continue to decline because killing bears will not cure the caribou of brucellosis. It will not prevent the caribou from starving through a hard winter. It will not magically allow a sick and weak female caribou to successfully reproduce. These issues cannot be solved with predator control.

Furthermore, you are killing wildlife that actually plays a role in preventing the spread of disease in their prey populations. Bears are not extractive entities that sit on top of an ecosystem and simply take from it. Bears are an integral part of the very environment that supports the existence of a caribou herd. If you remove them entirely or remove too many, you will ultimately cause more harm to the caribou in the long-run.

Perhaps what I find most concerning about this decision is that the state does not know how many bears exist in Unit17D. "People see bears in this area" is not an acceptable metric to evaluate population size and stability. Bears are also a population that reproduces slowly. Females take years to become sexually active and will only successfully reproduce if their body mass meets a certain threshold. If they suffer a particularly lean summer, they will not reproduce and will struggle to survive the winter. Combine the loss of the females from environmental factors with predator control (that targets both females and males) and you risk bringing the bear population to a level they cannot recover from without intensive management.

Because we don't know how many are in this area, or even have a good estimate, you have no idea how many bears can be removed from this area without threatening the stability and persistence of the bear population there.

I will also point out that the state has made no effort to learn anything from the predator control you have already done. Is anyone tracking to caribou to see if the first round of predator control worked? Has anyone used the bear carcasses to estimate female-male ratios and even a population estimate? If so, why has this information not been presented to the public? And if none of these things have been done, then it shows yet another level of irresponsible management.

As an Alaskan, I want there to be caribou and bears in Unit 17d. If the Board of Game continues to make decisions that have no scientific backing, I don't expect future generations will have either species. I am urging this committee to think about the long term impacts of these decisions on ecosystem health and reject this proposal. Reject it because we have yet to see evidence that it works, reject it because there are

alternative options that have not been explored, reject it because you have not released sufficient information to the public to allow for legitimate public discourse.

This proposal is inappropriate and irresponsible management of wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my opinions,

Isabel

PC524

Name: Grant, John

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

I am commenting because I am deeply concerned about the unscientific and unethical shooting of brown and black bears to "save" the Mulchatna caribou herd. Science has shown over and over again that killing apex predators does NOT save wild ungulates. Whether it's brown bears, wolves, or cougars, killing these iconic predators causes more harm than good when trying to save caribou. Bears are omnivores having a diet mostly containing of vegetation rather than meat. Brown bears rather feed off a caribou carcass than out in the effort to take down a caribou itself. Also the decline in this herd of caribou has nothing to do with native predators, climate change is the culprit making it harder for caribou to adapt to a changing world. Climate change has altered the distribution of habitat and food for caribou causing a major decline overall. We should be investing ways to mitigate the problems of climate change to tackle this issue. Gunning down bears is not and was never the solution to this problem. Also I just find this incredibly cruel and unethical that people are shooting these incredible animals from a helicopter. Bears, wolves, and cougars bring immense economic value through ecotourism having thousands upon thousands of people every year wanting to see these animals across Alaska. Also these animals HAVE the intrinsic right to live on this planet. Not to be gunned down for the purpose of "management". Please do the right thing and end this cruelty. No bear deserves to be shot from the air because we as a species fail to take action on the climate crisis putting the caribou in peril.

PC525

Name: Grant, Robin

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Please stop this morally indefensible act that is not based on science. There is no scientific proof that killing all these bears will help protect caribou. Please only base policy on science

---

PC526

Name: Gray, Amy

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

Please do not kill the Katmai brown bears or black bears!

PC527

Name: Gray, Kimberley

Community of Residence: Calgary

Comment:

There's enough evidence from biologists and conservationists to justify halting this action.

PC528

Name: Gray, Robert

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Shooting bear from helicopter is a cowardly thing to do, if you absolutely have to kill bears, you need to kill male adult bears. you need to do it like a Man. This is the most cowardly thing I've seen I live in Florida. We have approximately 4000 bears 25 million people and they won't to start killing our Bears. I'm 60 years old lived here 2/3 of my life and I've never seen a bear in the state of Florida. I don't think we have a bear problem. We have a damn people problem just like you people in Alaska do!

PC529

Name: Graziani , Brigitte

Community of Residence: Monterey, CA

Comment:

Aerial shooting of wildlife is a barbaric way to control the bears numbers. Why not institute a sterilization program rather than shooting them with no idea if they have babies awaiting feeding back in a den? It just seems like we can do better.

PC530

Name: Greaud, Stacey

Community of Residence: Baton Rouge

Comment:

I oppose this barbaric non-scientific proposed wildlife management practice for the following reasons:

In

2020, a group of State biologists were tasked with studying the vanishing herd. They found that the main reasons for the decline were disease and a lack of food. Brucellosis, a relative of mad cow disease, has decimated the herd, causing lameness, infertility, and lower birth rates. Over a third of the caribou tested at the time were infected. Likewise, climate change has slowly shifted the Mulchatna herd's habitat. The lichen that caribou depend upon is disappearing, and the landscape is becoming more and more shrubby; prime moose habitat, but poor caribou habitat. Overpopulation and habitat damage when the herd numbered 200,000 may have also contributed to the sharp decline.

To try and save the Mulchatna herd, the State enacted a predator control program, operating under an Intensive Management law passed in 1994 that allows ADF&G to take action to manage struggling populations. One of the tools under Intensive Management is predator control, which allows the increased killing of large carnivores like wolves and bears to increase ungulate populations for hunter harvests. Despite AWA's persistence and the overwhelming evidence that these predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations, the State Board of Game continuously approves these programs. To read AWA's full position on Intensive Management and predator control, please read our position paper.

In areas known as Predator Control Areas, ADFG is authorized to shoot bears and wolves from helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, as well as kill predators of any sex and age. While a wolf control program has existed in the Wood-Tikchik area for years, it wasn't until 2023 that the State adopted a bear control program as well. In the last two years, the bear control program has resulted in the killing of 175 brown bears.

However, bear predation isn't even in the top three identified causes of mortality among the Mulchatna herd (and golden eagles have carried off more caribou calves than bears and wolves in some study years). There is no data to support that predator control programs, and the mass killings of wolves and bears, will recover the Mulchatna herd.

Instead, studies, including one on moose harvests in GMU 13 and another on wolf predation on the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, have shown that reducing predators doesn't lead to an increase in ungulates. Further, wolves and bears are known to prey on weaker animals, which may have helped keep brucellosis levels down in the Mulchatna herd. By 2017, 250 wolves had been killed in the original Mulchatna Predator Control program; the caribou herd declined rapidly at nearly the same time.

PC531

Name: Greenholz, Doug

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

Board of Game - I am fortunate to have been able to visit Katmai a few years ago, while on a fishing trip. We took one day off fishing to visit Katmai and Brooks Falls. Even seeing a small sampling of the beautiful wildlife and extensive (mostly) undisturbed nature, I cannot how deeply the experience moved me. Alaska, and specifically Katmai, struck me as the last frontier, yet is accessible. It is CRITICAL that the environment and it's natural inhabitants be left unharmed and undisturbed. I was sick to my stomach to learn that anyone would consider killing bears in their natural habitat, and to do from a helicopter is a very sick idea. I urge you to NOT allow any such activity. The habitat is a true treasure. Please leave it for others to observe, learn from, appreciate and be inspired for generations to come. PLEASE!

Sincerely,

Doug Greenholz

Taxpayer

Alaska Visitor

PC532

Name: Greenholz, Sarah

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I oppose this proposed regulation to hunt bears. This is a terrible idea. Nature will take care of itself. By hunting bears, you will affect the natural environment and also the economy. Many people come to visit AK each year to view bears. You will be taking jobs from people who do bear photography tours. It will affect the amount of bears people see at Brooks Falls, Lake Clark, and Tongass, to name a few. People who come to fish also enjoy viewing bears By shooting from the air, you may kill mother bears and leave babies to die a horrible death. This is an awful idea and I vehemently oppose it.

Thank you.

Name: Gregory, Laura
Community of Residence: Fairbanks, Alaska

Comment Regarding Board of Game's Special Meeting Regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou Herd

I strongly oppose the state's proposal. This program and situation has been back and forth for months now. Most importantly, the state did NOT assess how the program would impact bears. Between when it reversed and now, there has been NO new information or data to support this proposal. There is NO information from the state on the bear population and the impact this program can have on the bear population in the area. There is no data to support the slaughter of bears positively impacting a caribou herd.

This aerial slaughter of the Mulchatna bears and wolves is NOT supported by independent, peer-reviewed science. Predator control programs like this have been repeatedly debunked as ineffective in increasing ungulate populations. Killing these animals with NO valid research or knowledge of the population is extremely reckless, immoral, and unethical. As an Alaska resident, I would greatly prefer my tax dollars to be allocated to learning more about these animals versus murdering them due to inaccurate information and a lack of data.

I travel every summer to see bears. These animals bring substantial financial resources through tourism. This area is only 100 miles from Katmai's Brooks Falls. Nature finds a way. With the cyclical nature and population of many animals, we should be educating ourselves on these populations and the health of the animals versus blindly killing them based on a false old mentality.

I very strongly urge to put this entire management plan to rest for good. This proposal was just rejected on March 14th saying it was "unlawfully adopted." This initial program estimated 15-25 brown bears be killed and over 200 have been killed in the last two years. The resources of this program should be utilized to collect research, not shooting bears and wolves, including cubs and pups, with no statistical backing. Bears have a very low mortality rate.

End this unjustified slaughter. Collect the research.

Laura Lyn Gregory

PC534

Name: Gregory, Tamra

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please stop the unnecessary slaughter of these magnificent animals. Nature will take care of itself, it does not need man playing God. This is a disgusting display of power and control.

PC535

Name: Gregson, Heather

Community of Residence: Malden Massachusetts

Comment:

Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area

I am opposed to allowing Black and Brown Bear Elimination

There is no reason to kill natural predators when humans are having the largest negative impact on caribou herds and their environment. Apex predators such as bears and wolves are easy scapegoats for people to blame rather than looking at ourselves, our actions and the negative repercussions we cause.

Bears and wolves select the sickest, weakest of the herd for food only. Humans take the largest and strongest for arrogance, ego and bragging.

Decades ago, it was decided to end the Pollock Fishery to protect the Herring and Stellar sea lions. The closing of the fishery had catastrophic results, with a sharp decline in herring stock and Steller sea lions starving to death.

If you want to protect the Mulchatna Caribou, protect them from humans, trophy hunting, and habitat loss from human-caused degradation.

Let the bears live.

PC536

Name: Griffin, Traci

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

Let nature take its course. It's done fine for thousands of years.

PC537

Name: Griffith , Nancy

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

STOP the bear killings. There's no ecological or animal reason for these killings.

PC538

Name: Grote , Chelsea

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Hello! Please spare these amazing bears. They are doing what nature intended and do not deserve to be destroyed.

PC539

Name: Groves, Jaye

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

These bears are a keystone species to their environment. They take many years to mature and reproduce, in addition to having few offspring that take years to raise before they can reproduce again. Programs such as the one proposed will have a drastic negative impact on the species and the surrounding ecosystems.

Grizzlies exist in a fraction of their original environments, leaving only a few safe spaces left for them to thrive. Why make the mistake of destroying a species as the lower states have made. Alaska is and can continue to be an example of how to manage land and wildlife properly, a state all other states can look up to. But only propositions such as these are not passed.

PC540

Name: Guadagno, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please stop killing our bears. I was just made aware of this appalling situation. I was just in Alaska on a cruise last week and I only saw 1 bear but it made my heart melt . You should never put an animal down.

Thank you for listening,

Jennifer Guadagno

PC541

Name: Gualtieri, Lauren

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

Bears don't know when they have crossed into a kill zone. They just roam naturally. There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover. This is ethically indefensible and a waste of taxpayer money.

PC542

Name: Guerrero, Jeanette

Community of Residence: Los Angeles CA

Comment:

The bears aren't going anyone or any other animals harm! Stop killing those poor creatures. Killing the mothers along with their cubs is evil!!

PC543

Name: Gumuryan, Ani

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I am writing as a deeply concerned citizen regarding the recent aerial killings of over 200 bears—many of them mothers and cubs—reportedly carried out by the State of Alaska under the justification of wildlife "management" and "preservation."

This practice is not only inhumane but ecologically misguided and morally unacceptable. Shooting animals from helicopters is a brutal act that causes fear, suffering, and destabilizes the very balance of the ecosystems Alaska is claiming to protect.

Bears are not a threat to the ecosystem—they are a vital part of it. As apex predators and scavengers, they play a crucial role in seed dispersal, nutrient cycling, and population control of other species. Removing them disrupts the natural balance and sends shockwaves through entire ecosystems, harming far more than the species being targeted.

Killing bears under the guise of protecting caribou or moose herds is an outdated and flawed management tactic. True conservation is not about manipulating populations for human hunting quotas—it's about coexisting with the natural world, allowing wildlife to function as it has for millennia without human interference.

What message are we sending to future generations when we sanction the slaughter of iconic wildlife from the sky? That convenience and control matter more than compassion, science, and the sanctity of wild lives?

I urge the state of Alaska to immediately halt these aerial killings and invest in ethical, science-based wildlife management strategies that respect the interconnectedness of all life.

Let bears be bears. Let nature be wild. Humanity's role is not to dominate, but to protect what remains.

PC544

Name: Gunnlaugsson, Ingrid

Community of Residence: Pompano beach, florida

Comment:

Please stop killing those beautiful bears!!

PC545

Name: Gupta, Anubhav

Community of Residence: Delhi India

Comment:

Please can you stop this mindless cull. Please have some sanity.

PC546

Name: Guthrie , Annie

Community of Residence: Port Townsend Washington

Comment:

I am begging you, please don't do this. These beautiful, magnificent creatures deserve our love, respect, and protection. They are vital and worthy, they do not deserve to be slaughtered. Please let them live safely and freely, without fear or threat. Please, don't do this.

PC547

Name: Gutierrez, Reyna

Community of Residence: My home

Comment:

I do not want these bears to be eliminated anymore, they are being wiped out for what? Even if their was a benefit from this how could it be right? It's not so it needs to stop. These lands need to be protected and ALASKA needs to stop.

PC548

Name: Guyon, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

You have no right to murder these in convent bears. Shame on you and all of Alaska. I'm so disgusted and saddened by this heartless senseless act. Please end this now.

PC549

Name: Guzman , Gregory

Community of Residence: Leave them alone its their habitat.

Comment:

Leave the animals alone they aren't bothering anyone and plus theyre invading their space.

PC550

Name: Hall, Amy

Community of Residence: #108

Comment:

Please no more killing of bears at Katmai Natl Park, the humans are the real issue and I beg of you to preserve the bear's natural habitat, even if it means removing the humans visiting!

PC551

Name: Hall, Amy

Community of Residence: Round Hill

Comment:

Stop slaughtering bears. This is atrocious.

PC552

Name: Hall, Debbie

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of these bears!

I do not believe this will help benefit the caribou herd.

This is a terrible management"plan" there's no scientific proof, no tracking, etc.

PC553

Name: Hall, Gina

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

Wildlife is becoming less and less in our lifetime, without the all wildlife to manage their part of the ecosystem there will be an overgrowth of vegetation, fish life among other Wild growing area. Each animal put on this earth plays a role in the development and thriving of this earth

---

PC554

Name: Hall, Wayne

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

There is really not much more to be said about the ADFG/BOG scientific ignorance and bureaucratic arrogance of the Mulchatna bear and wolf killing program that was not already said by many when the "emergency petition" was submitted and, according to court decisions, illegally approved by the BOG in March of this year. Just as there is not much point in saying it as, just like in the past, there is no doubt at all, zero doubt, that it will be approved unanimously by the BOG anyway. As usual, the BOG will act subserviently to the will of ADFG. Furthermore, there is little doubt this will even be read by the Board.

There are, however, a few issues to question.

First, the cost of these programs as claimed by ADFG never includes the "Personal Services" costs (Salaries and Benefits) of the many state employees, from biologists to the Director and Commissioner, involved in the administration and implementation of the program. This would suggest either state employees are not involved at any level in any way in the program, or, they would otherwise just be sitting around with nothing else meaningful to do. Either of which speaks poorly of all ADFG employees and administrative staff involved in the program. But, especially given the various Alaska Superior Court decisions regarding "bad faith" and "not credible" ADFG staff activities, should that be a surprise? Of course it is not. But what are the ADFG Personal Service costs and why are they not included? And what about the substantial legal costs associated with legal proceedings including legal fees awarded to the plaintiffs? The public should know the true costs of the program regardless of the source of funding.

Second, the "March 2025 Mulchatna Caribou IM Status & Information" published by ADFG confidently states "Most of the affected bear population is conserved within the much larger refugia that is the nontreatment area where removals do not occur". Where, ADFG/BOG, is that data? But, in effect, ADFG and their obedient BOG are saying bears killed in the Mulchatna program will be replaced (and later killed in authorized subsequent years of this predator control program) by bears in the surrounding protected areas of the Togiak NWR, Lake Clark NP, McNeil Sanctuary and Refuge, and Katmai NP and Preserve. ADFG is absolutely petrified to allow any evidence that those formerly "protected" bears from Togiak, Lake Clark, McNeil or Katmai are being killed from helicopters in the Mulchatna aerial predator killing program, though they certainly are. Should we wonder why? And, ADFG continues, "Based on the indicators of the affected bear population being robust and the removals only affecting a small proportion of the affected bear population, the department has determined that removing all bears from

the WMCH calving grounds has been and will continue to be sustainable". What "indicators"? Anecdotal comments? Where is there any ADFG data to support that? Just because they say so?

But, because there will never be any answer to these questions and recognizing that commenting here is in reality of no influence on the guaranteed ADFG/BOG decision to proceed killing Mulchatna bears, at least for the record, I am opposed to Proposal 1.

Wayne Hall

PC555

Name: Halpern, Roy

Community of Residence: Sonoma

Comment:

As a photographer, I have been exclusively photographing brown bears in the Katmai region every year for the last 25 years. This is a poor plan for many reasons. The money generated from bear tourism is Hugh. I have encouraged many friends to go to Alaska, and see the bears. They always say,"It was expensive, but the most memorable part of the trip " The bears support many other businesses. As well as many positive environmental benefits.

The only reason we can see these bears is they are not really aggressive. The reason being, they are not harassed.

PC556

Name: Halpin, Kevin

Community of Residence: Point Lookout, NY

Comment:

I am opposed!

PC557

Name: Hamblin, Shelby

Community of Residence: IA

Comment:

I oppose this. There is no scientific evidence backing the claim that these bears can be killed sustainably.

PC558

Name: Hamilton, Gary

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

This slaughter is completely unacceptable and indefensible. There's no reason for it and no scientific evidence whatsoever that it would help maintain caribou populations. Stop this senseless killing spree now!

PC559

Name: Handy, HJ

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I support this goal by ADFG as long as the hides, skulls and (meat from black bears) is used or donated to people who can make use of it and not left to merely rot away.

Science based game management is an effective tool and if there is a surplus of bears they should be harvested.

There should be allowances for residents who can access those areas to hunt as well.

Outside state influences should not be allowed to dictate whats best for Alaska. The state and its interests comes first for the benefit of the residents of Alaska, not the non resident special interest groups.

PC560

Name: Hanlon, Sharon

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Hello. I oppose the killing of bears for the supposed decline in Mulchatna Caribou. You continue this killing spree when you don't know for sure the reason for decline. So when you count the numbers and see that bear population is low, will you start shooting the Caribou? Why don't you do the study instead of the extreme the easy way out?

Save the bears!

PC561

Name: Hannifin, Leslie

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

We the people are not God. It is not our place to shoot bears, especially with taxpayer money that we, the people, didn't authorize. This is yet another massive government overreach. Let nature take its own course. Look at what happened to Yellowstone when the government took away all the wolf packs, it massively disrupted the ecosystem, from every aspect. This is not our place to decide what animals are allowed to live. That is God's decision alone.

PC562

Name: Hansen, Andrew

Community of Residence: Wyoming

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the proposal to hunt ("take") Alaskan black and browns bears to benefit the named caribou herd. I am unaware of any sound scientific studies that suggest killing bears will benefit the caribou. Rather, the proposal comes across as misguided killing humans who somehow enjoy the killing act.

I live in Wyoming where a substantial grizzly population exists and is growing. I have been to scientific talks are the bears feeding habits. A total of 256 different foods have been identified—the vast majority are grasses, insects, and nuts. Of course they will bring down an occasional elk, moose, or bison but the overall impact on these populations is a giant "zero". Frankly, they would rather eat blue berries. Factually, one of the greatest sources of food for the mighty grizzly is the army cutworm moth, a.ka. millers! A bear can eat upwards of 40,000 millers a day during a hatch.

Your department needs to quit portraying these bears as marauding killers of big game—it is simply not true. Pure fantasy on the part of the human killing zealots. Let's use sound science and kill this moronic proposal,

---

PC563

Name: Harb, Samantha

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

My dream has always been to come to Alaska and see bears. Tourism is a big thing because of the bears. If the bears are murdered in this way, I will not be visiting Alaska ever. And or tell people how amazing it is.

Bears are consciousness beings. Please don't destroy them and make them hate humans.

PC564

Name: Hardy, Viktor

Community of Residence: Quebec

Comment:

As a Canadian, I have always wanted to go to Yukon, when hearing such horrible ideas it definitely changes my thoughts on if I should support this territory and their ideas. It probably is the same for many more tourists opinions. Especially since bears are one of the most powerful, impressive and beautiful things you can witness anywhere in this world. Nature is far more powerful than the human race. Humans shouldn't try to interfere with nature, anyone who actually goes outside and knows how to appreciate the REAL world that is the nature, the ecosystem and the planet we live on would understand that bears deserve to live just as much if not probably more than humans nowadays. Save the bears and save the ecosystem, that is all we have.

PC565

Name: Harned , Betty

Community of Residence: Louisville

Comment:

I oppose the proposed predator control.

There have been no scientific studies to show that bears are causing the decrease in the caribou herds.

More study is needed.

PC566

Name: Harp, Mary

Community of Residence: Edwards, CO

Comment:

It is important that we honor and say all things. It is senseless killing but no positive return.

PC567

Name: Harpaul, Nadia

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Stop killing the bears

PC568

Name: Harrison , Robert

Community of Residence: Kentucky

Comment:

What has gotten in to people of animal wellbeing? You can't make be believe that killing wildlife (bears,wolves) to name a couple from aerial assault is humane. Have you people no heart. These are part of our heritage. We are the protectors of them, not their assassins. My god, what has happened to this country. I'm just glad I won't have to live by the decision to aerial euthanize these animals if that's your decision. That will be on you. Remember when they are gone they're gone.

PC569

Name: Hart, Cristin

Community of Residence: Pacific Northwest

Comment:

Please don't implement the shooting of Alaskain bears from the air or ground!

PC570

Name: Hartley, Martin

Community of Residence: Belmont Estate, Bristol Road

Comment:

Until there is an peer reviewed scientific paper published on the reasons qualifying why the bears need to be culled in order to preserve and protect other natural habitats and animals in the region that they are being shot then this process has to stop immediately.

PC571

Name: Harvey, Alex

Community of Residence: [redacted] Highway Healesville 3777

Comment:

To the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal allowing the killing of brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

Killing apex predators like bears is not only immoral, but also ecologically irresponsible. Bears play a critical role in maintaining the balance of ecosystems — removing them disrupts natural food webs and can have far-reaching negative impacts on biodiversity, soil health, and other species.

Targeting bears to artificially boost caribou numbers ignores the deeper issues affecting the herd, such as habitat loss, climate change, and human development. Science consistently shows that predator control is not an effective long-term solution and often creates more problems than it solves.

We must move toward wildlife management practices grounded in ethics, ecology, and science — not short-term fixes that sacrifice one species for another.

Please reject this proposal and choose a path that respects Alaska's wildlife and ecosystems as a whole.

Sincerely,

Alex

PC572

Name: Harvey, Kurt

Community of Residence: Sunnyvale, CA

Comment:

I'm 100% against the culling of brown and black bears. There's no scientific evidence that predator management hasxa positive effect on herds, caribou, elk, or deer.

PC573

Name: Harward, Shannon

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

We should definitely not mass slaughter the bears. Humans are on planet earth along with many other species who all equally deserve to be here. We are in our lifetime facing the mass extinction of many animals that our grandchildren may never get a change to see in real life because we as humans are killing them all.

It is an ethical responsibility of ours to treat all human beings with kindness and respect regardless of gender or race, because we can empathize with humans even those that look different from us to know that they also feel pain and have families. I urge you to take into consideration that all beings, regardless of how much or little they resemble humans, have eyes to see, noses to smell, ears to hear, mouths to eat, lungs to breath, hearts to pump blood and love their families. All living beings deserve compassion as this is an ethical responsibility of ours to carry out.

Please stop killing the bears. They deserve to live on this planet as much as you and I.

PC574

Name: Haseleu, Holly

Community of Residence: Alaska!

Comment:

Please stop this. I do not want to spend my tax dollar on killing bears. Please stop

Killing bears. Predators are not the problem. Besides you

PC575

Name: Haughwout, Madeleine

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

This is senseless and unnecessary.

PC576

Name: Havinson, Lilia

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

It's heartbreaking and unacceptable that bears are still being shot in Alaska, often under the guise of "management" or "sport." These majestic animals are a vital part of the ecosystem — intelligent, sentient beings who feel pain, fear, and love for their young. Killing them, especially during vulnerable moments like hibernation or when they're with cubs, is not only cruel but ecologically reckless.

There are more humane and science-backed ways to manage wildlife populations without resorting to violence. We need to stop treating wild animals as trophies or threats, and start respecting their right to live freely in the habitats they've roamed long before we arrived.

Please stop doing these cruel things to animals !

PC577

Name: Hayden, Beverly

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

I absolutely oppose the aerial gunning of bears proposal.

These bears are part of an ecosystem that existed for millennia before humans. We should not mess with the natural order of things.

Additionally, from an economic point of view, people from around the world bring millions of dollars to this part of Alaska to watch these bears who have become famous through the Explore live cams. It's unsound economically to destroy the very draw for all these tourist dollars.

But mostly, it's immoral to gun down these sentient beings.

Please do not allow this proposal to pass.

PC578

Name: Hazelgrove , Lisa

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

We are witnessing global environmental destruction on a global scale each & every day. Each murdered animal, every felled tree, every water course & ocean are polluted with toxic filled substances and daily we see the effects of this insanity. Why is it that men in positions of power feel that the answer to the everything is more killing, more pollution & more imposed of the same is the answer? Mother Earth, the clue is in the title; "Mother" - the giver of life to the universe. Why does "Mankind" fail to be kind. Mankind is killing our planet for financial gain whilst failing to realise that its lack of respect to our skies, our water & our fellow humans and every creature that has evolved are all here for the purpose of enriching our world.

I have been fortunate to see Alaska with my

own eyes. I have seen its incredible forests, glaciers, mighty rivers and mountain's. It is an example of how our planet once was. The pointless killing of animals, habitats, flora & fauna has no place in our world. Our children deserve so much more. This planet deserves so much more. Man-Unkind needs to step up & do so much more.

PC579

Name: Hazelton, Kristi

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

Subject: Oppose Aerial Gunning of Mulchatna Bears – Protect Alaska's Wildlife Heritage

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature and the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Mulchatna bear control program, which would permit the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters.

This practice is not only deeply inhumane, but also undermines the principles of ethical wildlife management. Alaska's bears are a constitutionally protected public resource, and they deserve to be managed based on sound science, not political pressure or outdated predator control models. Aerial

gunning is a brutal, indiscriminate method that causes suffering and disrupts ecosystems with little evidence of long-term benefits to prey species.

I have a deep connection to the Mulchatna region and its bears. My family and I are frequent visitors of Katmai National Park and Brooks Camp. Whether hiking, photographing, or simply knowing they roam wild and free, these animals represent the wild spirit of Alaska that draws us and other visitors and sustains local pride.

Killing bears from the air may satisfy short-term goals, but it damages Alaska's reputation as a leader in wildlife conservation and alienates residents and visitors alike who value responsible stewardship of nature.

Please uphold Alaska's constitutional responsibility to protect our wildlife for all Alaskans — not just those who see predators as a threat to be eliminated. I urge you to reject the Mulchatna bear control program and instead prioritize science-based, humane wildlife management strategies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristi Hazelton

Windsor, Colorado

Frequent visitor to Alaska

PC580

Name: Hedge, Susan

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am opposed to the modification of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. I believe there is sufficient scientific data to show that this herd has a cyclical rise and fall in its population numbers and it makes no sense to kill hundreds of bears and wolves to try to get the population up. Let nature takes its course. Killing bears and wolves during the denning season from helicopters is obscene. I have been to both McNeil River and Brooks Camp and those bears are at risk with the new management area. We are lucky in Alaska to have such wonderful opportunities to view bears at those and other locations. The Board of Game has a responsibility to more than just caribou hunters. The general public and tourists want to be able to experience bears and wolves in the wild. Alaska has 32 distinct caribou herds. Certainly the Mulchatna herd will either thrive or become a smaller herd. Please stop killing bears and wolves.

PC581

Name: Heimel, Steven

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation. The wording here just adds bears to an existing intensive predator program that was for wolves. The geographic area is far too large. The proposal mentions science, yet no science is actually cited. It gives the commissioner far too broad authority. It says the program will continue year after year, artificially interfering with the ecosystem each year. This is not sound management at all and it makes our state look bad. This is not a matter of animal rights, but a matter of ecosystem management. Plus it is costly at a time when budget restraint is needed in our state.

PC582

Name: Heitz, Andy

Community of Residence: San Francisco

Comment:

With no scientific evidence or backing the proposal to expand the hunting zone is baseless. Please reconsider the proposal to kill more bears and wolves, especially in this time when environmental and species protection is at such great peril.

Sincerely,

Andy

@andyheitzphotography

PC583

Name: Helenbrook, Marisa

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please stop this unnecessary effort to control the bear population in Alaska!

PC584

Name: Henkle , William
Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I do not agree with killing of these native bears that not only are vital to the habits they range but also play a huge role in Alaska's tourism. Though we should do our best efforts to help the caribou population, the bears play a more vital role. Caribou I are a prey species wich means we can more easily intervene in their repopulation. Bears have a few cubs a year and are lucky if 1 of them reach a mature age, while as the caribou breed much more frequently.

PC585

Name: Hennigan, Eva

Community of Residence: Natchitoches

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS!!!

PC586

Name: Henry, Donna Lee

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Let's not destroy everything that mother nature gives to the planet.We could start with shooting murderers and rapists and child molesters.

PC587

Name: Heppner, Elyssa

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Control measures that target bears are inhumane and ecological unsound and unsupported by available research.

PC588

Name: Herbruck , Janet

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

Predators --bears and wolves--are keystone species. They are crucial for the role they play. The environment which includes Caribou is out of balance because of human activity directly or indirectly. Nature can heal itself when humans stop interfering. I oppose the killing of bears.

PC589

Name: Hermann, Yvette **Affiliation**: University of South Carolina Mountaineering and Whitewater Club

Community of Residence: Columbia, SC

Comment:

Hi there! My name is Yvette, and I'm speaking on behalf of myself and the club for which I am treasurer. As somebody who has grown up outdoors, primarily in Romania's untouched wilderness, which also has a notable bear population, I believe it is imperative that ecosystems as pristine as Alaska's remain that way. Any human interference must be done humanely, and must be scientifically necessitated. Culling bears from helicopters fits neither of those criteria, and therefore should not be pursued. I urge the Board of Game to discontinue that practice. Thanks for your time and consideration!

PC590

Name: Herrera, Rebecca

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Please stop killing bears.

PC591

Name: Hersey, Rene

Community of Residence: Canmore, BC

Comment:

I strongly OPPOSE a taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program by the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game modifying the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area targeting Katmai & Southwest Alaska Bears, including mother's w cubs of Brown Bears and Black Bears! There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover.

AND 30 miles from Katmai NP, 3 miles from Lake Clark NP, 50 miles from the iconic Brooks Falls where Tom Mangelsen photographed the famous image of a Brown Bear catching a salmon in his mouth and put this destination on the map around the globe for 4 decades thus far so that millions of visitors with cameras have travelled to Brooks Falls specifically trying to replicate his world renowned photo while these tourists have injected hundreds of millions into the local economies in lodging/food/transport/guiding/aircraft/?

This is ethically indefensible, AND a judge ruled some of these past killings illegal, yet Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game killed 11 more. This is a chronic problem with Fish & Game Depts., the killing continues after judges rulings and after cut offs for hunting, trapping and snares closing alerts, more animals dies illegally.

There is copious evidence that predator "control" programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Your own research concluded the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food due to climate change, not bear predation.

Also, there is no scientific evidence to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably!

We all want to help the Mulchatna caribou but this unlawful program which includes hunting and trapping of Wolves and Bears aerially, and ground-based lethal removal of Wolves, Black and Brown Bears is to upset the entire ecosystem in these targeted areas.

And, using motorized vehicles, which, would include snow mobiles to run over these keystone species, is abhorrent and an extermination program, not a management program.

Your three year objective lacks scientific vigor. You cannot look at your keystone species as expendable when global warming, mining, deforestation, fires, ignoring the science, habitat encroachment and disease are the true culprits creating problems for Caribou, Moose, Bears, Wolves and other wildlife. The damage to these irreplaceable species may be considerable and even back in 2017 when you killed 250+ Wolves, the Mulchatna herd still collapsed.

Why use taxpayer money? These are supposed to be protected species!

Your program is wrong for Bears, Wolves, and for the People.

Please stop now.

PC592

Name: Hesse, Lauren

Community of Residence: Maryland

Comment:

This method of shooting bears supposedly to prevent harm of caribou populations and tourists/human visitors has already been found to be ineffective and illegal. Aside from the abhorrent morality of it, the proposed aims of the project will not be met, making it a strategic and moral failure to undertake.

Honorable Members of the Board,

From 2020-2022 I worked for ADFG in region 4 as a research biologist. Specifically, I helped collect, organize, and analyze data on the Mulchatna caribou.

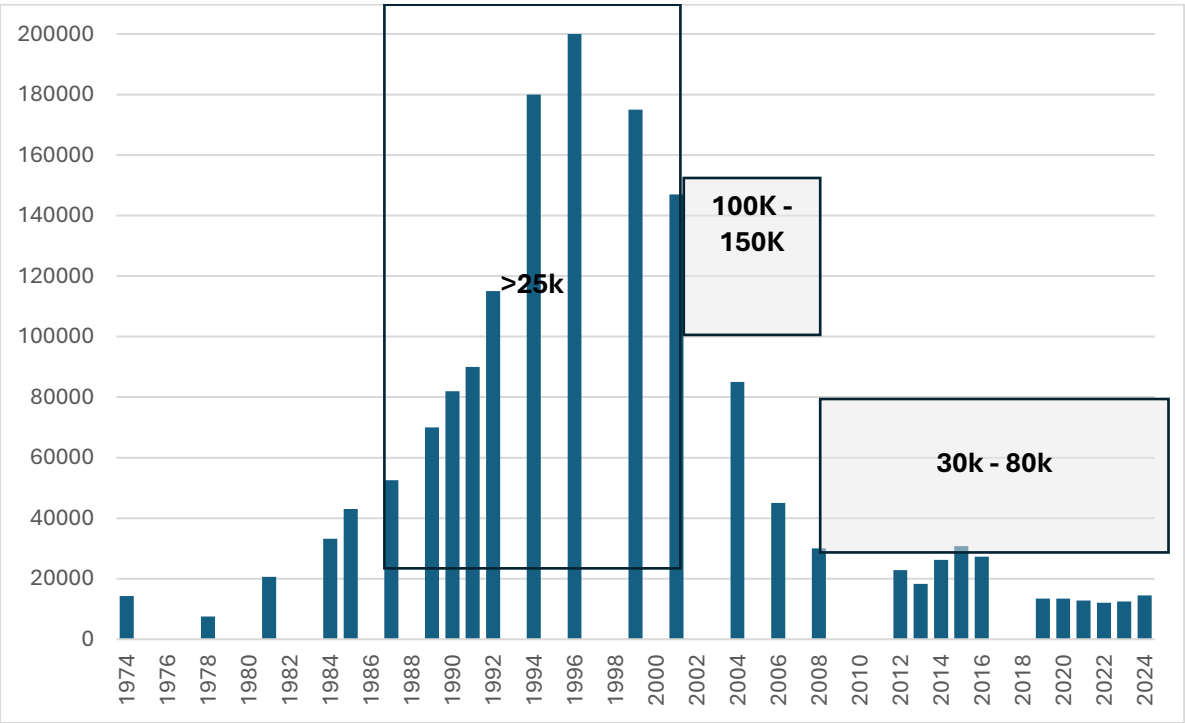
I think it's fair to say that we are all here today because we all care deeply about the health of these caribou. We also care deeply about the health of these brown and black bears. We all want to see healthy populations with harvestable surplus, and we all want to trust that BOG will use the best science to make the most informed decision possible on these critical resources to our state.

Respectfully, this is why it is entirely frustrating that every single biologist, all experts in their field, that I have spoken to who is/will be submitting comments to the Board today feels that they are trying to craft something more akin to a persuasive speech to you, rather than submitting scientific information that will be understood and thoughtfully considered by the Board. The very nature that this meeting has been taken up as an "emergency meeting" highlights that the board continues to either misunderstand or, concerningly, ignore the science behind the predator prey dynamics for the MCH. Of equal concern is that you, the board members, appear to have come to this meeting with a predetermined outcome that seemingly cannot be overturned by scientific input. You can imagine how frustrating that might be from someone who hopes that management decisions are based on science, not bias and misunderstandings.

Plainly, this is not an emergency. It *might* be an emergency if a reasonable population objective for the MCH were still ~200k. However, let's look at this magic 200,000 number that is being thrown around currently. Why should the MCH population goal be 200k?

The MCH population (when we started to quantify these things in the early/mid 70s) was on average 14k caribou for about a decade. Then, they had a big boom, skyrocketing the population up to 200k in the 90s, then dipping back down around 2012 to right around 20k. Now, since then, the population has been pretty stable, hovering again, around 15k, just like it was in the 70s. Interestingly, we heard from one of our Indigenous neighbors at the last BOG meeting that the caribou around the GASH (Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross) communities used to be abundant, but left the area and possibly joined the MCH around the time of the MCH boom. It's possible the MCH was thus inflated not by increased fecundity and survival, rather from outside recruitment of a different herd.

So, here we are, in another "emergency meeting" discussing a relatively stable population. Why is that? That is because I am aware of no established procedures for developing scientifically derived population objectives.



To my knowledge the population objectives were established:

- First in 1987 during the beginning of an exponential growth phase (objectives were set to be around 25k)
- They were modified in 2002 during the crash phase to 100,000 -150,000 caribou.
- They were then modified most recently in 2008 to 30k-80k and have remained there since *and were not derived using any metrics of carrying capacity, rather they were an aspirational, arbitrary number.*

So, what I want to say is that we should not be looking back at the "glory days" of a hugely inflated population and framing our ideas of what the population **was** to what it **should sustainably be**. Instead, we should be developing population objectives based on the current ecological conditions of habitat capacity and population structure. Which would mean, in the past decade the herd appears **stable**, it's just at a lower abundance than some non-biologists assert it should be.

These arbitrarily defined population objectives are what bring us to the table today, and to me, that is the real cause for concern. If you care about caribou, I hope you take this much away from what I've said: it's time to determine new population objectives that are derived from actual habitat assessments. So, task ADFG with habitat assessments over predator control.

Thank you for reading my, hopefully somewhat, "persuasive speech". I hope you take a hard look and consider the logic before you instead of defaulting to the talking points that have been given to you by those interested in looking for an easy solution to a complex biological situation for the MCH that demands a hard like at new science yet to be gathered.

Thank you, and thank you for your continued interest in the longevity of caribou and bears in Southwest Alaska.

PC594

Name: Hickson , Shannon **Affiliation**: The Wildlife Collection

Community of Residence: BC

Comment:

Please save the bears for future generations to come. We must find a way to cohabitate without senseless killing. This is their home too. We are watching from Canada and urge you to reconsider the proposal.

PC595

Name: Hika, Grace

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

To the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed reinstatement of the taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears, including mothers with cubs. As a citizen who deeply values the interconnectedness of life and the sacredness of our ecosystems, I urge you to reconsider this harmful and outdated approach.

In 2023, 99 bears were killed by aerial gunning, and another 80 in 2024. There is no peer-reviewed scientific evidence that this method helps caribou populations recover. What it does create, however, is ecological imbalance, cruelty, and a severing of the natural relationships that sustain Alaska's wilderness.

Predators like bears are not threats to be eliminated—they are keystone species whose presence supports biodiversity and ecosystem health. The removal of apex predators through such violent means is not only ethically disturbing but ecologically shortsighted.

As someone who cares deeply about wildlife conservation, I respectfully ask you to prioritize science, ethics, and long-term ecological stability over short-term population management goals. Please oppose the aerial gunning program and seek non-lethal, evidence-based methods for managing wildlife.

Alaska's bears deserve better. So do future generations.

Sincerely,

Grace Hika

PC596

Name: Hill, Janet

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

Please stop shooting the bears from helicopters. I would be very interested in proven studies showing the effectiveness of these actions.

PC597

Name: Hill, Jonah

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Don't kill the bears

PC598

Name: Hill, Renee

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

Stop the killing of all wildlife

PC599

Name: Hill, Rhonda

Community of Residence: New Mexico

Comment:

I'm against the proposal to cull the bears. It lacks scientific backing and won't address the root of the issue.

PC600

Name: Hill, Ruth

Community of Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Comment:

I am writing to oppose the creation of a bear control area in the Mulchatna Western Alaska area.

In addition to being a part of the online bear watching community my husband and I have traveled from New Zealand to visit Alaska in the past specifically in order to enjoy the natural environment. As with many tourists we were drawn to Alaska for the white water rafting, tramping and tours to view flora and fauna, especially bear and bird species, in common with the majority of both resident and non-resident

Alaskan tourists (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666957925000187#s0075; https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ongoingissues.economicstudy).

My rationale for opposing this proposal is:

- It is not supported by scientific evidence.

Present research shows that predator control often fails to achieve long-term population goals (https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/csp2.12729). Studies have demonstrated that caribou populations are primarily limited by habitat quality, weather patterns, and food availability rather than predation alone, suggesting that moves to address these will be more effective in boosting caribou population (https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9285560/). Additionally, removing predators can lead to ecological imbalances and does not guarantee sustainable caribou increases.

- It will disrupt ecological integrity.

Wolves and bears are keystone species that maintain ecosystem health. Predator-prey relationships have evolved over millennia and disrupting these relationships can have cascading effects throughout the ecosystem, potentially harming other wildlife species. It is difficult to estimate the ripple effect human interference can play on the ecology of the area but past experiments such as what is proposed have not yielded good results (https://www.mdpi.com/1424-2818/14/11/939). With longer lived and slower breeding predator species, such as bears, this impact is likely to be more difficult to recover from.

- Alternative management strategies are more likely to be successful.

Improving caribou numbers can be better affected through evidence-based alternatives such as habitat restoration, hunting quota adjustments, addressing human-caused mortality factors, or seasonal hunting restrictions in critical areas. Unlike short-term responses with unproven outcomes such as culling apex predators these approaches can be more effective and sustainable (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320718307225).

- Economic Considerations.

While caribou hunting may bring in money to the region this must be considered as a non-sustainable revenue stream, with the potential to negatively impact other more sustainable tourism revenues. Working to increase wildlife viewing tourism revenue is a more viable, if longer term, option but this relies on intact predator populations. Artificially reducing apex predator populations may affect this line of tourism. This is something that New Zealand also wrestles with: our tourism sector depends on our natural environmental assets, making the improvement and maintenance of that environment key to maintaining and growing our domestic and international tourism streams. Thus any implied short-term economic benefits of increased hunting opportunities must justify not only the program costs but also the negative economic impact on environmental tourism in the region. Indeed the ADFG's own report shows that nearly 90% of non-resident tourist spending is from viewing wildlife, suggesting that anything that impacts not only the environment but also the perception of the Alaskan environmental asset will negatively affect this revenue (https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ongoingissues.economicstudy).

As such the economic case for predator control is questionable when weighed against tourism revenues. Alaska's 2011 economic study found that nearly 900,000 households participated in wildlife viewing (77% of them visitors), compared to just over 100,000 households that went hunting (86% of them Alaska residents). About 86% of visitors participated in wildlife viewing while only 2% of visitor households

hunted (https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1840/vse_ak_2024.htm). Wildlife viewing represents a sustainable, renewable revenue stream that depends on intact predator populations, while predator control programs require ongoing public funding with uncertain outcomes.

While the proposal to institute bear population killing may appear to offer a straightforward solution, the scientific evidence demonstrates it is unlikely to achieve its stated objectives. More effective, sustainable alternatives exist that address caribou population concerns through habitat restoration, hunting management reforms, and addressing underlying causes like climate change and disease. These evidence-based approaches deliver proven results without the ethical concerns, ecological risks, and potential economic consequences associated with large-scale predator control programs.

As international visitors who have traveled from New Zealand specifically to experience Alaska's remarkable wildlife and pristine ecosystems, we are profoundly disappointed and dismayed that such a destructive proposal is even under consideration. The shortsightedness of implementing a policy with irreversible, long-lasting ecological consequences in pursuit of an unproven short-term goal is deeply troubling. We chose Alaska as a destination precisely because of its reputation for intact wilderness and thriving predator populations - the very attributes this proposal would undermine. It is disheartening to witness the United States, a nation that has been a historic leader in global conservation efforts, pursuing such a regressive approach to wildlife management. The thought that future visitors may encounter ecosystems stripped of their apex predators, or that Alaska's world-renowned bear populations could be decimated for dubious gains, represents not just an ecological tragedy but a betrayal of the natural heritage that draws people from around the world to your remarkable state. We implore you to reject this misguided proposal and instead embrace the sustainable, science-based management approaches that would preserve Alaska's wildlife legacy for generations to come.

PC601

Name: Hillis, Cameron
Community of Residence: Yuma

Comment:

This needs to stop. UNTIL specific scientific data can directly correlate the population of bears are directly contributing to the decrease number of caribou.

PC602

Name: Hilton, Alexandria

Community of Residence: Burlington, WI

Comment:

I am OPPOSING proposal number 5 AAC 92.11 (c) regarding the Mulchatna Caribou Predation Management Area with the aerial hunting of brown and black bears, as well as wolves, to "aid" recovery of caribou. There is no scientific evidence to support that hunting these animals will help recover the caribou population in Alaska. Research by biologists from Alaska's very own Department of Fish and Gain does however suggest that food shortage of lichen due to the climate crisis is heavily influencing this population decline. With new herding patterns from warmer and later winters, caribou are moving away from areas that were once as populace and now moving towards colder areas that contain more lichen. The fault is not of predators that have their own dwindling numbers and need for survival, but of human influences like global warming, mining, drilling, roads, pesticides, and other developments. The solution to the caribou population decline is NOT the slaughter of another wildlife population.

PC603

Name: Himelfarb, Alissa

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Bears should not be hunted. Period.

PC604

Name: Hladky, Andrea

Community of Residence: Alberta

Comment:

I urge you to use science based academic reports when making decisions about wildlife management. Let trained experts decide how wildlife is management. It's time for qualified individuals to decide how to manage wildlife. There is no science that backs killing bears in order to save Caribou populations. This is absolutely barbaric. It's astonishing that this practice is happening in 2025. Absolutely astonishing. Devastating. Wake up and face the real reasons for the Caribou herd decline. Please stop blaming apex predators.

PC605

Name: Hof, Anneke

Community of Residence: Germany, Schleswig-Holstein

Comment:

Bears are incredibly smart and loving animals and should be respected and cherished.

PC606

Name: Hofferber, Emilie

Community of Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Comment:

People fly from all over the world to see these bears. The bears don't understand boundaries. This is a barbaric practice—there are more effective ways to bolster caribou populations. This is also wasteful in terms of killing the bears. The meat of the bears is left to… what, just rot? Not a good look.

PC607

Name: Holder, Mary Jo

Community of Residence: Missouri

Comment:

This killing of bears is unnecessary please Stop.

PC608

Name: Holderness, Debra

Community of Residence: Denver, Colorado

Comment:

A waste of precious wildlife and a waste of taxpayers money!

PC609

Name: Hollibaugh, Linda

Community of Residence: Nebraska

Comment:

What is wrong with you??

How can you justify this proposal as management??

PC610

Name: Holman, Kelly

Community of Residence: Medford

Comment:

Please do not allow the continued slaughter of bears. The war on wildlife needs to end. Now more than ever, we need to practice non lethal methods of co existence. Ecosystems are collapsing and the lands are suffering because of human interference. Please stop this unnecessary killing.

PC611

Name: Holman, Sheila

Community of Residence: Haines, Oregon

Comment:

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to ask you to please reconsider your possible plan to allow the killing of Black Bears and Brown Bears as a way to possibly increase the Caribou population. Humans have upset the balance in so many ways, by human caused climate change, hunting of Caribou and destroying so much of the Caribou's habitat by mining, oil extraction and road building.

Please do not blame the bears for something humans are responsible for.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheila Holman

PC612

Name: Holmes, Kelly

Community of Residence: Colorado Springs

Comment:

I am here to petition against the slaughtering of the bears in Alaska. It is unnatural and will cause extinction. There is no human need to kill helpless bears from a helicopter.

PC613

Name: Holmgren, Tracey

Community of Residence: Ontario Canada

Comment:

WHY do humans alway feel the need to interfere?? Nature ALWAYS balances itself.

Stop the bear hunt it's not ethical nor needed.

PC614

Name: Holt, Nikki

Community of Residence: Knoxville, Tennessee

Comment:

I'm opposed to shooting bears and wolves from helicopters or any aircraft. It's inhumane and as someone who visits your state and spends a lot of money there, I would like for my opinion to be heard.

PC615

Name: Holtan , Tonya

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

As guardians of wildlife, our duty is to protect these animals—not to commit barbaric and cruel acts against them. Please stop shooting bears from the air.

Bears roam vast distances and raise their cubs, but their populations are now being devastated. There's no scientific evidence proving that killing bears benefits caribou.

People travel from all over the world to witness these magnificent creatures in the wild, yet they're being wiped out.

Moreover, bears generate far more revenue through tourism than the costly and wasteful practice of aerial shooting, which also squanders taxpayer dollars.

PC616

Name: Holtan , Tonya

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

As guardians of wildlife, our duty is to protect these animals—not to commit barbaric and cruel acts against them. Please stop shooting bears from the air.

Bears roam vast distances and raise their cubs, but their populations are now being devastated. There's no scientific evidence proving that killing bears benefits caribou.

People travel from all over the world to witness these magnificent creatures in the wild, yet they're being wiped out.

Moreover, bears generate far more revenue through tourism than the costly and wasteful practice of aerial shooting, which also squanders taxpayer dollars. Let's choose conservation over destruction.

PC617

Name: Honea, Marcia

Community of Residence: Anchorage AK

Comment:

I am opposed to Instant Bear Kill to use to manage caribou population.

From what I have read killing of bears has not inceased caribou populations. There have been large and small caribou herds over time. Climate change may be affecting the lichen and willows that decreasing the caribou's food supply. People have taken many caribou until last year.

Please leave the bears alone!

PC618

Name: Hook, Cathy

Community of Residence: Oklahoma

Comment:

I am in opposition to the Mulchatna predator control program. I am a science teacher and I use the ecosystems in Alaska as part of my teaching. Alaska is one of the last places in our country that remains truly wild with many of the ecosystems still intact and thriving. I am able to mentally take my students far away to a place that many of them will never have the opportunity to visit. They are in awe of the beauty when I show them photos and videos. It becomes a place they want to protect when they learn about it.

I don't think anyone wants to see the decline of the caribou herd. To the contrary, any biologist or lover of nature wants a balance and for all living things to thrive. The disease that has been spreading through the herd and the decline of lichen has been devastating to them. Predator control is not the solution. A scientific study has not been conducted to know the costs and benefits. Historically, predator control has never reached the intended goals. Also, to be blunt, gunning the bears down from a helicopter is an inhumane way to kill these animals. Yes, there is science, but there has to be human decency in the way we treat the animals we share this planet with.

Yes, it is unfortunate what is happening with the decline of this caribou herd, but predator control is not the solution. Where is the science behind your decision? I am in firm opposition to the Mulchatna predator control program. We can do better for our children and the world we live in.

PC619

Name: Hooper, Barbara

Community of Residence: Dorset

Comment:

I am totally against the shooting of any bears. This is cruel and unnecessary.

PC620

Name: Hoort, Nancy

Community of Residence: Hull Massachusetts

Comment:

Please stop killing bears and their cubs! There is a natural balance in nature!

This is cruel and unnecessary!!!

Nancy Hoort

PC621

Name: Hoover, Bailee

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

There's 0 reason to kill bears when they are not harming anything. If this has anything to do with tourism, humans are in their space, and anything that occurs is the people's fault. Wildlife should be left alone. They have their habitat and a right to live and breathe just as much as humans do. We are equal beings. Let them complete their circle of life without any interference from us.

PC622

Name: Hope, Andrew

Community of Residence: London

Comment:

Re: Special Meeting (July 14–15 2025) – Proposed revision to 5 AAC 92.111(c) authorising bear control in the Mulchatna Caribou Predation Management Area

Opposition to adding bears to the Mulchatna predator control plan.

Dear Chair and Board Members,

I write as a private citizen and lifelong lover of wilderness and wildlife. I live in London, England and have long dreamed of experiencing Alaska's legendary brown-bear country. Accordingly, I have begun planning a three-week visit for 2026 that will centre on bear viewing in Katmai, Lake Clark and other publicly accessible areas. The money I will spend on lodging, guiding, transport and local services will go directly into Alaska's tourism economy, precisely because Alaska still boasts intact ecosystems where large carnivores thrive.

I respectfully urge the Board to vote NO on adding brown and black bears to the Mulchatna Caribou predator-control plan for three key reasons:

1. Lack of demonstrable biological benefit – The Department's own March 2025 status report shows the Mulchatna herd's troubles pre-date any documented increase in bear predation; habitat quality, disease

and historic over-harvest remain the principal limiting factors. Past predator culls have not produced sustained improvements in calf recruitment.

2. Negative economic signal – Wildlife viewing already out-earns trophy hunting statewide, and visitors like me choose Alaska precisely because bears are alive on the landscape. Sanctioning aerial bear-shooting across 39,000 square miles sends a message that could deter ethical travellers and tarnish Alaska's global brand.

3. Precedent and public trust – Fast-tracking an open-ended bear-removal programme, especially after a Superior Court found earlier efforts illegal, risks further litigation and deepens public scepticism about the Board's commitment to transparent, science-based management.

Requested action:

Reject the proposed changes to 5 AAC 92.111(c) that authorise bear control.

Direct ADF&G to focus on habitat restoration, rigorous disease monitoring and non-lethal research before considering any further predator reductions.

Thank you for considering my perspective as a future visitor who values Alaska's living bears more than any other attraction the state offers. I appreciate the Board's hard work and stand ready to support science-driven solutions that safeguard both caribou and the great bears that define Alaska's wild heart.

Respectfully submitted,

PC623

Name: Horn, Stacy

Community of Residence: Minot, ND

Comment:

Absolutely not! I'm not an Alaskan, nor am I anti-hunting as a general rule. However, the aerial massacre of one (endangered) species to 'sustain' another species is counterproductive. I do recognize the importance of maintaining a viable caribou population, but overgrazing and climate change resulting in decreased preferred ground cover are the probable causes; not predation. Aerial indiscriminate killing of predators is unnecessary, cruel, wasteful, - and lousy PR. Do not approve this.

PC624

Name: Horowitz, Sue **Affiliation**: Katmai National Park and Preserve.

Community of Residence: NYS

Comment:

re: 5 AAC 92.111(c) concerning the Mulchatna Caribou Predation Management Area is proposed to be changed to include predator control of brown and black bears in addition to wolves to aid in the recovery of the Mulchatna caribou herd.

Predator control does nothing except screw up habitats and kill Alaskan wildlife..... what does the Board think they're accomplishing by having aerial hunts and diminishing places where wildlife can just be that- wild life.

PC625

Name: Houghton, Colleen

Community of Residence: Washington State

Comment:

The killing of bears to "save" another species is wrong, especially from a helicopter! This is glorified sport for those that are privileged to have this "job"! My husband and I spent 2 weeks in Alaska specifically to see Bears at Katmai; not caribou! The tourism and dollars spent by MANY should outweigh this unfair practice of killing vulnerable elder and mother bears with cubs just to quell their numbers. Why not at least make it fair and open it to hunters on foot with normal rifles not bear and wolf assassins with inhumane advantages of a helicopter and sniper guns. And it's also been deemed illegal with your practices so STOP NOW PLEASE!! There are better solutions! Thank you

---

PC626

Name: House Minder LLC, Pet Sitter **Affiliation**: Pet Sitter House Minder, LLC

Community of Residence: Mount Laurel, NJ

Comment:

I want you to see this. I'm in New Jersey. People all over America know about this. Not just Alaskans. And people all over America are affected by this harebrained proposal to wage air warfare on bears. There are eyes on what you're doing all the way across the nation. In fact, Looking at the Instagram post that lead me here, there were people as far away as Germany who are horrified at this idea. Staring down the barrel of WWIII, you want more killing? More destruction? Am I understanding this correctly? Please rethink this. I mean to say, please rethink this and don't do it. It's ridiculous.

PC627

Name: Houser, Marilyn

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I OPPOSE PROPOSAL 1 ADDING BLACK AND BROWN BEAR CONTROL TO THE MULCHATNA CARIBOU HERD MANAGEMENT AREA.

I know approval of this proposal is a foregone conclusion but as an Alaskan it is important to go on the record. Alaska's policies on wolves, bears and other predators have only gotten worse in the 47 years I have lived here.

I have read ADFG's March 2025 reports and studied the graphs that are provided as justification for Proposal 1. There are so many contradictions in their data with unrealistic population objectives for the Mulchatna caribou herd. It is known the habitat of the Mulchatna herd has degraded since the historic highs in the 1990's, creating stress and corresponding disease in the herd. How is it even possible to attribute an increase in calf survival and recruitment to a reduction in the number of predators? What about the changing climate, such as repeated freezing rain events in winter that make food inaccessible for ungulates? Yet, 80,000 animals is still a goal for the herd. A 10% annual caribou harvest goal is unrealistic and shouldn't even be a consideration while intensive management/predator control is in place in perpetuity.

At a time when Alaska is running a fiscal deficit, it is hard to understand how ADFG has the funds for expanded predator control especially since it involves chartered helicopters and the participation of State of Alaska employees (their salaries, per diem, benefits, time away from other duties, etc.). The true cost of predator control is never shared with the public.

PC628

Name: Hudson, Jatika

Community of Residence: Mableton, GA

Comment:

Every creature deserves a chance and a right to live. Please reconsider your plan to murder bears and any other animal. There has to be other or more solutions you can consider. I pray this message finds you with an open heart and mind. God bless you and the animals that God has placed for us to coexist with. 🙏🏾

PC629

Name: Hudspeth, Gerald

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I OPPOSE the killing of wolves and bears to increase man's ability to hunt. The judges made the decision that killing the bears and wolves was illegal. Mankind has a horrible record of altering nature. Let nature do the job. Nature knows better than us.

PC630

Name: Huggins, Sandra

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Please stop this. The bears of Mulchata does not deserve to be gunned.

The bears like us have all the right to live in this planet.

Humans have invaded their habitats which they still consider them their home.

Death to such a beautiful wild animal is unforgivable.

PC631

Name: Hughes, Theresa

Community of Residence: Scotland UK

Comment:

I oppose the culling of any wild bear species in Alaska. In the 21st century Man should be intelligent enough to know that Man has exterminated species across the planet. Knowing that we should stop decimating the planet of it's biodiversity. We must study and learn from other species. We must not be guilty of sending one more species to oblivion. Alaska should proudly show the world how it can live beside these animals and respect the animals as much as we want to be respected ourselves. Man should be a steward, not an exterminator.

The questionthe panel should ask if the protagonists is - would you take a helicopter over a school gate and shoot mothers and children coming out of school? This is what your schools are doing -shooting mothers while they are teaching and feeding their offspring.

PC632

Name: Hultman, Randall

Community of Residence: WA

Comment:

Please do not allow killing bears Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.It is cruel and unethical to slaughter bears.Mother nature has regulated bear populations for thousands of years without mankind's intervention.Also how many cubs and sub adults will be left to die when they kill sows or seperate them with their helicopters.Do the correct action and cancel this barbaric idea.Thank you for giving this matter your attention.

PC633

Name: Hunter, Kenna

Community of Residence: North Idaho

Comment:

I oppose this "management" of bear populations. Allotting a certain amount of time where it is acceptable to shoot and murder male, female, and BABY bears, is disgusting behavior. As advocates for the outdoors, do better! This is absolutely not okay and people do not support this decision PERIOD.

PC634

Name: Huntington, Karla

Community of Residence: Eagle River

Comment:

I urge you to vote against the proposed bear culling justified by claiming it will help the Mulchatna caribou herd. I am opposed to the wanton killing of bears that this proposal includes. Karla F. Huntington

---

PC635

Name: Hussain, Saima

Community of Residence: Pakistan

Comment:

These bears are one of natures way of working with life cycle of the wildlife. They have to be protected and kept safe! They are a part of the " Predator and Prey Ecosystem " , which we humans cannot disturb, for disturbing it can change natures course and it will be dangerous for the future. Please SAVE THE BEARS!!

PC636

Name: Hutchins, Emily

Community of Residence: Plattsburgh, New York

Comment:

I OPPOSE the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management's proposal to modify the regulation which will allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. Save the bears.

PC637

Name: Hyde, John

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

I'm writing in opposition to this proposal. Predator control is an outdated and misguided means of wildlife management which only takes into consideration the impacts it may have on targeted species and not the effects it will have on the integrity of all other forms of life_ animal or vegetative, within that ecosystem. Predator control benefits only those who wish to hunt caribou in this area, and only for a limited time. Many predator control programs fail to achieve their objectives. The issue isn't wild predators, the issue is human predators. People control is the answer to responsible wildlife management. Wildlife populations are not static, they are constantly in flux, often for reasons we can't or don't spend the effort to determine. The Mulchatna area is like a "donut hole', it is not an island ecosystem unto itself. What happens there also affects the wildlife that live in the surrounding areas. Not just the targeted area. A caribou or bear in the Mulchatna area could be in a National Park or Refuge the next day.

PC638

Name: Iannuzzi, Patricia

Community of Residence: Ciudad Autónoma de Bs. As.

Comment:

I strongly oppose Proposal 75, which would authorize aerial and ground-based lethal removals of black and brown bears in Unit 16 under the Intensive Management Plan. My opposition is based on the following:

1) Ecological Importance: Bears serve as keystone species—impacting forest regeneration, scavenging carrion, and maintaining ecological equilibrium. Targeting them risks significant ecosystem disruptions.

2) Ethical and Cultural Concerns: The proposed methods (including aerial shooting) undermine wildlife welfare and disregard cultural values of fairness, respect, and shared stewardship of wildlife resources.

3) Insufficient Scientific Justification: There is no robust data showing sustained removal rates are possible without population decline or unintended harm.

4) Public Transparency and Trust: Implementing such aggressive control without comprehensive impact studies or diverse stakeholder engagement erodes public trust and hinders community cohesion.

I urge the Board to reject Proposal 75. Instead, prioritize non-lethal predator-prey management, invest in ecosystem-based monitoring, and involve affected communities in transparent decision-making.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia Iannuzzi

PC639

Name: Ignatieva, Maria

Community of Residence: Santa Cruz

Comment:

This decision directly contradicts a judicial ruling deeming such actions unconstitutional and raises serious concerns regarding animal cruelty, ecological ethics, and the lack of meaningful benefit to human communities. The systematic killing of bears in tens and hundreds under the premise of predator control is both inhumane and scientifically questionable. Bear culling inflicts severe cruelty on a sentient species, and the justification lacks strong empirical backing, particularly when habitat loss, climate effects, and human encroachment are likely more significant factors in the decline of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Moreover, bear meat is not widely consumed nor beneficial to human health, making the practice even more ethically troubling. This is not a matter of subsistence or community nutrition, but one of convenience and misguided management. I also call attention to a deeper moral inconsistency: Why are some wild animals, such as certain bears—treated with higher value and symbolic respect, while others are deemed expendable? This selective compassion undermines the integrity of wildlife policy and perpetuates arbitrary distinctions in how we value animal lives. We must evolve beyond outdated predator control methods and pursue sustainable, science-based conservation that respects all creatures. I urge the immediate suspension of the bear culling program and a full reassessment of wildlife management strategies in line with humane and constitutional principles.

PC640

Name: Indra, Erin

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

I respect the brown bears essential to one of the last remaining thriving ecosystems on Earth far more than I respect the people (Let's be real, the hand on the gun will be male and white) hoping to gun them down from a helicopter. They're stronger, smarter, more adaptable, and, as is apparent from this proposal, better able to judge the consequences of their actions.

The helicopter is the best part. At least have the courage to look a bear in the eye before you kill it. May the memory haunt you forever. OPPOSE.

PC641

Name: Irah, Nad

Community of Residence: Floor 09 Unit 444 09 444

Comment:

leave the bears alone, are they not a part of the ecosystem ?

PC642

Name: Iyengar, Alekhya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

I oppose the gunning down of bears in Alaska. It's inhumane and unnecessary. We're already killing the planet one tree at a time. Now the animals too! This needs to stop.

PC643

Name: J Lambert, Pam

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

It would be incredibly inhumane to shoot bears from a chopper!Learn to live with our wildlife. The more you learn the less fear you will have.

PC644

Name: J, Anna

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

Help stop the mass killings of these innocent animals.

PC645

Name: J, Jasmine

Community of Residence: Kailua

Comment:

This is inhumane, bears are important to the environment and sacred ecosystem and it's just downright cruel to do that

---

Name: Jackson, Jasmine **Affiliation:** The Wildlife Collective
Community of Residence: Tennessee

I am in opposition to the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area due to its effects on predator species like bears but also wolves. I have made sure to educate myself on the topic with research and articles by Alaskan Wildlife Alliance, that explored the effects and cause of this management area. They provided sources to several studies that prove and discuss the effects of killing of predator populations to increase prey populations as ineffective in the long term.

What the studies show is not that predators are to blame for the decline in Caribou populations but disease and loss of habitat from deforestation. More steps should be taken towards land conservation efforts as well as tagging and providing medical care. This would prove to be more effective than the current pointless slaughtering of bears and wolves who cross over into a 'kill zones. There is also the matter of using ariel shootings as means of taking out these predators which cost extra money and is not good for the environment which again is a more probable cause of Caribou herd decline. There is also the history of overhunting species like bears and wolves that ruins environments more by throwing nature out of balance these predator animals offer more than prey control they are key to the environment in many other ways, and if there was an overpopulation of bears relocation to bear sparse areas where they are needed for quantity control seems more reasonable than mass killings.

AWA), A. (2025). *Alaska Wildlife Alliance (AWA)*. Alaska Wildlife Alliance (AWA). https://www.akwildlife.org/mulchatna-predator-control

Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores to Enhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View. *Diversity*, *14*(11), 939. https://doi.org/10.3390/d14110939

Walsh, P. (2019). Influence of wolf predation on population momentum of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, southwestern Alaska. *Rangifer*, *39*(1), 1–10. https://doi.org/10.7557/2.39.1.4455

PC647

Name: Jackson, Kimberly

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I oppose this program. It is ineffective and not based on scientific evidence. As a tourist, with money to spend in your country, I want to see the beautiful wildlife, especially these bears. Culling predators is a terrible bandaid solution that does not work and it turns off potential visitors, who input money into the Alaskan economy.

PC648

Name: Jackson, Stephen

Community of Residence: So. California

Comment:

I pray whatever has overcome some to choose destruction over life, be confounded and resisted and kept at bay.

PC649

Name: Jacobs, S

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Why would you think this is the correct way, to control the populations of bears. I strongly urge you to re think the whole situation. Bear and wolves play a big part in the ecosystem. Stop selling off land and building on there homes, there would not be a problem.

PC650

Name: Jacques, Dustin

Community of Residence: Jackson county OREGON

Comment:

I fully oppose all acts of murder against bears & any or all wildlife in Alaska and beyond, it is grotesque and completely short-sighted to eliminate brown bears because they are successfully striving in today's world. It should not be punished for gathering in groups or near tourists. Their animals they don't live by our rules and shouldn't have to. If industry and logging are causing them to migrate to areas that normally don't.. or are attracted by food etc. Of humans... Then it's us humans who should be addressed. You set a bad example for all wild land areas in the country. I'm ready to be going on in Alaska it's almost

surprising.. the rest of us here in the states look at Alaska like one of the last open wilderness States. Where trees can grow an animal's can thrive.. it's so typical of mankind to deem another species as invasive. Or dangerous or harmful and then we deplete them to nothing.. you may think you're doing some great service now but in 15 years they'll probably end up on the endangered species list. Wolves, polar bears, deer. Elk . Etc . Aren't here for us to decide if they get to love or die. That's just the control driven power hungry ailment that the world is plagued by..

And to be honest shooting them from helicopters is the most cowardly thing I've ever heard of in my life. If you view them as a problem and you're not going to listen to us and then go look them in the eye and face them like men.. shooting over my helicopter is laughable... If you can't reach him on foot then they clearly aren't a problem...

God See's all

PC651

Name: Jain, Tisha

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

I strong condemn what is happening th the wildlife. Especially with the bears right now. Humans don't have the right to interfere with the wild, but yet we've destroyed their homes, and now you want to take their lives too??

This is a shame for all humans to behave in such a way. We are animals with empathy and emotions, with intelligence, but yet we actually like fools.

Strong and punishable action has to be taken against who ever is responsible for this. And strict laws need to be put in place to protect the other species.

PC652

Name: Jangra, Neelima

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Save the bears . They do have right to live . We stand for them at any cost

---

7/6/2025

To the Alaska Board of Game

This is a comment by Nick Jans in opposition to ADFG Proposal #1 "Intensive Management Plans, MCH predation management Area.

My name is Nick Jans. My first job in Alaska in 1979 was working for a sport hunting guide in the Brooks Range. I lived in Inupiaq villages in northwest arctic Alaska for 20 years. I've held an Alaska resident sport hunting license for 45 years and long ago lost count of the animals I've killed in sport and subsistence hunts to feed myself and my neighbors. A DNA anaysis would reveal caribou, bear, sheep, and moose meat fused into my being. I am strongly opposed to the ongoing Mulchatna bear control program--appalled would be more accurate. Rather than tell you why, I'd prefer to show you. The following vivid memory is from a day decades ago, with Inupiaq elder and master hunter Clarence Putyuk Wood, on a tributary of the upper Kobuk.

The bear lay in a tundra swale, eyes glazing. Clarence Wood knelt at her side, wielding his knife with surgical precision as I steadied a front leg, the paw's leathery palm coarse in my hands. As he worked, lips pursed, my old Inupiaq friend of yesteryear seemed utterly absorbed, on the verge of a meditative state, sometimes pausing with palms spread to the sky. Killing a grizzly is never a small thing; and skinning it properly, a difficult task. The hide, great curving claws attached, would be a trophy to most hunters--perhaps of a lifetime. But I knew such stuff meant little to Clarence. "Beautiful meat," he murmured, as he cradled a hindquarter, pillowed with three inches of sweet, berry-fed fat—in thin country, even more valuable than the meat itself. "Ahhh, beautiful." I knew, too, that he wasn't talking to me, but to the bear, who was surely aware of our presence, listening and watching carefully. And it was up to me, a younger hunter, to do the same--and to remember every detail, so I could pass it along. We should speak only as necessary and only about the matter at hand. This was serious business, a masterclass in ancient protocols.

Clarence wasn't always like that. Impatient and impulsive by nature, flawed as we all are, he was summoning his best and true self—for me and himself, as well as the bear. This moment, and others I had witnessed over decades, defined not only his own being, but all it meant to be Inupiaq.

Hours later, the meat lay carefully arranged in my skiff, bagged and wrapped in a clean tarp. The gut pile and worn late summer hide lay on the tundra to return to the land, along with the head, the trachea slit to allow aklak's soul to leave this body and become another bear—a gesture known as nigiluk. A small piece of cartilage from beneath the tongue, 'the worm,' had been cut out and impaled on a sharpened willow. If we'd taken that head as I secretly wanted (keeping the great-jawed skull my own way of honoring) the bear's spirit would follow us home. Years before, I'd endured a lengthy saukataq (scolding) by a Noatak neighbor, church elder, and reputed ex-shaman (angakkuq) after I placed a bear skull on my cabin roof to bleach in the sun. I can still hear old Ned Howarth's high-pitched quavering voice: "How come you do that? How come?" This time I knew better.

Though Clarence and I had planned to stay out two days more, we turned homeward, the weather too warm to keep this treasure properly. To risk spoiling it, unthinkable. Within an hour of our return to Ambler, 40-some miles upriver, calls would go out over the radio, inviting neighbors to come and share; and those invitations would be met with heartfelt utterances of taiku (thank you)—to the successful hunter; to a higher power; and to the bear that had willingly given itself.

I'm glad Clarence, my friend and traveling partner of many years, is not here to witness ADFG's actions over the past couple of years in the Mulchatna country. This unprecedented aerial massacre of roughly 200 brown/grizzly bears is contrary to traditional values: a collective act of not just disrespect, but willful waste and callous disregard for the wildlife that ADFG is charged with managing for the benefit of all Alaskans. This benefit includes spiritual and aesthetic connections shared by tens of thousands of people statewide. Most Alaska Natives traditionally hold bears in highest regard as powerful spiritual beings; the Hoonah Tlingit I later lived among called him Grandfather. If you choose to roll your eyes, you're dismissing deep-seated cultural beliefs that go back thousands of years and still resonate today among many, many Alaskans of all races.

In more transactional terms, brown bears are every bit as valuable a resource as the caribou of the dwindling Mulchatna herd. At least one sport hunting guide has protested on record that his livelihood is being directly impacted by a dramatic fall in bear abundance; I'm sure the take of resident sport and local subsistence hunters is also affected. Then we get to bear viewing—an industry that brings in tens of millions of dollars to flying services, tour operators, hotels and lodges, and supporting businesses down to coffee shops radiating beyond the region. I know professional photographers and writers who have made substantial parts of their living from bears in this region. Given the wide boundaries of the proposed expanded kill zone, neutrally conditioned bears (some of them known by name) that frequent iconic viewing areas such as Brooks Falls and McNeil River will almost certainly be shot, thereby heavily impacting that industry; and odds are, many have already been lost. In practical, dollars-and-cents terms, killing these highly valuable animals—many of whom live a quarter century or more and are not easily replaced due to inherently high cub mortality—makes no sense. Especially since the proposal allows for unlimited killing of bears and wolves, without any studies of sustainability within the control area.

Not only were those bears killed; by ADFG's own admission, many tons of meat were left to rot in the field due to lack of interest among local communities. That's what they claim; how hard did they try to distribute it? In northwest arctic Alaska, most of that meat, if properly cared for, would be snapped up. Also, I sincerely doubt ADFG's claims of systematic hide salvage for auction. What army of industrious elves field-skinned and transported, then later fleshed, turned ears and split toes and lips, cleaned, stretched, and dried 200 hides? I know firsthand a half dozen times over the seemingly endless hours of necessary work involved in properly caring for a raw brown bear hide. I welcome evidence beyond ADFG's proffered hide count—receipts of those sales would be a good start—to disprove my suspicion of near total waste.

Director of Wildlife Conservation Ryan Scott, and others at ADFG may claim that their actions are necessary in order to save the Mulchatna herd—and are in fact the only proactive course they

have available to support this outcome. However, a growing chorus of esteemed research biologists with combined centuries of Alaska experience, including a number of retired, highly respected ADFG biologists, dispute the efficacy of both ADFG's actions and their interpretation of available science they offer to justify it. Simply put: according to these experts, killing bears won't help the herd's recovery—and ADFG is skewing and filtering the data to suggest it will. Rampant brucellosis and forage depletion are the key factors in the herd's failure to thrive, and killing bears, no matter how many, won't fix disease and a lack of food. My own observation: in half a lifetime and tens of thousands of miles of traveling northwest arctic Alaska in all seasons, I've rarely seen bears pursue caribou; and then, opportunistically rather than systematically, and never once witnessed, either directly or through evidence in the field, successful brown bear predation of adult caribou, let alone calves; while I have seen bears steal wolf kills and scavenge human-killed caribou numerous times. I doubt bear predation on caribou, adult or calf, is vastly different in the Mulchatna country; and I challenge ADFG to produce data to the contrary. Also: if anything, predators would target weak, sick, and dead animals, thereby aiding the herd's health under these circumstances. Thus, reducing predator numbers makes—once again—no sense.

An Alaska Superior Court judge has already ruled on the blatant illegality of killing more Mulchatna bears in this effort—a huge, unprecedented black eye for ADFG; and Mr. Scott, whose good faith has already been called into question by the judge, stands on the brink of being found in contempt, along with Commissioner Vincent-Lang, just days from now. This current attempted end run around a court-ordered halt to the current control program, and to authorize its dynamic expansion, will only further tarnish the reputations of both ADFG and this Board of Game—not just within Alaska, but worldwide; and notjust now, but permanently. Is this how you want to be remembered?

ADFG is apparently going through all this expense, trouble, and culturally offensive, unethical, ineffective, and illegal behavior borne on the wings of wishful thinking and motivations one can only guess at. Do not further authorize this misguided predator control program. It makes absolutely no sense—for anyone.

Sincerely,

Nick Jans

PC654

Name: Jara, Jasher

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Complete opposition to the extermination and slaughter of any bears. This is how you increase caribou populations. Man needs to stop interfering with the world and its life organisms and stop trying to play "God". It's not your role. Stop it.

PC655

Name: Jasper, Maureen

Community of Residence: NJ

Comment:

The bears are living in their natural habitat in which we humans have invaded. We should respect their land and their lives.

PC656

Name: Jefferson, Gabrielle

Community of Residence: West Virginia

Comment:

Stop killing the bears. This is inhumane and everyone who took part, physically or in support of it, should be ashamed of themselves.

PC657

Name: Jefferson, Gary

Community of Residence: West road Longhorsley

Comment:

I am coming to Alaska to see bears and whales in 2 weeks time for the UK

These animals bring in tourists and revenue to Alaska don't spoil this beauty of your country

---

PC658

Name: Jefferson, Gary

Community of Residence: West road Longhorsley

Comment:

Disgusting behaviour

Stop this madness

The boost your economy with many tourists from all over the world

---

PC659

Name: Jeffries, Emma

Community of Residence: Los Osos, CA

Comment:

To whom this message lands, I have been to Katmai and experienced the beauty. I also watched a ranger verbally get an adult bear away from the tower after some tourist left the gate open. If people don't like the bears, they shouldn't live where there are bears. I recommend a city or a suburb. Please I beg you to do anything in your power to stop this slaughter. Alaska is tied with Germany of the most beautiful places I have ever lived. Please help to keep it that way. I am a biologist/ecologist in schooling. I am working hard to get a degree to help specifically bears. Some of the most curious and goofy and wild creatures to ever exist. PLEASE HELP.

PC660

Name: Jhane, Prisca

Community of Residence: Philippines

Comment:

Greetings Sir/Madame!

I hope you find this message well. I recently came upon an instagram post concerning the safety and life of wildlife particularly bears who are being gunned down. I am writing this on behalf of wildlife animals who feels deeply but can't ask for help once they need it the most.

Please put an end to this and SUPPORT wildlife!

Best regards,

Pris

PC661

Name: Jimenez, Vianney

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

LEAVE THE KATMAI BEARS ALONE! LEAVE THE SURROUNDING AREA OF KATMAI ALONE!

IF YOU TOUCH ONE HAIR OF THE KATMAI BEARS YOU WILL BE VERY SORRY.

PC662

Name: Jimenez, Vianney

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

STOP TRYING TO MAKE BEARS GO EXTINCT!!!

DEMONIC.

PC663

Name: Jimenez, Vianney

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

IF YOU HURT ANY OF THE BELOVED AND WELL KNOWN KATMAI BEARS THERE WILL BE A HUGE PROBLEM.

STAY AWAY FROM KATMAI

PC664

Name: Jivan, Zai

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

It is unfair to kill bears that have done nothing to anyone. I feel outraged that innocent lives are being taken away because human beings are selfish and cruel. Save the bears. Find humanity within yourselves.

PC665

Name: Jochum, Nina **Affiliation**: Wildlife Collective

Community of Residence: Swellendam - South Africa

Comment:

This is barbaric - educate yourself! These are documentaries that should school you on your pathetic behavior towards nature and the biodiversity that is under threat by culling the bears. You people should be ashamed!

Oceans - 2025 (David Attenborough)

The Territory - 2025

The GRAB - 2022

PC666

Name: Johnson , Michael

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I oppose the killing of all animals and do not support this.

PC667

Name: Johnson , Robin

Community of Residence: North Carolina (my family lives in Fairbanks)

Comment:

I strongly Oppose to predator culling because the ADFG fails to address the true causes of the caribou decline. Killing bears and wolves will Not help the caribou with disease, lack of food, and the impact of summer wildfires. Predator culling neither addresses the root causes nor is it sustainable management; therefore, sustainable, research-based approaches is the only smart solution.

PC668

Name: Johnson, Amanda

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

Control measures that target bears are inhumane, ecologically unsound and unsupported by research.

PC669

Name: Johnson, Elizabeth johnson

Community of Residence: Washington state

Comment:

Please do not include the needless slaughter of bears in this proposed action. I visited these bears a few years ago at Katmai and want to see the bears stay safe, whole and very protected: they are like family to me. They are majestic creatures far more worthy of love and appreciation than needless killing. Thank you for listening.

PC670

Name: Johnson, Stephanie

Community of Residence: Florida's

Comment:

We are to stop trying to wipe out our wildlife! We need to coexist with the beautiful animals of this planet. This was there home first. Humanity is getting greedy and it must stop. Please stop hurting this precious beings

---

PC671

Name: Johnston, Art

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Absolutely appalling and it must be stopped. There is no scientific proof that there are too many bears and wolves. This is absolutely disgusting!

PC672

Name: Johnston, Deborah

Community of Residence: Central Florida

Comment:

I am asking for the deepest part of my being to please stop the senseless killing of the brown bears. It has been shown that this kind of kill-off is not effective.

PC673

Name: Johnston, Hannah

Community of Residence: Cooper Landing, AK

Comment:

The taking of bears is irresponsible and not fair to these beautiful creatures. Nature will balance itself out if allowed to do so. Killing predators is not an effective form of wildlife management. I am against management strategy of simply slaughtering bears. Find a better way!

PC674

Name: Johnston, Tyler

Community of Residence: Civil disobedience

Comment:

Stop killing the locals 🐻

PC675

Name: Jones, Charlotte

Community of Residence: Hailey, Idaho

Comment:

I am opposed to the killing of the Bears in Alaska. Or any bears on the planet. The Bears are a part of a fragile eco system for our planet, By killing the Bears, that aides in killing our planet. I also believe it to be highly immoral.

PC676

Name: Jones, Jayne

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

I do not agree with all these bears being shot.

We need to look after nature and enjoy it

PC677

Name: Jones, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Do not manage bears with aerial shooting. Bears should not be executed. Protect and respect God's creation.

PC678

Name: Jones, MC

Community of Residence: Bradenton FL

Comment:

Save the bears. Do not kill.

PC679

Name: Jones, Olivia

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I think that the bears are an integral part of the Alaska nature. It is truly devastating to see the bears being unnecessarily shot and killed for the sake of stupid caribou which tbh this isn't helping anyways, proven by scientific polls!

PC680

Name: Jorris, Taylor

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please stop shooting black bears, they are needed for our ecosystem and it is cruel what you are doing to them. I am outraged!

PC681

Name: Joseph, Seven

Community of Residence: Delray Beach , Fl

Comment:

Please leave the ecosystems alone. My children deserve to be able to live in a world where all life is protected and important.

PC682

Name: Joshi, Dhanvi

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Save the bears

PC683

Name: Joshi, Dhara

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters, ignores scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power. And remember when a mama bear is targeted the coy or yearlings succumb to nature because they can't defend themselves from boars.

PC684

Name: Joyce, Patricia

Community of Residence: Winston Salem

Comment:

Do not kill those bears. It's a heinous action! You can't fix one thing by destroying another! Man is seriously flawed in his thinking!

PC685

Name: Judge, Emma

Community of Residence: New Zealand

Comment:

Please leave the bears in peace. Shooting them is a pointless and barbaric waste.

PC686

Name: Jutten, Peter

Community of Residence: Netherlands

Comment:

Stop killing bears:(Thus is slaughter

PC687

Name: K Davis, Tanya

Community of Residence: Albany Oregon

Comment:

I oppose the killing of these bears in Alaska. It is cruel and inhumane. Please put an end to this injustice

---

PC688

Name: K, A

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

I oppose the proposed predator control targeting bears. The caribou herd's decline could stem from multiple factors—habitat loss, climate change, and disease—not just predation. Killing brown and black bears, through aerial gunning, is inhumane, ecologically harmful, and raises serious ethical concerns. Bears like other predators are essential to a balanced ecosystem, and their removal creates more problems than it solves.

Additionally , as a parent, I want my children to experience wildlife in their natural habitats—not just in books or captivity. We already have to travel far to show them/teach them to respect bears in the wild. Aerial gunning of bears and cubs is cruel and sends the wrong message to future generations.

I request the Board pursue humane, science-based solutions focused on habitat restoration , support non-lethal measures and invest in long term monitoring, promote ethical public engagement on these discussions for long-term ecological health -ones that protect biodiversity for our children and generations to come.

We must do better—for the caribou, for the bears, and for the ecosystems we all depend on. I respectfully ask you to reject the proposed expansion of bear culling and seek more humane, holistic alternatives.

PC689

Name: K, Malavika

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

I appose the killing of beard in Alaska. Every species have the right to live in this planet. Human beings being the intelligent being are stripping the rights from these pour souls. I beg the authorities to stop this atrocities. And bring a positive solution so that both the bears and humans live in harmony.

Thankyou.

PC690

Name: Kabisch, Tanya

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

It is essential that we protect bears . They are essential to our environment as wolves are

---

PC691

Name: Kahn, Brian

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

99 bears in 2023. 80 more in 2024. Many of them mothers with cubs. All shot from the air with taxpayer dollars. And for what? There's no scientific basis that this increases caribou numbers — in fact, peer-reviewed research has long debunked this myth. This isn't management. It's cruelty disguised as conservation. It needs to stop. Now.

PC692

Name: Kaminski, Denise

Community of Residence: Perrysburg, Ohio

Comment:

Please stop the senseless killing of the Alaskan brown bears. They are a national treasure. I traveled through Alaska in a motorhome for just over 3 weeks and flew in to Katmai National Park just to see the bears. This was is 2024 and we were told then that the bear numbers were down. Please stop before it's too late.

PC693

Name: Kantner, Seth

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

To Whom it Concerns:

I'm writing to express my opposition to management of the caribou of the Mulchatna herd including the taking of bears from aircraft, by the state. Bears contribute to our Alaskan ecosystem, and economy--as do caribou--and this proposed method doesn't help either species, or us. I've photographed bears around Alaska for 40 years, eaten bear meat all my life and used their hides. The same goes for caribou. This methodology is not helping anything and is polluting our Alaskan legacy of caring about and for our land. Please consider other ways of strengthening the future of the Mulchatna Herd. Thank you.

PC694

Name: Kapoor, Khushi

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Bears are essential to Alaska. Why are you killing them? Stop this!!

PC695

Name: Karki, Stella

Community of Residence: Czech Republic

Comment:

Bears are a vital part of Alaska's ecosystems, from maintaining healthy salmon populations to spreading seeds that regenerate our forests. Yet despite their importance, bear hunting continues across vast areas of Alaska, threatening these intelligent, sentient animals and the delicate balance of the wilderness they help sustain.

Every year, bears are hunted not out of necessity but for trophies, pelts, or misguided notions of population control. Cubs are left orphaned, and mature bears, who play crucial roles in teaching younger bears survival skills, are killed, destabilizing bear populations and increasing human-wildlife conflict.

Scientific studies have shown that bear populations do not require human management through hunting to remain stable. In fact, disrupting their natural structures can lead to more aggressive bear behavior and reduce their fear of humans, ironically increasing encounters that put both people and bears at risk.

Alaska's bears are also a major draw for eco-tourism, supporting local businesses and jobs while preserving the lives of these animals. Tourists travel from around the world for a chance to watch a bear fish for salmon or forage with her cubs in the wild. A living bear can generate far more value for communities than a hunted bear ever could.

We must stop bear hunting in Alaska, not only to protect these animals but to honor our duty as stewards of the land. Alaska's wild places are among the last sanctuaries for bears in North America, and we cannot continue to exploit them for short-term gains while risking long-term ecological damage.

Let us stand together to urge policymakers to end bear hunting in Alaska, to transition toward wildlife policies rooted in science and respect, and to ensure future generations can witness the wonder of a wild bear in its rightful home.

PC696

Name: Karp, Liza

Community of Residence: New York City

Comment:

Dear Members of the Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Mulchatna bear control program that would permit aerial gunning of bears from helicopters.

Alaska's bears are a treasured and iconic part of the ecosystem, as well as a constitutional public resource that deserves responsible and ethical stewardship. The proposal to kill bears from the air is not only inhumane, but also lacks transparency and scientific consensus. Predator control efforts like this have historically proven to be ineffective, especially when implemented without robust, peer-reviewed ecological data.

I have a deep appreciation for Alaska's wildlife. Whether through travel, research, or simply admiration from afar, I and many others - see the bears of the Mulchatna region as more than a statistic. They are integral to the landscape, the culture, and the natural balance of the region. Targeting them with such aggressive tactics undermines both science-based wildlife management and public trust in the Board's decision-making process.

I urge you to reject this proposal and pursue wildlife policies that respect both ecological integrity and the public's relationship with Alaska's extraordinary natural heritage.

Sincerely,

Liza Karp

PC697

Name: Karpinski, Christina

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

I oppose managing bear populations or caribou populations by aerial gunning. This is a lazy, fast way to do more damage than good. No animal should be shot from a moving aircraft, as there's higher chances of injury & prolonged suffering this way. If you want to boost ungulate numbers, open more bear hunting and let people on the ground hunt them ethically. Bears cover lots of land within their lifetime, and bear tourism is a huge draw to the state. Protect our wildlife and please vote no on this proposal. There is a better way.

PC698

Name: Karpunina , Julia

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

Save the bears! Stop the cruelty! Our world needs more wildlife and kindness.

PC699

Name: Kashalkar, Prachi

Community of Residence: Qatar

Comment:

I strongly oppose killing wildlife under the pretense of trying to 'maintain' balance for nature. It's not our responsibility as humans to interfere in population control of other species, we aren't gunning down humans because our countries are over populated, are we ? It's unacceptable to treat other species as lesser. Other measures such as relocation can be studied and implemented. I encourage the state to divert resources to research and implement more humane measures such as relocation rather than just choosing to gun down these bears. Their lives matter as much as ours.

PC700

Name: Kasserman, Katherine

Community of Residence: Los Angeles CA

Comment:

I oppose the taking of bears by state violence for any reason.

PC701

Name: Kastel, Diane

Community of Residence: IL

Comment:

Our family is telling the "Board of Game" that we love, and, enjoy, watching, and, learning, about the bears, of Mulchatna, and, we you believe they MUST NOT be gunned from helicopters, which is a gruesome, brutal, and, terrorizing, disrespect for Nature which we are all part of! We oppose your, unconscionable, proposal to slaughter them!

Our family, vehemently, OPPOSES the "Alaska Department of Fish and Game"'s request that the "Board of Game" deliberate on, regulation, changes that would create a, ~40,000, square, mile, black, and, brown, bear, control, program (which includes, aerial, gunning) in, western, Alaska! This is, undoubtedly, in response to "AWA"'s, recent, court, victories, which found that the State's, 2022, Mulchatna, bear, control, program was illegal, and, void! The Court, also, ruled that the State acted 'in, bad, faith' when

they proceeded to kill 11 bears, this May, despite, two, judges ruling that they were doing, so, illegally, and, that the testimony of the State's "Director of Wildlife Conservation was "mostly, not, credible".

The State has scheduled a "Special Meeting", on July 14th, in Anchorage, for the "Board of Game" to vote on the, proposed, regulation, changes. The, proposed, changes would allow "ADFG" to kill, as many bears, as they deem fit, within a, 40,000, square, mile, area, already, undergoing, wolf, control!

We are fighting for, Mulchatna bears! The "Board of Game" is, at heart, a, public, process. Alaska's bears are a, constitutionally, protected, resource and our voices matter!

PC702

Name: Kastel, Diane

Community of Residence: AK

Comment:

Our family is submitting, written public comments, strongly, OPPOSING the, new, Mulchatna, bear, control, program! We are telling the Board of Game" that your methods of gunning down these iconic, bears, from, helicopters, and, airplanes is, unconscionably, cruel, and, against, all, conservation, ideals! We enjoy searching for the bears, of Mulchatna, learning about them, and, telling you that they MUST be safe from persecution, and violence!

PC703

Name: Katz, Philip

Community of Residence: Danvers

Comment:

Let nature cull the bears . Absolutely no need to interfere with human intervention except on limited basis where there is imminent danger from the bears.

PC704

Name: Kaufmann, Renate

Community of Residence: #3

Comment:

Bears have a reason to live and not be slaughtered. Humans like that need to be arrested

---

PC705

Name: Kaur, Aishini

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Stop killing bears they too have right on this earth. Stop this cruelty in the name of all the excuses .

PC706

Name: Kaur, Harneet

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Wildlife matters. Each and every living being has the right to live. Human interference has resulted in catastrophic outcomes. It won't stop until we stand together. Mother Earth is of everyone, not just humans.

PC707

Name: Kaur, Palak

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

rofessional, but morally firm in tone.

To the Alaska Board of Game,

I write to formally oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area by authorizing the killing of brown and black bears by department staff. I stand here not just as a concerned citizen, but as a voice for those who cannot sit at this table — the bears you're proposing to kill.

This measure is not conservation — it is ecological vandalism. Predators such as brown and black bears are vital to the health of any ecosystem. They are not obstacles to caribou recovery; they are part of the solution. To target them for removal under the guise of "managing" the herd is to reduce wildlife into pieces on a board, moved not by wisdom, but by shortsighted fear and outdated thinking. Let's be honest. It's not science. It's control — violent, shortsighted, and deeply unnatural control.

What precedent does this set — that when nature doesn't conform to our metrics, we kill until it does? This is not stewardship. It is control by force.

I urge you to listen not only to data, but to the deep ethical weight of your decision. You are being asked to approve not just a regulation, but a betrayal of the wild.

PC708

Name: Kay, Michael

Community of Residence: Valdez

Comment:

I just think that after all of the Bison were slaughtered in a similar matter and are no longer existing in the region. Maybe we should think before we do mass killings to wildlife.

PC709

Name: Kaye, Natasha

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

LEAVE THOSE BEARS ALONE! There is little to no evidence that killing these apex predators AT WILL will have any positive impact for the herd. This is vile and I will ensure that my vote goes against whoever put these bozo laws in place.

PC710

Name: Kazarian , George

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of these black and brown bears by the board of game.

PC711

Name: Keates, Sarah

Community of Residence: Massachusetts, USA

Comment:

Shooting mother bears and their cubs from the air in order to stop the decline of a Caribou herd is illegal, inhumane, and has no scientific basis. Maybe the board should be thinking outside the box on this problem, and consult conservation experts to come up with other strategies. which do not include the destruction of other species!

PC712

Name: Keaton, Ashley

Community of Residence: Linwood

Comment:

Why are so many bears being shot down? Is their population being closely monitored and managed so that we don't endanger them? Please don't unnecessarily kill wildlife. They were here first.

PC713

Name: Keegan, Jennifer

Community of Residence: American Citizen and resident of Utah

Comment:

Biodiversity and ecological will right itself by Nature if we stop creating all of the imbalance.

Please, it's time to let the hears and antelope live and hunt and die and rebound and evolve on their own terms. on the terms of the natural world.

man needs to step away.

don't kill our bears.

PC714

Name: Kehoe, Kevin

Community of Residence: Milton VT

Comment:

Please do not advance any bill or any law that permits the killing of wildlife. Specifically this refers to bears from aerial helicopters.

PC715

Name: Keim, Frank

Community of Residence: Fairbanks, 99709

Comment:

I am a an 83 year old, 64 year resident of Alaska. Please no more hunting and trapping of bears in the Mulchatna area, unless proven absolutely necessary by a thorough scientific analysis. I canoed the Wood-Tikchik State Park for two weeks just 4 years ago, and did not see one bear, even during the salmon run period. So there doesn't seem to be a rational scientific reason for you justification. Not to mention that a court instructed you TWICE not

to open any more "killing periods" to try to save the Mulchatna caribou herd from an "overabundance" of Grizzly bears in the region. The State's (and your) breaking the law does not abide my sense of scientific morality!

PC716

Name: Keller, Madison

Community of Residence: Albany, GA

Comment:

I respectfully oppose the proposed regulation allowing department staff to take brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. Scientific evidence does not support predator control as an effective or sustainable means of increasing caribou populations, especially in complex ecosystems influenced by multiple factors such as habitat quality, climate, and disease. Targeting apex predators risks disrupting ecological balance and may have unintended long-term consequences. Effective herd management should prioritize habitat restoration, accurate population monitoring, and non-lethal strategies rooted in sound science and conservation ethics.

PC717

Name: Kelly, Carol

Community of Residence: Chico, CA

Comment:

I oppose this vehemently. Leave the bears alone! They are not hurting anything, and they belong there.

PC718

Name: Kelly, Rachel

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Killing bears and not providing them a safe environment is inhumane and wrong. Please stop this cruelty and save the bears.

PC719

Name: Kennealy, Sarah

Community of Residence: Rr 1

Comment:

I am absolutely against the 'herd control' of these bears. They were here before we were and we have no right to kill them. Why is it human nature to kill anything that is in our way?! Please leave these bears to live their lives. By killing them the eco system will be messed around with once again causing ripple effects in the future

---

PC720

Name: Kennedy, Caitlyn

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

Please do not kill the bears! You are ruining the ecosystem!

PC721

Name: Kenny, Ashley

Community of Residence: Greenville, South Carolina

Comment:

Bears play a crucial role in Alaska's ecosystems, helping to maintain balance and biodiversity. Allowing the shooting of bears, especially in vulnerable habitats, disrupts this natural balance and threatens both the species and the environment they support. Protecting bears ensures the health of Alaska's wilderness for future generations—ecologically, culturally, and economically through sustainable wildlife tourism. Furthermore, preventing them from entering specific areas is allowing humans to take over their habitat, leading to further decline.

PC722

Name: Kentoffio, Jena

Community of Residence: NY

Comment:

There is zero scientific evidence that the killing of these bears benefits the caribou population. Stop killing the bears and using taxpayer money to do so, it's inhumane and unethical.

PC723

Name: Keogh, Laura

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

This is heartless and unnecessary. It's astounding the level of cruelty humans will stoop to in this world.

PC724

Name: Kepner, Alyssa

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Why kill the bears when they are not doing any harm and are a massive tourist attraction? Do you think all those people would be there with cameras day after day if the bears weren't there?

PC725

Name: Kerr, Theresa

Community of Residence: Rio Vista, CA 94571

Comment:

This action makes no sense to me. Again, why? Surely we have other areas in America that money could be used for…I.e. schools

---

PC726

Name: Kerrison, Lucy

Community of Residence: Ling Lane Scarcroft Leeds Yorkshire

Comment:

Why in this day & age do you feel the need to act so inhumanely towards these beautiful creatures that we have the pleasure to have in our world please stop

---

PC727

Name: Kesterson, Laurie Beth

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

As a farmer in Alabama, I acknowledge the importance of a balanced ecological system but to be able to shot bears from helicopters is weak. To be allowed to shoot mothers and cubs is inhumane.

PC728

Name: Khan, Susan

Community of Residence: *Gilbert, Arizona

Comment:

Please do NOT shoot your beautiful bears from a helicopter! This wanton killing is horrific and damages tourism to Alaska. A lot of us come up there to go bear watching. The thought that as we oooh and aahhhh on a bear watching tour, others are being slaughtered from a helicopter.

You will bring more money in to the state by being known as a sanctuary for wildlife!

PC729

Name: Khan, Szarianne

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

If there is no system in place to collect data to assess the impact of this program and it's implications on the bear and caribou populations, then how will you know if this method (i.e. randomly murdering bears) is actually effective? Research needs to play a key role in any project of this magnitude. Until appropriate measures are put in place to ensure that you're not doing more harm than good to the environment you claim to protect, this culling should stop.

PC730

Name: Khatib, Maria

Community of Residence: Mirdif

Comment:

I strongly and sincerely oppose this regulation which allows the killing of bears. It is highly unethical and is a disruption to natures cycle.

PC731

Name: Killingsworth, Winnie

Community of Residence: Washington State

Comment:

As someone who had the privilege of spending summers in Alaska as a child, I was able to witness all kinds of wildlife including bears.

With no research supporting the human enforced decline of the bear population for caribou populations to thrive, I see no beneficial reason to reinstate the aerial gunning program targeting bears (including cubs!).

Bears are important to the ecosystem. They are also important to the economy of Alaska as people travel from all over the globe to see the landscapes and wildlife of Alaska including the bears!

PC732

Name: Kimmerle, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Yavapai County, AZ

Comment:

Do not do this! That's not hunting! That's slaughtering! Cowardly to use helicopter,, dogs, etc.. Leave the predators alone! They do serve a purpose! Years from now you will regret it when the deer,elk, moose, etc.. get out of control!

The animals have the right to live n raise their young in peace! Shooting from the air is worse then from the ground! It's cowardly! You want to be a big hunter then face the animals! No shooting from hundreds of yards away, hiding behind a hunters blind!

PC733

Name: Kimminau, Judy

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I'm writing today to OPPOSE your ongoing efforts to gun down brown bears in the Mulchatna area. I travel to Alaska frequently and have done so for 25 years. I stay in local hotels, use local guides and frequent local grocery stores and restaurants. I come specifically for the wildlife and beauty of Alaska. I will not spend my tourism dollars if you continue to mismanage the wildlife under your control. I don't know who or what is causing you to continue your efforts here but it's not for the Caribou. Your science and approach has been deemed illegal by your Courts. Please listen to the public who value this precious resource and stop your bear control efforts.

PC734

Name: Kimminau, Judy

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

I'm writing today regarding the Mulchatna Predator Control Program. It has been found to be unlawful by your own Superior Court. Despite this, the ADF&G continues to keep trying to get it to pass. The latest move to change regulations on a parcel of land where they can continue aerial hunting. I have visited Alaska over 12 times. Each time I come I spend money at local hotels, with local guides, the Alaskan Railway, a lot of local pilots and I shop at food and gift stores that are locally owned. I come for the Alaskan Brown Bear. To illegally kill this bear with incorrect data and call it wildlife management is horrible. If you care about my tourism dollars, you will not allow the ADF&G to do this. Further, you should support the rulings of your own Courts. Thank you

---

PC735

Name: King, Cheryl

Community of Residence: NJ

Comment:

The state's plan is based on faulty science. Other factors, including habitat changes, are responsible for the drop in caribou numbers. The state's program could harm bear populations, including the internationally famous population that roams Katmai National Park and Preserve, as well as wolf populations.

My opposition is based on:

1. Lack of scientific evidence

2. Waste of taxpayer money

3. Moral and ethical concerns

Seriously, how do you justify killing some of nature's most magificent creatures?! Man is the real danger to humanity.

PC736

Name: King, Jordan

Community of Residence: Osgoode

Comment:

[redacted] people, DAAAAA BEARS!!!!!

PC737

Name: Kinion, DJ

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Save the Bears!

PC738

Name: Kinnear, Jeremy

Community of Residence: Prefer not to share

Comment:

Unless there is compelling peer-reviewed evidence suggesting that these bears are destroying the caribou population, and that there are no better alternatives, I don't think they should be culled from this area.

There are not many places in the world that the public can easily witness wild brown bears feeding on salmon like this and it is a sight to behold.

And besides, looks like they're eating salmon to me.

PC739

Name: Kloppe, Alina

Community of Residence: Germany

Comment:

Stop killing bears!!

PC740

Name: Knef, Kiley

Community of Residence: Plattsburgh

Comment:

The killing of these bears is atrocious and unnecessary. It's a waste of taxpayer money but above that it is so cruel and inhumane. Leave the bears alone that is THEIR LAND.

PC741

Name: Koch, Stacy

Community of Residence: El paso, tx

Comment:

I am opposed to killing animals for their inconvenience. What are they doing to deserve being killed? Are there any other options to killing. There is a balance in. Store and when one animal is killed off then another consequence can happen. We all serve a purpose on this cycle. If the cycle is broken fix the cycle done eradicate an entire group of animals.

PC742

Name: Koch, Vanessa

Community of Residence: Nassau county

Comment:

I 1000% oppose the mindless slaughter of bears. With the technology available today, simply killing bears without scientific evidence that doing so helps another species recover is not only reckless but apparently the lesson that nature shows time & again has not been learned. Every creature deserves the

opportunity to survive and thrive. Find a better way to increase the caribou population & find funding. Our government gives away billions of tax dollars on things that are absurd, surely they will fund an integral part to the natural wellbeing & habitat of Alaska.

PC743

Name: Kohli, Gurleen

Community of Residence: Alberta, Canada

Comment:

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed expansion of the predator control program to include the killing of bears in Alaska.

It feels deeply unnatural to interfere in this way. These animals are simply living in their natural habitat — where they belong. Bears deserve to be safe in their own home, not targeted or removed for human convenience. Decisions like this undermine the very purpose of protected wild spaces. We should be working to preserve ecological balance, not destroy it.

Please reject this proposal and prioritize humane, science-based approaches to wildlife management.

PC744

Name: Koktavy, Tavius

Community of Residence: Nature

Comment:

I oppose the taking of black and brown bears. Science shows that caribou population is declining from habitat loss, climate change, and overharvest. Reduction of the bear population should not considered a solution to animal scarcity. Please reconsider your proposal in favor of a pro-bear solution. I suggest addressing changes in human behavior first and foremost. Thank you.

PC745

Name: Kominek, Lisa

Community of Residence: Concern for the Unnatural & Inhumane Killing of Animals

Comment:

My name is Lisa Kominek. I am writing in opposition to ALL the proposals of the continued Mulchatna Bear Control Program to increase the Caribou population.

Should the population of Caribou increase in their numbers, even close to the numbers they are looking for, how will they ever be able to stop the killing of bears and wolves since ALL other factors, ex: global warming, decease, and depleted food sources continue to be major contributing factors in the cause of decreased caribou numbers? All factors that will not change in the near future. Continued killing of these

beautiful bears and wolves is inhumane and unnatural to their environment and doing so will not stop the bears and wolves from finding the Caribou as a food source.

By taking one source out of the equation it will not be enough of a change to increase the population to the numbers that they are expecting, and the proof of that is the unchanged numbers of caribou to date from the previous years of the killing of bears and wolves. All the killing is going to do is cause bear and wolf populations to decline to the point of, once again, being placed on the endangered species list.

In addition, Alaska's bear and wolf populations, are a major contributing factor to your tourism which brings in quite a bit of revenue to Alaska's parks and to the state. As tourists, we have come to know many of these beautiful bears and have come to appreciate them for their beauty and intelligence. We want to continue to see these bears and wolves, and many of them we know and love by name and/or numbers.

There are other known ways to increase Caribou numbers without killing other animals in the process. I urge you to look into these other sources and if it comes down to unavailable funds, I know that concerned people would donate to this other source in order to avoid these needless killings.

Thank you for your time.

PC746

Name: Konerman, Tanya

Community of Residence: Indiana

Comment:

In the Lower 48, we have very little chance to see black bears or grizzlies ever again. Once they're gone, they're gone. Alaska is home to these intelligent creatures with personalities and families and lives which are important to the ecosystem. Hunting them from a helicopter is not only detrimental to their lives, it is detrimental to their future. It is also cowardly and inhumane. Please be better…do better.

PC747

Name: Kontautaite , Ingrida

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Opposing cruelty against innocent animals.

PC748

Name: Koshy, Annette

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Hello,

Please stop interfering in the lives of animals. If there is an imbalance, it is due to humans. We have enough blood on our hands. Leave them be and nature will sort itself out. Please. We will all answer for our actions.

PC749

Name: Kp, Jaime

Community of Residence: Lansing, IL

Comment:

This an inhumane and cruel proposal. No animal deserves to be hunted like this!! There is no scientific reason or justification for allow for the mass killing of bears. Habitat loss is the number one contributor of species decline. How about you start looking at the herd's habitat before you start the massacre of another species. LEAVE THE BEARS ALONE!

PC750

Name: Kp, Jamie

Community of Residence: Hobart, IN

Comment:

Please do NOT expand the grizzly killing zone. There is ZERO scientific based evidence that proves slaughtering bears will preserve, or increase, caribou numbers. Grizzlies are a keystone species and MUST be protected. Also, killing anything from a helicopter is unconscionable and cruel!! It is a heinous and cowardly act from anyone. Leave the bears alone! Killing creatures to maintain human tradition of hunting caribou is barbaric. We share this planet with billions of other creatures, whether you like it or not. We are all part of a house of cards, and humans have removed far too many cards already. We are on the verge of systemic collapse. STOP killing!

PC751

Name: Krabill, Anna

Community of Residence: Tacoma

Comment:

This procedure is costly, destructive, and very short sighted. Culling a slow reproducing species, and a key predator, is not an ethical or appropriate way to manage wildlife and will have far reaching

unintended consequences. I urge you to stop this method of management. Instead we can encourage caribou hunters to limit their kills to only the absolutely necessary levels in response to these caribou declines. We can also consider other causes for population change in the herds, and look for more patient and sound ideas that might assist the population. Hunting is a two sided interaction between humans and animals. If caribou populations are currently low and being over hunted, that population loss is the responsibility of the humans who hunt them. Not the bears, a far slower working and natural caribou predator. It is our responsibility as hunters, to respect and value the animals we hunt, their ebbs and flows, and their natural predators and environments so they can recover and continue to live and flourish to the best of their abilities. This way we might be able to keep interacting with them and share in hunting them across time. This bear culling does not protect caribou from over hunting, it won't solve the problem of their general decline, and it would be wrong to continue in this way. Please reflect on this thoughtfully and stop the culling, there are more responsible solutions to this issue.

Respectfully, Anna Krabill

PC752

Name: Kral, Benjamin

Community of Residence: Bavaria

Comment:

I'm totally against shooting black and brown bears. It's not needed. Or can you tell me and convince we with one good reason why this should happen?

PC753

Name: Krause, Jan

Community of Residence: Augusta

Comment:

Lacking any scientific or whatsoever evidence of the proposed methods of bear management to reduce caribou predation, when actually, the real endangerment for wildlife - caribou and bear, as well as all others - is the ridiculous over-exploitation of the lands resources, especially oil and gas as well as mineral exploration and extraction. It's been a horrendous decision led by monetary interests by the few that will reap a short term profit from such explorations, leaving barren wastelands and limiting the already small areas the caribou can roam free further, until the last of the big herds will perish. NO!

PC754

Name: Kreiman, Cindy

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

To All Concerned, Good Morning,

I wish to express my opposition to the aerial killings of our bears and wolves. Wildlife and their habitats are being overlooked and unheard, when in essence they are paramount to the well being for all life. These amazing animals are trying to live, survive and care for their young, in a world being overrun by "humans". They need to be protected and respected, not exploited and destroyed. They are important in maintaining a balance for our ecosystems, keeping wild herds healthy, help control CWD and other diseases and keep our economies thriving.

Also killing these animals and their young is morally and ethically wrong. They have enough set backs with habitat loss, climate change, vehicular deaths, poaching, trophy hunting and mismanagement. It is fear, anger, hate, greed and ignorance, it is misconceptions, myths and lies, it is special interest groups, money and power that are taking control.

We are a reflection of what we do and how we treat animals and this Earth.

Please hear their cries, see their tears, feel their pain and Open your hearts for all our sakes...

Thank you for your time

PC755

Name: Kushner, Maggie

Community of Residence: Palmyra pa

Comment:

I oppose the unethical slaughtering of brown and black bears as a way to “increase” the Mulchatna Caribou population. The killing of one animal to create more of another species for human hunting is unjustifiable and should not even be considered an option. As it stands there is no scientific evidence to back that predator control programs (like this one) have any sort of proof to recovering the caribou or moose populations. Not to mention the effects on the ecosystem this could have taking natural predators out of the equation could have more of a negative impact on the environment long term. This is overall a very devastating “project” the Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife is doing I am heavily disappointed that they are doing this and hope it is stopped.

PC756

Name: Kynock, Keara

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

This is so wrong on so many levels.

PC757

Name: La Cava, Karen

Community of Residence: Los Angeles, Ca

Comment:

Save the bears! Killing bears IS NOT conservation, it is murder. It is cruelty to animals.

PC758

Name: La Rossa, Sofia

Community of Residence: Santa Barbara, CA

Comment:

Though I may not be an Alaskan resident, I still wanted to speak up about this egregious wildlife issue. Shooting bears from helicopters is a huge waste of taxpayer money, has not been proven to help the caribou population, and threatens the lives of bears who should be allowed to roam free. My heart hurts to know that this is being done to such a majestic animal. Please consider stopping this! It's not right for the animals, it's not right to tax paying Americans to fund this.

PC759

Name: Ladd, Kimberly

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

What a despicable and disgusting thing to do. The land they are roaming is their home. Stop killing animals for your own pathetic reasons. Learn to live alongside them or move away. Humans are the problem here!!!!!!

PC760

Name: Laird, Crystal

Community of Residence: Portland Oregon

Comment:

There is no reason for this. You need bears to help keep caribou and deer populations down. If they are attacking live stock then there needs to be better protections placed by the farmers and fish and wildlife. Stop the killing.

PC761

Name: Laivera, Eli

Community of Residence: Germany

Comment:

We do not consent!!

PC762

Name: Lammers, Kendra

Community of Residence: Downingtown, PA

Comment:

I oppose the killing if bears and wolves to increase the caribou herd. These beautiful animals deserve to live as well as the caribou. These beautiful bears of Katmai are protected and roam the affected areas.

PC763

Name: Lane, Mariana

Community of Residence: Lousiville

Comment:

We must respect Mother Earth. EVERYTHING on this planet has a purpose and is essential for each of their respective ecosystems. To refuse one being's life is to refuse the whole ecosystem that it contributes to, which in turn, affects ours. Leave the bears where they are. What would be left if we kill off every animal, insect, amphibian, mammal? What would survive? Definitely not us, because we all rely on the various ecosystems that keeps the planet balanced.

PC764

Name: Lapke, Lulu

Community of Residence: Kirkland

Comment:

I am from Kirkland, Washington and I've had the privilege to travel to places in Alaska, Yellowstone, and the Grand Tetons. From there I've been able to witness the wildlife including bears and see how much they do for the environment. I am desperately asking you to not allow shooting of bears that will take away from their ecosystem and create a disgraceful legacy from human beings. No mother or cubs should be killed and without reasoning of population control there is no need to take out these creatures, at the end of the day we are invading their environment and we should respect that. Thank you, Lulu Lapke.

PC765

Name: Larsen, Kristy

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I do NOT support Nikki g bears or any other animals. These creature are part of an entire ecosystem where each species relies on the other for their survival. Man needs to let nature work its magic with zero interference!

PC766

Name: LaRue-Russell, Misty

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

There is absolutely no reason to kill anything, they will manage themselves. Just stop interfering with nature.

PC767

Name: Latham, Jenny

Community of Residence: Howell

Comment:

Greetings,

I am opposed to the proposal to kill bears to "maintain" the caribou population. The most current population survey for caribou is over two decades old. Using old data to justify the killing of bears is not only lazy, but cruel. You run the risk of killing bears for no actual good reason and all based on what people not nature considers balanced.

There is no justification for this proposal.

I am traveling to Alaska to view nature as it is not as people curate it.

Sincerely,

Jen

PC768

Name: Laurel, Brianna

Community of Residence: San Pedro

Comment:

MY SUPPORT IS FOR THE WILDLIFE

PC769

Name: Lauvitel, Cameron

Community of Residence: International

Comment:

I strongly oppose such extreme control measures of a keystone species in one of the few flourishing wild ecosystems. The bear populations in Alaska are threatened by human expansion and the effects of climate change. They are very sensitive in particular to the warming of the ice cap and significant fluctuations of the salmon population year-on-year. Introducing additional pressures to the bear population would be cruel and unwarranted. Bears are compassionate and sensitive animals and culling could be considered tantamount to mass murder. There is no reasonable argument to be made that a bear being inconvenient warrants its death. In the unfortunate reality that financial arguments often hold better sway than moral ones, bears contribute significantly to tourism and the image of Alaska abroad, which would be - and perhaps already has been - severely damaged by this proposal.

PC770

Name: Lauvitel, Nina

Community of Residence: United Kingdom (American citizen living abroad)

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed regulation.

Research shows that brown bears in Alaska have home ranges of 50 to 195 square miles. Other studies have shown bears moving into the proposed control area from the safe havens of the National Preserve. The proposed regulation would therefore be very likely to affect the brown bears of Katmai National Park. These bears in particular are very dear to me, as they are to a great number across the world. Learning about them every year brings great joy to myself and my loved ones, and has supported conservation work and outreach worldwide for many years. Were these precious animals to be harmed as a result of this ill-advised regulation, I, and many others across the world, would be very deeply hurt. Furthermore, the bears, being of Katmai National Park, are part of a safe haven that we as Americans have a duty to protect, not destroy.

I am alarmed that this regulation would essentially permit the ADFG to kill as many bears "as they see fit" across a huge area of 40,000 square miles. I have very real concerns about the wider impacts of this on Alaska's ecosystem: bears have a well-established role in the food chain, and work to ensure that the proliferation of certain other flora and fauna does not get out of control. Given that the State's illegal and

void 2022 Mulchatna bear control program, and the illegal and bad-faith killing of 11 bears this May, I do not trust that this a matter that is being treated with due consideration.

I hope that my opposition to the regulation is clear and very much hope my words are taken seriously.

PC771

Name: Lavagnino, Ana

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

As an Alaska resident, I OPPOSE the plan to kill more bears and wolves. Please recognize the value of the bears and wolves in the ecosystem. Humans have a horrible record of destroying the environment. Respect the judges' rulings!

PC772

Name: Lavagnino-Hudspeth, Beatriz

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I OPPOSE the killing of bears and wolves. Humans are a hyper-invasive species that has yet to learn how to respect how our ecosystem works. Respect the judges' ruling. STOP the killing NOW!

PC773

Name: Lawless, Olivia

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

Brooks Falls is home to one of the most concentrated groups of Brown Bears on earth. It is their home, and they have every right to live and exist within it. Killing bears anywhere is devastating, but killing them at Brooks would be cruel. Every year 100+ bears travel to the area to take advantage of one of the last great migrations on earth, the salmon that are the foundation of the entire ecosystem. Please reconsider

---

PC774

Name: Laxmi, Vijaya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Why on earth is it so necessary to kill innocent beings. Stop shooting bear. We do not hold a reason big enough to justify their murder. They are just small babies who have it more difficult than us. Save the bears on public demand. We all pray

" may life treat you , how you treat those who cannot speak for themselves"

PC775

Name: Laz, Despina

Community of Residence: Greece

Comment:

Stop killing innocent bears.!

PC776

Name: Lazos , Maria

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

PC777

Name: Leach, Gage

Community of Residence: Denver

Comment:

Why would you kill off predators? There's hard evidence that predators are needed to balance the eco system and that hard evidence is wolf's being introduced into Yellowstone and Colorado where upon there introduction wildlife started to return and rebalance. Killing off predators doesn't do any one good besides pushes this earth closer to extinction. If you guys are truly doing it for environmental protection then I shouldn't have to man splain this to you.

PC778

Name: Leadbetter, Lea

Community of Residence: Ontario camada

Comment:

This is not right..animals have right too..we are killing the world..so tragic

---

PC779

Name: Leblanc, Celine

Community of Residence: Wasaga Beach

Comment:

Opposed. This is barbaric and I'm shocked that this has happened before. There is no reason for any of this.

PC780

Name: Leblanc, Morgan

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

These innocent bears should not be getting killed for simply trying to stay alive. Let nature take its course. One species shouldn't be taken out if it's preying off another.

PC781

Name: Lebo, Anne

Community of Residence: Camp Hill, PA

Comment:

Anne Lebo

[redacted]

Camp Hill, Pa 17011

I am not in support of The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters,

ignores scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power. And the use of public funding for this cruelty is morally questionable, & wrong! Wildlife is to be held in trust for all citizen's, agencies have a duty to protect biodiversity. Government should set an example of stewardship, not cruelty. Please try to do better.

PC782

Name: LeClair, Heather

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

What's happening right now in Alaska is not wildlife management — it is a massacre. The aerial gunning of over 80 bears, including cubs, is not just cruel — it's scientifically unsound, ethically indefensible, and morally outrageous.

This is not about conservation. It's about state-sponsored extermination under the false justification of "protecting caribou herds," despite decades of ecological research showing that predator removal does not sustainably increase ungulate populations. The primary threats to Alaska's caribou are habitat loss, disease, nutritional stress, and climate change — not bears and wolves doing what nature designed them to do.

The idea that balance can be restored by wiping out apex predators from the sky is not only outdated — it's a brutal and cowardly abuse of power. Killing mothers and their cubs by helicopter is not management — it's a war on wildlife that has no place in a modern, science-based society.

Let me be clear: I will not support any agency, institution, or political leadership that allows this to continue. I will not spend tourism dollars in a state that turns its skies into slaughterfields. Alaska's natural heritage is not a trophy to be managed for one favored species. It is a living ecosystem — and you cannot chainsaw one part of it and expect the rest to remain standing.

This matters because what we allow to happen to wild animals reflects who we are. It matters because silence in the face of cruelty is complicity. And it matters because the future of conservation cannot be driven by fear, politics, or profit — but by ethics, evidence, and ecological respect.

This must stop. Now

PC783

Name: Lee, Kirsten

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

I absolutely oppose this proposed regulation!! This is a waste of money and a horrible thing to do to wildlife. No animal should be gunned down from a helicopter. Many people come to Alaska each year to view these beautiful creatures and it will also affect your economy. Please leave the bears alone!

PC784

Name: Lee, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Austin

Comment:

Bears near our national parks are part of what makes this land remarkable. Managing wildlife should reflect wisdom, not waste. Removing these animals disrupts the balance of nature, wastes taxpayer resources, and risks losing a part of our national heritage. Good stewardship means protecting the integrity of our ecosystems for future generations. We don't need to eliminate wildlife to live responsibly—we need thoughtful, proven solutions that respect both people and the land.

PC785

Name: Lee, Sydney

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

This act of murdering brown bears is quite frankly disgusting!! While bears pose a threat to humans, they are also living things that are trying to protect themselves and their homes. Don't we do that! Don't we carry firearms to do the same things, and sometimes worse. We need to start looking at animals and living things with their own minds. When one species goes extinct, they all will. We are a very small part of a very large circle, the circle of Life.

I am writing in response to a proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

I OPPOSE this proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

Wildlife viewers from around the world are following the Greater Mulchatana Predator Control Area predator removal program, and are educating themselves about these matters. The bear population within Katmai National Park is closely observed by naturalists, rangers, park visitors and live camera viewers. It is widely recognized among this group that a considerable number of the regular bear population did not return to Brooks Falls in 2024. Bear viewing brings a tremendous amount of attention and revenue to the state. In the 2024 "Fat Bear Week" contest, over 1,041,124 votes were cast with between 80,000 – 100,000 people voting on a daily basis. Bear enthusiasts worldwide have recently become aware of the various proposals regarding the bears of Alaska and are actively seeking to educate themselves on these issues. The tourism industry in Alaska suffered greatly during the Covid pandemic with many businesses being forced to shut down for good. While tourism is on the rebound, the state cannot afford to lose the economic benefit of the wildlife viewing public. According to the Alaska Travel Industry's *Alaska's 2022-2033 Visitor Profile* report, 66% of the total visitors stated that wildlife viewing was one of their primary activities, 30% identified bear viewing as a primary activity while only 6% listed hunting as a primary activity. Of those visitors who hire guides, 30% were sightseeing guides, 29% were wildlife viewing guides, 17% were fishing guides, and only 6% of guides that were hired were hunting guides. (Source: https://www.alaskatia.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/ATIA%20Alaska%20Visitor%20Profile%202022-2023.pdf)

A little over 20 years ago, the state was forced to back away from a wolf control program due to public outcry and threatened boycotts of the Alaska Tourism industry. With the commonplace use of social media, I believe that allowing airborne hunting in a region that is already conducting a controversial predator control program has the potential to trigger an economic catastrophe for the small businesses that depend on tourism dollars. According to the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, there were 640,000 total non-consumptive wildlife-viewing participants in the State of Alaska that included both residents and non-residents. It was reported that these wildlife-viewers spent a total of more than $2 Billion in 2011, with the average participant spending about $3,200. (Source: https://inletkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Bear-Viewing-Economics-Study.pdf)

Hunting bears from aircraft is both inequitable and unethical. It disrupts wildlife and may result in population declines that adversely affect the entire ecosystem. Bears reproduce infrequently, approximately every 4 to 6 years, and one-third of cubs fail to survive their first year, thus predator control could rapidly diminish the bear population, with effects on the ecosystem far beyond caribou population enhancement. At present, there are no baseline studies available regarding the population of bears in this region of the state. This proposal relies on anecdotal observations from individuals who stand to gain financially from its approval, rather than on robust scientific data.

PC787

Name: Lembke, Adriana

Community of Residence: Vienna

Comment:

Don't kill Bears, there are smarter ways for protection of your goals. And if you need to do it, then do also this smarter and stop shooting mothers with cubs, what the heck.

PC788

Name: Lenardon, Sonia

Community of Residence: Italy/British Columbia

Comment:

Predator control does not work. This has been proven over and over again by scientists doing field research, including by teams working with ranchers on human-wildlife conflict. Setting aside the utterly unethical aspect of this proposition (if one can even do that), predator control is ineffective and harmful to the ecosystem both in terms of wildlife balance and geological development and maintenance. Think, for example, how wolves' predatory action positively impacts river systems throught trophic cascade (i.e. the reduction of herbivore populations fosters vegetation regrowth around riverbanks, stabilizing them and reducing erosion). An ecosystem's health is dependent upon its predators. Predator control is proven to be highly disruptive and even cause an increase of human-wildlife conflict in the long run.

In short, please keep the ecosystem healthy and leave the bears alone. Even the caribou will thank you.

PC789

Name: Lentner , Lee Ann

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

To Whom It May Concern/The Board of Fish and Game

I am writing in regards to the predator control practices in Alaska. Your own Supreme Court ruled that the state of Alaska's bear program was unlawful. It was responsible for gunning down nearly 200 brown bears .

First - It was claimed that these bears needed to be gunned down in an attempt to grow a caribou heard yet there is no proof by killing these bears the caribou will increase. Has anyone completed any studies to see if the land where they are trying to increase the heard can sustain the size of the heard officials think it should. Land and habitat fluctuates and what could sustain a larger heard many years ago will not necessarily sustain the same size heard today. It is also my understanding that IM Statute, hunter demand is one of several criteria that determines the harvest, not science, at the expense of the predators. So the

bears and the wolves suffer at the expense of wanting to increase the caribou heard with NO proof that the predators are even affecting the size of the heard.

Second - tourism, do you have any idea how much money Alaska brings in from people traveling from all over the world to come to Alaska to view and photograph the Bears of Brooks Falls in Katmai National Park and the ones in Lake Clark National Park and Denali National Park? And hopeful they will catch a glimpse of the elusive wolf. I have traveled to Alaska to all of these places and have the privilege of photographing the bears, I have never seen a wolf. This September I will be making my 6th trip to Alaska, My 5th to Brooks Falls hoping to see the bears that return every year to this location. Last year we were missing many of our regulars - how many of these were killed from your aerial helicopter assault on these animals? Continue the assault against these animals and your tourism will stop, no bears=no tourists. We come for them.

I plead with you to reconsider your assault on the bears and the wolves. Predators are needed to equalize the eco system. There are not studies proving the bears are affecting the size of the caribou heard and without studies proving they are affecting the heard the aerial slaughter of these animals must cease and desist. A study needs to be completed to see if the land can even sustain the size of caribou heard you are trying to grow. Please consider doing that before you continue your assault on our beloved bears and the wolves.

Please Stop the Assault,

Lee Ann Lentner

[redacted]

Cedar Springs, MI. 49319

PC790

Name: Leone, Catherine

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

I am against this governmental slaughter with no proven effects. I urge you to look into other ways to your goal instead of useless human protocols

---

PC791

Name: Levesque, Amelia

Community of Residence: Rural Upstate NY

Comment:

Opposition of murdering all wild animals. This is nature, humans should not be playing God by deciding whose lives to take.

PC792

Name: Levy, Diane

Community of Residence: Anchorage Alaska

Comment:

Stop killing innocent bears !!!

Leave the wildlife alone !!!

PC793

Name: Levy, Ron **Affiliation**: Alaska Photo Adventures

Community of Residence: Soldotna

Comment:

Please provide ANY scientific or biological evidence that supports this knee-jerk, impulsive attempt to unnecessarily remove brown bears from a natural,well-balanced population.

The propossed ecosystem supports not only a well balanced variety of predators and prey, but millions of dollars ($34 million +) in tourism.

As a 40+ year Alaskan resident who visits the proposed area every year numerous times, bringing tourists and residents there every year to see bears, the current populations and balances are NOT in danger!

Your proposal is ill-conceived and emotional, not based on any "need" whatsoever, except perhaps a perceived need to cave-in to aggressive, emotional hunting pressures that have no basis in real biology.

PC794

Name: Lewandowski, Brittany **Affiliation**: Majestic meadows alpacas & boutique

Community of Residence: Medina Ohio

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC795

Name: Lewandowski, Evan

Community of Residence: Medina, OH

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them. If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC796

Name: Lewis, Alisa

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Opposed

The state has researched the decline of herds and have found it is not due to bears. (It is due to disease and climate-caused reduction in food) There is credible research otherwise pointing to bears causing declines in herds. Therefore this proposal is unnecessary, wasteful, and a waste of time ineffective in managing Caribou herds. Please vote this down and consider other options that will have the desired effect on these herds.

PC797

Name: Lewis, Kimberly

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Please do not gun down wildlife from a helicopter. Please do not gun down wildlife, period. In a vast area of land that has plenty of space to be SHARED, leave the wildlife alone! Your proposal does not outline a reason valid enough to kill bears. Let them live in peace. Leave the land they live on be. People do not need to destroy our lands and innocent animals for greed. Stop trying to destroy what little we have left. Not everything needs to be dictated by human desires.

PC798

Name: Lexa, Rebecca **Affiliation**: The Green Wolf

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Greetings,

I am writing to lodge my disagreement with the proposal to cull bears in order to protect caribou. Why is it that whenever a prey animal is dropping in numbers that the solution is to stop the predation by bears, wolves, and other wild predators, instead of limiting human predation? We have many other options for food; the wild predators, on the other hand, have relied on the caribou for food for a very long time. Make exceptions for indigenous hunters, but otherwise close off legal hunting instead of removing natural predatory species from the ecosystem.

Thank you.

PC799

Name: Lieb, Jim

Community of Residence: Palmer

Comment:

I am a retired wildlife biologist with Doctorate and MS degrees in Wildlife Biology. I worked for ADF&G as a Wildlife Biologist for 25+ years, during which one of my primary responsibilities was research and management of the Nelchina and Mentasta caribou herds. As such I also studied every major report on every caribou herd in Alaska. It is crystal clear to me that predator control of bears and wolves is critical for the successful management and population control of just about every caribou herd in the state.

Allowing a caribou herd to grow to an optimum population level for its range habitat condition is a tricky process that involves parameters that are difficult/impossible to control such as winter snow levels, weather, fire, range use by people and other animals. Having the funding and appropriate staff to carefully monitor seasonal movements, range use, habitat condition, lichen succession, caribou body condition, calving success, and mortality, can result in bringing a caribou herd to an optimum level in a reasonable number of years and maintaining it there for a small number of years... as long as you can maintain appropriate predator control on a regular basis.

You never know exactly how many predators to take, and typically funding level determines how many helicopter days are available for shooting and how as a result many predators get taken. It is the resulting calving success rate that determines how successful that year's predator effort was.

And there is little if any evidence to suggest that Alaska's predator control programs over the past 60 plus years have endangered or removed any bear or wolf population in the state.

Also note that the term "Intensive Management" is a relatively new legal term that was adopted by the Alaska legislature to address the claim that predator control was not an allowable form of management.

PC800

Name: Liew, Pei ying

Community of Residence: Singapore

Comment:

Please stop the culling. They have the right to live and you have the duty to protect them.

STOP THE KILLING.

PC801

Name: Lill, Jo

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

I am totally opposed to this proposal. As an Australian tourist who spent 6 weeks travelling through Alaska especially to observe your beautiful bears this proposal to continue culling is abhorrent. We were planning another trip to Alaska but we have decided we will go to Canada and see the Polar bears instead. I have shared this proposal in Australia with the recommendation that people should change their travel plans. I am voting with my wallet.

PC802

Name: Lindley, Jenna

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I strongly oppose.

PC803

Name: Lingle, Michelle

Community of Residence: Na

Comment:

I highly oppose this practice. This is cruel and should not be allowed to happen.

PC804

Name: Lish, Christopher

Community of Residence: San Rafael, CA

Comment:

Sunday, July 6, 2025

Subject: Follow the science: Don't allow the ADFG to kill bears in western Alaska. -- Board of Game Special Meeting Regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou

To Alaska Board of Game:

I strongly oppose the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's proposal to allow more bear massacres in the 40,000-acre Mulchatna area of western Alaska and I urge the board to reject this proposal.

"Every man who appreciates the majesty and beauty of the wilderness and of wild life, should strike hands with the farsighted men who wish to preserve our material resources, in the effort to keep our forests and our game beasts, game-birds, and game-fish—indeed, all the living creatures of prairie and woodland and seashore—from wanton destruction. Above all, we should realize that the effort toward this end is essentially a democratic movement."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

Alaska's predator control program has already been an unmitigated management failure. The Mulchatna caribou herd shows no signs of recovery, even after the state has spent more than a decade killing wolves and three years gunning down nearly 200 brown bears.

That's not surprising. Research shows disease and food scarcity—not predation—are the top causes of mortality for the vanishing herd. In 2020, scientists found that brucellosis, a bacterial disease, had infected more than a third of the caribou they tested. And climate change is shifting the herd's habitat, resulting in less lichen for caribou to eat.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

-- Aldo Leopold

This ecological disaster is only made worse by scapegoating wolves, bears, and other predators who help control disease naturally by feeding on weak, sick animals. By killing wolves over a long period of time, the state has possibly only contributed to the high levels of brucellosis found in the Mulchatna caribou herd.

The Board of Game should also recognize the overwhelming public outcry against killing predators in Alaska. Thousands of Alaskans treasure being able to view wild wolves and bears—an experience that pulls in millions of tourists, too. And killing wolves and bears wastes money from the Alaska General Fund: nearly $500,000 to date.

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

-- Ansel Adams

I also question the Department of Fish and Game's apparent disregard for state law. Despite receiving two court rulings that the state had illegally adopted the predator-control program and had acted "in bad faith,"

the department proceeded to kill 11 bears this May. Two judges ruled that the department was doing so illegally and that the testimony of the State's Director of Wildlife Conservation was "mostly not credible". This is a serious blow to the department's credibility, and the board should consider that when making a decision about this proposal.

Killing more bears won't make things better for caribou. But it will harm these cherished animals, ruin recreation opportunities for wildlife lovers, and waste state money. The board doesn't have a mandate to approve another hasty, unreasoned predator-control measure from the Department of Fish and Game. Please listen to science and reject this senseless plan to kill more bears in the state.

"The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children."

-- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,

Christopher Lish

San Rafael, CA

PC805

Name: Lisk, Tiffany

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

Alaska is one of the few places left to see such natural beauty and in it natural wildlife. We are coming in 1 week to see it for ourselves. Learning of this news that is suggested to kill bears and wolves is absolutely horrible and will destroy what beauty Alaska has. Don’t do it. Don’t kill the wildlife.

PC806

Name: Lisowski, Stacey

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I oppose the senseless killing of bears. There is no data to suggest it is a deterrent and it is a waste of taxpayer money

---

PC807

Name: Little, Michael

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

End this atrocity against bears. This killing is senseless and does no good for the world.

PC808

Name: Livingston, Dawn

Community of Residence: Bay Area

Comment:

I am the head of marketing for a travel/tourism company. If this isn't changed I will pull all ads for Alaska and we will no longer feature travel to this state. Killing bears is completely unnecessary and will only do more harm. This is like allowing people to shoot each other because there are billions of humans and we are overpopulated.

PC809

Name: Loeffler, Grace

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

I oppose the the aerial gunning program targeting the bears of Alaska

---

PC810

Name: Lokey, Dallas

Community of Residence: Fort Collins, CO

Comment:

Alaskan wildlife is one of the primary reasons people go to the state to visit. Not only does wildlife tourism boost the Alaskan economy, but predators are essential for the survival of ungulate herds and a healthy ecosystem. The predators prey on those that are less fit, and therefore leaving stronger genetics to be passed on. Please leave ALL wildlife alone. They do not deserve to die due to human greed.

PC811

Name: Long, Aaron

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

Where is the evidence that killing bears and wolves will save the caribou from going extinct? Humans are by far more dangerous than bears and the ecosystems have always regulated themselves NATURALLY without human interference. Shame on you.

PC812

Name: Longenbaugh , Jordyn

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

All life is sacred and important. Don’t kill these beautiful creatures or any others

---

PC813

Name: Lopez , Angel

Community of Residence: San Diego California

Comment:

This is disgusting. How can America call it self a freedom country and a country of empathy if all we do is kill things to solve problems . We need to save our wildlife and we need to advocate for those who can't speak for those who don't understand why we are doing this for those who just wanna live their life . We need to do more then sign a petition we need to protest it we need to get loud about it .

PC814

Name: Lopez Noriega, Paulina

Community of Residence: Mexico City

Comment:

Shame on you who are kiling bears irrationally!

PC815

Name: Lopez, Dyanna

Community of Residence: APT 102

Comment:

I oppose to the slaughter of bears because it is unethical

PC816

Name: Lopez, Idalia

Community of Residence: Springville, Utah

Comment:

I don’t support the slaughtering of these beautiful animals. They play such a significant role in our ecosystem, and I don’t feel like slaughtering these innocent creatures in the name of population control is appropriate. We live on their land, we need to learn to coexist with eachother. Not destroy them. Thank you.

PC817

Name: Loughran, Emily

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please SAVE the Bears!!! Shooting them by helicopter is horrific…. They are gorgeous, social and intelligent creatures that should be appreciated and protected!!! They are a valuable resource and a tourist attraction. I will not visit any state that has blood on their hands!!! If you do not care about these animals…think about the tourist dollars at stake.

C818

Name: Louis, Jeanie

Community of Residence: Maryland

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the shooting of bears. This action is not science based and environmental issues and habitat loss should be addressed for the Caribou first.

PC819

Name: Lovelady, Faye

Community of Residence: 7 Lusty Glaze Road

Comment:

I oppose the plans to cull bears as I believe there are better, more humane, alternatives. Killing animals is never the answer and instead why don't you think about curbing the hunting of caribou for a season to allow a bounce back? Seems smarter. Killing bears just seems purely dumb and lazy.

The world is watching how you go about this. Make us proud

PC820

Name: Lowe, Nadine

Community of Residence: Lake Country BC Canada

Comment:

As an avid outdoors and wildlife advocate, I do not see any evidence that points to killing of bears as a solution for restoring caribou herds. Many apex animals are being blamed for this. There is no scientific evidence or proof that bears are the ones taking out the caribou. There is a far greater problem, and that is seeing that the amount of land that is taken from bears as their natural living grounds is encroached upon by humans is the bigger problem. There should be a more humane and ethical and better researched approach to dealing with the caribou decline. This Ariel killing needs to end. It's appalling and evidence in reports shows it's not a quick death. These bears are being wrongly placed to death for lazy human and government actions. It makes me deeply angered and saddened that these actions are taken, and I want to see change in how government's and laws start better protecting all wildlife.

PC821

Name: Luchies, Heather

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears!

PC822

Name: Luesley, Michelle

Community of Residence: Selling

Comment:

I condem the systemic murder if brown bears .It is brutal and cruel .There is nothing need for this massacre

---

PC823

Name: Luginbill, Valerie

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I oppose this proposed regulation. I come from a community of Explore.org watchers and many also pour tourist money into Alaska year after year. Killing a native species so humans can do more sport killing is unacceptable. Study after study states this is not a long term solution and a real change regarding environmental factors (loss of habitat because of human encroachment) is the only solution. Constantly killing the wildlife that makes Alaska amazing is deplorable. Killing them so the caribou can increase numbers to be hunted by humans is ludicrous.

“The Dynamics of MCH Range Expansion and Population Decline"

Interviews revealed that local knowledge views the MCH’s major population and range shift as resulting primarily from overgrazing and disease: the population grew so large that it didn’t have enough food, leading to an epidemic of hoof rot Sphaerophorus necrophorus. Respondents also discussed associated observations of declines in calving abundance and increasing predation by wolves. Liberalized hunting by nonlocal hunters during the 1980s and 1990s was frequently mentioned as also being a contributing factor.”

PC824

Name: Lukas, Heila

Community of Residence: Alberta

Comment:

I have watched this area for decades and always dream of seeing this amazing spectacle someday in person. It's a magical place full of beautiful creatures.

I am very much opposed to increasing the taking of the bears in this area and from what I have researched it will not significantly impact the caribou herd. I would like to see more science backing this proposed change and how it will be diligently tracked/ measured and what happens when the desired outcome is achieved, so that unnecessary killings do not occur. Thank you

---

PC825

Name: Lunde, J Ty

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I am in opposition to this proposal. There is no evidence that controlling the population of bears will substantially increase the health of the heard. This feels like a complete waste of taxpayer money to fund other agendas that would like to see the population of bears decrease. Many of these bears roam off of national parks and protected lands having no idea that they will now be killed for no other reason than they took a wrong path. It is completely unethical and unjustifiable to decimate the bear population without real concrete evidence of its impact. This would harm the environment as a whole, by removing yet another keystone species. I urge you to reject this insane proposal that would cause increased harm to an already fragile ecosystem.

PC826

Name: Luthy, Devon

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

There are less and less wild places left where animals are allowed to live peacefully. This is INHUMANE! Stop killing wildlife!!!!

PC827

Name: Lutzko, Simone

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I highly oppose the killing of wild bears in their natural habitats . Please reconsider this proposition and protect our wildlife.

PC828

Name: Lyle, Sandra

Community of Residence: VA

Comment:

I firmly oppose this proposed resolution allowing for the take of brown and black bears, wolves and any other predator in the Alaska region. We must stop doing this, as we are driving to extinction apex predators and keystone species, such as wolves. Everything has a balance, and this balance has been upheaved do to human activities, not predation by animals whose existence supports the overall ecosystem. Please support the caribou in other ways, and not be killing everything else.

PC829

Name: Lynch, Andrea

Community of Residence: Quebec

Comment:

Please save the bears!

PC830

Name: Lynch, Rick

Community of Residence: Haines, alaska

Comment:

I oppose the taking of bears or wolves for that matter via helicopter.

Hunting needs to be done " by fair chase" methods.

I realize you are trying to manage the caribou herds, not the bears, but is still not ok.

Thank you for your time. Rick lynch

Name: Lynk, Beth
Community of Residence: Virginia

July 7, 2025

To: The Alaska Board of Game

RE: The ADFG's proposed resolution to expand the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to 40,000 square miles

Dear Members of the Board of Game,

I urge you to not approve this proposal because the credibility and effectiveness of the Board of Game and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game are on the line. The Mulchatna Bear Control Program is an unlawful program, and you should not be spreading the impact of that unlawful program over a 40,000 square mile area.

I have strong feelings about wildlife, but I have equally strong feelings about the workings of government at all levels and the legal system. When I see an administrative agency or entity ignoring a court order, it not only reflects poorly on them, it also raises the ugly questions of why, whose interests are they catering to, and why aren't they doing things with transparency and in a thorough, fact based, and balanced manner. It undermines any good you are trying to achieve across everything you do, not just this one issue of caribou population in Mulchatna. This is why I think your own credibility and effectiveness are on the line with this decision.

Earlier this year, two Alaska judges called the Mulchatna Bear Control Program unlawful and void. In May, when the BOG approved the ADFG's emergency resolution to go forward with the spring 2025 hunt, the court stopped that hunt. The court did this because your decision to grant the emergency resolution was based on testimony that was deemed "mostly not credible," and granting the resolution violated the initial court order that found the program unlawful and void. The court also pointed out that the BOG passed that emergency resolution in bad faith. That means the BOG knowingly violated a court order, which calls your credibility and trustworthiness into question. Further, you violated the public's trust in your ability to adhere to the laws of Alaska and make sound decisions based on solid evidence.

Going forward, <u>if</u> you should grant this proposed regulation to expand the control program to 40,000 square miles, I believe the court would see the expansion just as they saw the invalid emergency regulation, and that is as an attempted end run around the court orders to try to implement an unlawful program by expanding into another area. The program is unlawful in the original control area and expanding the area will not change that status. <u>If</u> you should grant this

proposed regulation, a court reviewing that decision could consider it another act of bad faith by the BOG.

The root of this problem is the ADFG's Mulchatna Bear Control Program and that is a separate discussion with separate solutions for another time. Right now, the fact remains the court has declared the program unlawful and the program area should not be expanded.

I urge you to deny this proposed regulation to expand the geographic area for the unlawful Mulchatna Bear Control Program.

Thank you,

Beth Lynk

PC832

Name: Lyons, Julia

Community of Residence: MA

Comment:

Alaska's bears and wolves are not pests—they're vital parts of a delicate ecosystem, and they deserve better than to be gunned down from helicopters. In just two recent operations, hundreds were killed, including helpless cubs, without proper scientific studies to justify it. Entire bear populations have been decimated by up to 74%, and for what? There's no proven benefit—just bloodshed and silence where life once thrived. This isn't wildlife management. It's cruelty disguised as policy. I'm heartbroken and outraged, and I'm calling for these brutal programs to stop before more damage is done.

PC833

Name: M, Courtney

Community of Residence: NYC

Comment:

So absolutely barbaric and cruel. You have no soul whatsoever. Leave these animals alone. Selfish disgusting humans

---

PC834

Name: M, Paulina

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

I don't agree with getting rid of the bears. One, they were here first and by approving this we're going to get rid of the wildlife that is vital for the environment

---

PC835

Name: M, Veeralakshmi

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Hi,I am Veeralakshmi from India,a graduate.Even though I am not a citizen of Alaska,as a human being I absolutely condemn the act of Alaska Government for killing the bears.It is not acceptable.The government must stop this killing of bears abruptly.Every single person around the world should raise voice for the voiceless creatures and I will be the one of those to stand for these animals.

SAVE WILDLIFE ANIMALS

SAVE OUR ECOSYSTEM

Thank you.

PC836

Name: Macarthur, Jo

Community of Residence: U.K.

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the proposal to start killing bears and calling it a 'cull to benefit the herd'! Disgraceful behaviour.

PC837

Name: Macartney , Christopher

Community of Residence: Coachella Valley CA

Comment:

I would like to voice my concern for the removal of any wildlife from their natural habitat. We must come up with new ways to work along side nature so the Earth can prosper. Any removal of wildlife from their natural habitat should be illegal. Thank you for you time.

PC838

Name: Machlev, Rachel

Community of Residence: Fairmont, WV

Comment:

Please don't kill mama bears, cubs, even adult male bears. Their lives are important and appreciated. Many bear watcher groups would like to help by organizing more bear watching events to bring tourism to Alaska.

PC839

Name: MacKown, Erica

Community of Residence: Monterey, Ca

Comment:

I opposing the new Mulchatna bear control.

PC840

Name: Maeder, Christine

Community of Residence: Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Comment:

I oppose the proposal!!!

PC841

Name: Maestas, Adriana

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

The massacre of bears undertaken by the state of Alaska is a despicable atrocity. It is not science or evidence based and needs to stop immediately. Stop harming our critical ecosystems!!!

PC842

Name: Magellan, Linda

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

stop killing the bears

PC843

Name: Magrath, Linsey

Community of Residence: Delaware

Comment:

We need to protect wildlife! Too many are being killed for sport or by wildfires so we don't need to cull the herds.

PC844

Name: Maguire, Megan

Community of Residence: Maine

Comment:

Please stop the senseless killing of bears in Alaska. These animals deserve to live and there is no science backing up the reasons for bear slaughter. Do the right thing.

PC845

Name: Maharaj, Pranav

Community of Residence: Vancouver

Comment:

Save the bears, give them equality and justice 🩶

PC846

Name: Mahon, Josh

Community of Residence: Kildare

Comment:

Save the bears. Predator control doesn't work. Needless death.

PC847

Name: Majchrzak, Mathilde

Community of Residence: Belgium

Comment:

Please, stop killing bears in their natural habitat

PC848

Name: Maldonado , Robert

Community of Residence: San Jose

Comment:

I am against hunting & killing BEARS.

PC849

Name: Malhotra, Erica

Community of Residence: Edinburgh

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS THEY ARE ADORABLE AND IMPORTANT FOR THE ECOSYSTEM. REMOVING THEM WILL CAUSE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO YOUR OWN ENVIRONMENT

PC850

Name: Malone, Gabriella

Community of Residence: Delaware

Comment:

The killing of these innocent animals needs to be stopped.

PC851

Name: Maloney, MK

Community of Residence: Austin, Texas

Comment:

America's wilderness and wild life are a huge part of what makes us great. We must protect predators like bears in order to keep the land healthy.

PC852

Name: Manan, Amna

Community of Residence: Lorton

Comment:

Opposition to Bear Killing in Alaska: Protecting Ecosystems and Promoting Coexistence

Alaska's decision to allow the killing of bears—particularly through controversial practices such as baiting, snaring, and killing during denning seasons—poses serious ethical, environmental, and ecological concerns. These actions not only disrupt the delicate balance of Alaska's wilderness but also reflect a short-sighted approach to managing human-wildlife interactions.

Environmental Impact

1. Disruption of the Ecosystem Balance:

Bears, especially apex predators like grizzlies and black bears, play a critical role in maintaining ecosystem health. They help control prey populations, disperse seeds through their scat, and contribute to soil fertilization by spreading nutrients from salmon and other food sources. Removing large numbers of bears destabilizes this natural balance, potentially leading to overpopulation of prey species and a decline in vegetation health.

2. Genetic and Population Risks:

Targeted killing—especially of mothers and cubs in dens—reduces bear populations and gene diversity. Lower genetic variation makes bear populations more vulnerable to disease, environmental changes, and long-term decline. Once disrupted, population recovery can take decades.

3. Negative Ripple Effects on Other Species:

Bears influence the behavior and success of many other species. For example, when bears drag salmon into the forest to feed, they unintentionally provide food for scavengers and fertilize the forest floor. The removal of bears limits these benefits, reducing the richness of the surrounding ecosystem.

Alternative Solutions to Prevent Human-Bear Conflict

Instead of resorting to lethal control, Alaska can adopt more sustainable and humane strategies to prevent bears from crossing human boundaries:

1. Secure Attractants:

Enforce stronger regulations and public education campaigns to ensure garbage, pet food, livestock feed, and other attractants are stored in bear-proof containers or areas. Many bear encounters occur because of poor waste management.

2. Install Non-Lethal Deterrents:

Electric fencing, motion-activated lights, bear spray, and noisemakers are effective deterrents. Communities can be equipped with these tools to prevent bear entry without harming wildlife.

3. Habitat Preservation and Corridor Management:

As development expands, bear habitats are fragmented. Protecting migration corridors and keeping wild spaces intact reduces the need for bears to enter human areas in search of food or shelter.

4. Increase Public Awareness and Wildlife Education:

Outreach programs that teach residents and visitors how to coexist with wildlife help reduce fear-based responses and encourage respect for wild animals.

———

In conclusion, Alaska's natural legacy depends on the preservation of its iconic wildlife. Killing bears not only threatens the survival of a keystone species but also weakens the very ecosystems that make Alaska unique. Through education, responsible policy, and non-lethal conflict prevention, humans and bears can coexist—ensuring that future generations inherit a thriving and balanced wilderness.

PC853

Name: Manda, Shriya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Save the bears, please. They do not deserve to be shot down.

PC854

Name: Manuel, Ida

Community of Residence: Vancouver BC

Comment:

Mother Nature does not need colonial interference.

PC855

Name: Marchessault, Lindsey

Community of Residence: Canmore

Comment:

Please do not harm the bears

PC856

Name: Marciano, Josh

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I think it's absolutely wild that we send people up in a helicopter to gun down innocent animals… no increased attacks on humans, no increased property damage, just killing to kill. As an avid Hunter int absolutely despicable. They wanna send people out on foot with a handgun to give the bears a chance, go ahead. I'll be cheering for the bears. Outside of that there is zero excuse to take the life of an animal like that. I don't care if they're hauling the meat back and feeding the homeless. It's our job as the apex species on this planet to preserve life as best we can. This is the direct opposite. It's bulls*** and inhumane.

PC857

Name: Marck, Kamryn

Community of Residence: MI

Comment:

I do not agree with the mass and indiscriminate killings of bears and bear cubs in order to manage caribou. There is no evidence that this helps and in fact hurts the wider ecosystem. Bears are an integral part of our planet and many community's culture. They should not be killed.

PC858

Name: Marie, Jules

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

I am in opposition of this awful legislation that will harm the majestic bear. We as a species need to do better and not harm the cohabitants of this plant.

PC859

Name: Marin, Citllaly

Community of Residence: Houston

Comment:

In 2023 alone, this program resulted in the slaughter of 99 bears, including cubs, followed by 80 more in 2024. Despite these efforts, there is no evidence that the practice is achieving its stated goal of increasing caribou and moose populations for hunting. Research shows that caribou and moose populations are declining due to other factors—such as habitat loss, climate change, and disease—rather than predation by bears and wolves. This raises critical questions about the rationale behind these actions.

Bears and wolves are apex predators, essential for maintaining the health and balance of ecosystems. Targeting them through aerial slaughter disrupts these ecosystems, leading to cascading effects on biodiversity and habitat stability. Moreover, this program distracts from addressing the actual challenges faced by caribou and moose populations, wasting resources on an ineffective and harmful strategy.

I want to be part of the change. I believe we can—and must—do better for Alaska's wildlife. I urge the State's Board of Game and the Commissioner of ADF&G to stop this program immediately. Instead of aerial slaughter, we should focus on science-based solutions that address the root causes of caribou and moose decline while protecting Alaska's natural heritage. It is our shared responsibility to treat these species with dignity, respect their ecological roles, and ensure they thrive in their natural habitats.

PC860

Name: Marin, Mindy

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

'Animals are not our property. They are our friends and we must treat them with respect and kindness. ' - Jane Goodall.

PC861

Name: Markakis, Vittoria

Community of Residence: Rome

Comment:

I believe it is unreasonable killing off bears in this inhumane way without any scientific backup. I am a biologist and I find these killings cruel and without an actual positive impact to the ecosystem. When ecosystems go out of balance there are different ways or bringing back balance without resulting in invasive inhuman ways.

PC862

Name: Marn, Susan

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I live in a different state but I can't for the life of me understand why this is necessary. I also urge people to figure out a way to deny their tax dollars going to programs like this, bankrupt it into its death. As a republic we most definitely should have a say so over things such as this.

PC863

Name: Marquette, Elise

Community of Residence: Red lodge Montana

Comment:

It is not humane to kill bears from a helicopter, let alone mother and cubs. Can you imagine if that was your wife and child being shot at from the air. We have to find a way to find peace in this world and that means leaving the world at peace and letting it do what it needs to do. If there as been no evidence proving that killing these bears is benefitting the caribou population then stop. Let nature do what it needs to do. Without human interaction we would have so many less issues. Stop killing the bears

---

PC864

Name: Marquis, Melinda

Community of Residence: Nederland

Comment:

Please vote NO and don't authorize killing bears in Mulchatna.

There is no peer-reviewed scientific evidence that killing bears will lead to increased caribou.

According to your own site, caribou disease, e.g., brucellosis, and illegal hunting of caribou are killing most Mulchatna caribou.

Also, according to your own web site, the Mulchatna caribou herd size was estimated to be only 1,000 In 1949, only 6,000 in 1965, and 13,000 in 1974.

Wildlife officials found that more than a third of the Mulchatna caribou have brucellosis, which causes low birth rate, infertility, and lameness. Officials also found a lack of food contributing to poor physical health of the Mulchatna herd. They determined that poor health is the most likely primary cause of the herd's decline. Caribou herd populations increase and decrease over time, as you know. And predation is no greater in the Mulchatna herd than elsewhere. "Intensive management" and slaughter of bears is unscientific, illogical, and immoral.

I am writing to ask that you cease this barbaric practice.

- Melinda Marquis, Ph.D.

PC865

Name: Marrero, Carlos

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Please stop this nonsensical, unscientific approach to regulating the bear population. Not only is it barbaric, but it is also unethical. I am planning to visit Alaska, and I would be extremely disappointed if this so-called 'management' is not stopped.

PC866

Name: Mars, Tallulah

Community of Residence: Planet Earth

Comment:

To whom it may concern,

Regarding the slaughtering and killing of America's wildlife by Alaskan Fish & Game, I'm here to demand welfare & rights of wildlife to be prioritized. Wildlife aren't a privilege, they're a priority for us to honor and be stewards of. Without wildlife, diverse ecosystems, protections & human intervention for the conservation & preservation of these animals & regions: humans will suffer, even more slowly & painfully than the suffering these animals have endured as they've been hunted down, attacked & murdered by Fish & Game. Americans WANT these bears to be preserved, saved, protected. All we have to do to provide for them, is protect the region and put responsibility on humans rather than allowing wildlife to pay the price of overpopulation & raping the land for explorations & extractions of natural resources which is a major contributor to why people want these animals erased. The people doing the killing of these animals are vastly corrupt & disconnected for their own humility, humanity & have lost

sight of their place in the food chain. It's not too late to regain our humanity, by shifting to cater to, be stewards of & honor these lands, waters & wildlife.

Please VOTE NO against these slaughters, please do everything in your power to stand with Americans, with these animals by prioritizing their protection instead of the predatory attack on them.

Thank you

Tallulah

PC867

Name: Marschall, Griffin

Community of Residence: Johnson County Kansas

Comment:

It is imperative that some humanity is brought to our Earth. The suffering being caused worldwide at the hands of humankind is running rampant, while we exploit and abuse animals in the background.

Scientifically, animals, especially mammals, have great emotional intelligence and social relationships. While I presume power of authority of such scales cannot reach out a heartfelt hand to the innocent lives they disrupt and end, I will still beg for justice... and those of us that cannot speak for ourselves, such as these bears that are being wiped out from helicopters, deserve a voice more than anyone. There is no evidence to prove that this will benefit the environment substantially. So, l ask, do you mean to shoot down animals from helicopters, ending their lives, or worse, possibly severely wounding them and letting them bleed out? Do you, as a human being, not recognize the power we have over these beings, and how you abuse that power so righteously? Did you, as a child, envision a world where this was the solution? I will await a response, but l will not hold my breath.

PC868

Name: Marsico, Michelle

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Killing of bears is going to have devastating repercussions on the eco system. Humans are not being good stewards of our earth

---

PC869

Name: Martinez , Perla **Affiliation**: Equilibrium Wayak A.C.

Community of Residence: Cancún

Comment:

Innthe name of our Civcil Association for the Nayure Conservación we OPPOSE rotoundly to this kind of aggressive and letal measures againt an animal species that has as many right to live as any other human being. Please DO NOT COMIT THIS CRIME. Nature self regulates.

PC870

Name: Martinez , Tawny

Community of Residence: Miami

Comment:

Save the bears. I oppose the aerial hunt

PC871

Name: Martinez, Laurinda

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

These bears deserve to thrive, not be killed off let nature take its course not human beings with guns. Man is the worst thing that ever happened to this planet save the Bears.

PC872

Name: Martirez, Don

Community of Residence: Duarte, CA

Comment:

Leave Mother Nature alone, this includes bears.

PC873

Name: Mason, Megan

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

I oppose the take of brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

Surely there is another way to preserve the herd and does not include department staff or others killing bears. The decline in herd numbers is mostly due to disease and lack of food, per Alaska's research.

Other animals in the area are also struggling so of course the natural cycle will take over.

Should the state try more robust efforts at fostering better food sources or helping sick caribou and then returning them to the wild? Should wild mating programs be implemented? Why is it so easy to weigh the lives of the herd against those of the bears and wolves?

It it critical to consider alternatives to staff essentially hunting animals who are doing nothing but following instinct and also trying to survive.

PC874

Name: Mason, Sofia

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

How could this possibly be considered when those bears have been eating out of that river since probably the first congregation of salmon and the falls forming 3,500 years ago! If it's peoples safety you are concerned about then humans should not be allowed to go there! It is an absolute disgrace to even consider removing the bears in any form from their natural environment that has belonged to them for over 3000 years!

PC875

Name: Maxell, Diana

Community of Residence: Kamas, Utah

Comment:

I strongly oppose the plans to kill bears and wolves. It is important to act in a scientific manner. Evidence has always shown that herd populations do not benefit from the wholesale killing of their predators. Why would I or anyone want to visit the great state of Alaska if it is known as the place of repugnant mass slaughter?

PC876

Name: Maxwell , Gail

Community of Residence: Mulino

Comment:

I oppose this slaughter of the bears. Have you not learned from history? This is exactly what happened to the wolves of Alaska. The voices of the people who hunted the caribou said the wolves were killing all the caribou. They sent scientists to study and it was proven that it was not the wolves. However the wolves were slaughtered by air....

PC877

Name: Maxwell, Doreen

Community of Residence: Ben Lomond CA

Comment:

Wildlife management and Animal husbandry don't include indiscriminate slaughter of wildlife. A mother bear with cubs is particularly important in our wild spaces.

Please be mindful and aware of best practices.

PC878

Name: Maxwell, Sacha

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

Please find a way to enable these bears to maintain their range without killing them. Thank you.

PC879

Name: Mayer , Stacy

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I oppose bear slaughter. There is no scientific proof that it will help with the real problem- loss of terrain

---

PC880

Name: Mazur, Deborah

Community of Residence: Manitoba

Comment:

I am from Canada and Canadians cherish their bears instead of hunting them down for sport. This type of mentality is taking your country 50 yrs back. Without the top carnivores the ecology of the country changes and not for the better!. What is better a legacy for your children's children or bragging rights or a trophy? Your decision here will be viewed by the world as your bears are revered by people around the world . I am not in support !

PC881

Name: McAdory, Ann

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I clearly oppose the killing of these majestic bears.

This is similar to trophy hunting, killing wild life for no reason.

PC882

Name: McAdory, Bill

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I strongly oppose killing any bears for any reason! Let the animal ecology take care of itself!

PC883

Name: McBride , Yvonne

Community of Residence: Orange

Comment:

I am in support in putting in an end to the killings of the bears in Alaska. It's truly heartbreaking. The woods are their homes. Killing innocents bears especially mom's and cubs is cruel. Please end the killings.

PC884

Name: Mccarthy, Mary Claire
Community of Residence: Palmer, AK

Comment:

Please it’s not okay to gun bears down, especially considering it was ruled to be illegal twice. They are keystone species and incredible.

PC885

Name: McCarthy, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

It’s so wrong to kill bears and cubs , it’s not their fault

PC886

Name: McCormick-Hayes, Miriam E

Community of Residence: Washington, DC.

Comment:

There is no excuse to kill bears with an ariel assault. This is not wildlife management. Bears and wolves control herds and CWD. They are proven to help flourish the forests and other wildlife. It is cruel. Can you imagine shooting a momma bear with cubs?? What is wrong with you wildlife management people? Seems you are for the ranchers, politicians, and hunters more than you are the wildlife!!!!

PC887

Name: Mccoy, Kiesa

Community of Residence: South Carolina

Comment:

I am highly against the killing/culling of any species by humans. It has never been beneficial for our planet or wildlife. It is especially cruel & cowardly to hunt them down via helicopter or any man-made vehicle. Humans are the problem not the bears. A more sustainable solution needs to be looked at versus trying to wipe another species out, nature is all about balance. Bears are smart and know where/when to return for food, Im sure humans can come up with some non lethal ideas on how to make calving season safer for the caribou/moose. Tracking collars and those helicopters with non lethal options can be put to good use on teaching the bears this is not a safe hunting area/time. Better land management, food supply, safer migratory routes, stricter hunting regulations on cows, all need to be critically looked at as the problem still won't be resolved by killing off predatory bears or wolves when the issue is with us the humans destroying their means of survival.

PC888

Name: McCoy, Virginia

Community of Residence: NM

Comment:

This is unacceptable! You know it we know it! Stop killing our wildlife. These animals have every right to be here. Leave them alone !

PC889

Name: Mcdermott, Lauryn

Community of Residence: Portsmouth

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS!

PC890

Name: McDowell, NancyLou

Community of Residence: Glenmont, NY

Comment:

Leave these bears alone!

PC891

Name: McGinnis, Margaret

Community of Residence: Hull, MA

Comment:

I am opposed to the Mulchatna bear control program. Bears being gunned down to increase caribou and moose herds is unconscionable. There are a variety of factors that have led to caribou declining - bears are not the reason. If caribou numbers are in such bad shape, why don't you ban recreational hunting? The only reason your agency is concerned about ungulate populations is to make sure there are more of them for hunters to kill. It is not just the Mulchatna bears - it is everywhere in Alaska where predators exist. Kill the predators so more of the other animals can be killed by hunters.

Your agency cares nothing about wildlife's right to exist as nature intended. Further, tourists come to Alaska to see wildlife, including bears. There is no other reason to visit Alaska but for its wilderness and wildlife. I don't understand why, for decades, BOG has done nothing but try to decimate the very animals that people come to see.

PC892

Name: McGinnis, Margaret

Community of Residence: hull MA

Comment:

I am opposed to any new Mulchatna bear control proposals, or any brown or black bear control proposals by helicopter/aerial gunning. There is only one reason your agency has a war on predators, and that's to increase the ungulate populations so that hunters can kill more of those animals. The only one that should be controlling all of Alaska's wildlife populations is Nature herself. I have been opposing Alaska's war on wildlife for decades, and nothing has changed. Tourists don't come to Alaska for theme parks, beaches, or major cities - they come to see wilderness and wildlife. After 4 decades, I don't understand why those in charge in Alaska want to decimate its wildlife.

PC893

Name: McGrath, Lucy

Community of Residence: Montana

Comment:

I am in opposition of this bill. While I don't live in Alaska, I do live in another big bear state and I realize how vital they are to the environment. Slaughtering bears from a helicopter is not the way to control population sizes at all. There are much more ethical ways to do this without the vicious attack.

PC894

Name: McKenney, Jeannie

Community of Residence: Maine

Comment:

I oppose the slaughtering of bears

PC895

Name: Mckissock, Sarah

Community of Residence: Ottawa

Comment:

It is not ethical to slaughter animals. This is borderline animal abuse and should be stopped immediately. The ecosystems depend on these animals and killing then will cause nothing but damage

---

PC896

Name: McMillan, Steven

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

Please save the bears

PC897

Name: McMullen, Tiana

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

What if we slaughtered people the way we do animals? Would we have the same reaction? Most likely not because for some odd reason humans are looked at as more superior and powerful when I'm reality we are weak. We hide behind guns. You are a bunch of cowards, inhumane and you will get your karma. Mark my words. People that hurt animals don't get off easy, just remember that. Your time will come.

PC898

Name: McNaught, Jerri

Community of Residence: Wichita, KS

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill, it's not science based.

PC899

Name: Mee, Bernadette

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

I totally oppose the shooting, maiming & murder of these beautiful bears, who should be left to thrive in their habitat. Humans have caused enough chaos & destruction of wildlife habitat & wildlife on this planet, so leave the bears to thrive in peace. Put nature before tourism & before profit. If there's any risk to tourists from the bears, keep the tourists away. Learn the lessons, which are many, of killing our beautiful wildlife, which upsets the balance of nature. Humans & their guns have caused enough destruction on this planet, so leave the bears alone.

PC900

Name: Meena, Ram

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Stop present action for bears. And save them

PC901

Name: Meier, Amelia
Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

All top "predators" in nature are mandatory for healthy and biodiverse ecosystems. Yellowstone brought back the wolf years ago and watched their parks begin to thrive. (1995)

PC902

Name: Melendez , Frank

Community of Residence: APT 1

Comment:

Don't wait till it's too late act now, this is how we loose a species forever. This cruel and inhumane imagine they were humans. What will history say about our race. Future generations will study your actions with great sorrow stop this senseless slaughter please.

PC903

Name: Melick, Erica

Community of Residence: Oklahoma

Comment:

I oppose mindless shooting of the bears. There is a better way to control animals which some may have been on the endangered species list (brown bears). Please allow hunting, or start tracking the bears and only euthanize nuisance bears that are dangerous to humans and livestock. Have we not learned our lesson yet?

PC904

Name: Mello, Julie

Community of Residence: Pinole ca

Comment:

I've briefly read the information presented to support the culling of bears in the area mentioned. While I understand the need to support the caribou birth success and the advancement of young female to breeding age I don't support the method of helicopter hunting and the taking of mothers with cubs. The numbers given don't support a great success response to the culling. There must be a better way forward than the proposed method.

PC905

Name: Mellon, Ashley

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

Bears are an important part of the food web and keep things in balance. Bears and cubs cannot speak for themselves. Gunning them down like this is not wildlife management.

PC906

Name: Meloche, Julie

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

If there is NO scientific evidence supporting the need for this "culling" STOP!!!! If there is no evidence that this practice will help increase the caribou populations…STOP!!!!!

Just STOP!!!

PC907

Name: Menendez, Stella

Community of Residence: Los Ángeles

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears, we need them. They are part of our world. The earth belongs to them more than it belongs to us.

PC908

Name: Menke, Kathleen

Community of Residence: Haines

Comment:

I oppose the new Mulchatna bear control program. Bears are family. If the goal is to improve the strength of the caribou herds, work on habitat and controlling humans. Bears are omnivorous. Alaska's Board of Game needs to better understand ecology. These predator control programs are expensive and in the long term do not achieve the desired goals of increasing prey herds. Alaskans do not support this.

PC909

Name: Menon, Vrinda **Affiliation**: The Oneness Living

Community of Residence: Abu Dhabi

Comment:

Stop the Slaughter: Protect Alaska's Bears, Protect Our Biosphere

The shooting of bears in Alaska is not merely a local policy issue—it is a reflection of a decaying relationship between humanity and the wild. These majestic beings are not trophies, threats, or targets. They are keystone species, spirit guides of the forest, and ancient custodians of balance.

Financially, killing bears is a short-sighted act. Wildlife tourism generates millions in revenue annually. Tourists from around the globe come to witness Alaska's untouched wilderness, hoping to see a grizzly roam free. By encouraging bear hunts, we threaten a sustainable, long-term economy for fleeting satisfaction and gun-lobby appeasement on the cost of taxpayer's money. Dead bears don't fuel tourism. Living ecosystems do.

Ecologically, bears are irreplaceable. They regulate prey populations, disperse seeds, and fertilize soil. Their absence will trigger cascading damage to entire food webs. Every bear killed is a step closer to the silent collapse of fragile ecosystems that took millennia to form.

Spiritually, this is desecration. Indigenous communities revere the bear as a sacred presence, not a commodity. By authorizing slaughter, we violate ancient wisdom and lose touch with a reverence that once guided humanity's relationship with Earth. We sever ties not only with the bear, but with our own deeper selves.

Ethically, this is indefensible. Killing sentient beings for sport or population control, especially during vulnerable times like hibernation or with cubs nearby, reveals a disturbing moral vacuum. This is not management. This is massacre. And it reflects a dangerous disconnection from compassion and conscience.

The Earth is not ours to dominate—it is ours to protect. When we kill the bear, we kill a part of ourselves. Let us not be the generation that destroyed the sacred in the name of control.

Call upon your leaders. Speak out. Resist the slaughter. The future of Alaska's wilderness—and the soul of our planet—depends on it.

PC910

Name: Meo, Nicky

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

I oppose strongly the killing of these brown bears

PC911

Name: Mercer, Heather

Community of Residence: Fraser Valley British Columbia

Comment:

Mother Earth knows how to balance nature, arial gun shooting is atrocious. Shame on you!

PC912

Name: Merida Rodriguez, Juan Valente

Community of Residence: Mexico

Comment:

Stop murdering nature!! . Protect Brown Bears as well as any other animal species!

PC913

Name: Mesa, Ray

Community of Residence: Wasco

Comment:

We humans are not happy until we have nothing left! :(

PC914

Name: Mesirow, Isabella

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

I strongly disagree with the killing of the bears.

PC915

Name: Meszaros , Anett

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I'm not sure what happened to your upbringing that you need to target practice on a species that was here before us and whose homes and food sources are decimated because of us. And worse, you'd laugh in the face of mothers and their babies as you aimed your gun on them. That's not a hero, that's not a hunter, that's not a human…that's a coward with a mental disorder and if you didn't have bears to shoot, you'd find something else until nothing is left to satisfy your need to kill. You're supposed to be a leader, unfortunately you're not. Maybe step down from your roles and go open outfitting businesses and slaughter facilities because then you can happily kill and leave nature preservation to those who care about nature. Sad to see your reign come to such a horrific idea you call "management".

PC916

Name: Meyer , Denise

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Please do not kill the bears and bear cubs. Let what God created live its natural course. I do not support this proposal. This is inhumane and causes bears to suffer. Please stop.

PC917

Name: Meyer, Megan

Community of Residence: Wisconsin

Comment:

I am very much OPPOSED to this. There is no data to show that this will better the Caribou population and is devastating to the bear population. Please do not approve this.

PC918

Name: Meyers, Abigail

Community of Residence: Covington

Comment:

there is no need for the killing of these innocent bears!! the caribou are being affected by loss of habitat not the bears!!!

PC919

Name: Mezg, Barbara

Community of Residence: Washington state

Comment:

I have visited Lake Clark NP and hope to return next year to Katmai NP to photograph bears and other wildlife, seeing and photographing wolves would be a dream come true! So I am wholeheartedly opposed to the slaughter of bears and other predatory animals just to save the caribou for humans to shoot. And thinking that if you "clear" an area of predators that will help the caribou population, that won't happen as Nature fills a void, and more predators will move into this area. This in no way is an appropriate method of wildlife management. And as a person who has worked before in Alaska, and travels there typically 1-2 yearly for photography purposes, spending significant money in the local communities, with businesses and with guides, I won't return and will deter my friends as well, perhaps opting for Canada over Alaska. Please stop this shooting of predators immediately!

PC920

Name: Michie, Cheryl

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

Opposition, after experiencing a bear tour on Katmai I honestly have no understating of how a human could murder such a beautiful beast. We do the same thing with stags in the UK and I don't agree with that either. The Faroes kill whales, another thing I can't stand to witness. It is something that happens to often and then next thing you know they are endangered. Then you want to bring the numbers back up. Seems a waste of time, animals should be superior to humans. We just ruin this planet.

PC921

Name: Michon, Terie

Community of Residence: Cape Cod, MA

Comment:

These apex predators BELONG. Hunters & hunting DO NOT. Killing then is just an act of barbarity. Humanity will be judged by how we treat our animals. We are guardians, stewards of the environment & you are not doing a very good job

---

PC922

Name: Midoux, Kristyn

Community of Residence: Arkansas

Comment:

This should be illegal and stopped! Shooting animals surviving from a helicopter is plain wrong! We need to protect them and NOT harm them!

PC923

Name: Mikkelsen, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Kern

Comment:

I am in opposition to this due to the unsound science provided and inadequate reasoning. Killing off bears to prevent what naturally occurs is only going to create another problem. Better, humane solutions should be sought out rather than ones that support senseless slaughtering of animals.

PC924

Name: Millan, Shea

Community of Residence: Winchester CA

Comment:

Please do not allow the killing of bears, especially mother bears and their cubs. Thank you!

PC925

Name: Miller, Debbie S.

Community of Residence: Sitka

Comment:

Dear Board of Game members,

As a 50 year Alaskan, I'm strongly opposed to the Department's proposal to reinstate the bear control program in an effort to boost the Mulchatna Herd. I urge you to abide by the March, 2025 Superior Court ruling, and do not approve of this culling proposal as it violates sustainability requirements of the State Constitution. My letter with detailed comments is attached.

Thank you,

Debbie S. Miller

July 5, 2024

To: Alaska Board of Game

Fr: Debbie S. Miller
[redacted]
Sitka, AK 99835

RE: Mulchatna Herd Bear Removal Program

Dear Board of Game members,

I urge you to question and deliberate the Department's flawed proposal to reinstate the bear culling program for three more years to boost the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. This program will cost the Department millions of dollars, money that could be better spent on wildlife research, conservation and education vs. gunning down bears and wolves from a helicopter with shotguns during the sensitive calving time for the Mulchatna Herd.

This proposal, if approved, will allow the Department to indiscriminately kill hundreds of bears during the Mulchatna Herd's calving season in a defined region that's about the size of Kentucky, nearly 40,000 square miles, for three years. I truly pity those who are asked to pull the trigger, killing sows and terrified cubs on the run.

The Department has already been reprimanded by the Superior Court with the recent March ruling that determined the Department was wrong in conducting this illegal predator control program without adequate public process, and without meeting the requirements of the State Constitution on managing wildlife in a sustainable manner.

The Department is circumventing the court's ruling by holding this July 14 meeting, in an effort to push the culling program through, once again, with no regard to bear sustainability and the unpredictable impacts on other elements of the ecosystem. I find it astonishing, after all the public opposition to this intensive management program, that the Department offers the Board of Game no details on the number of bears they might kill each year, including males, sows and cubs. With no estimated cost. With no targets or caps. With no recent bear census for this region. This clearly violates the State Constitution with respect to managing wildlife in a sustainable manner for both predators and prey. This is reckless wildlife management at best.

The Department is boasting that the herd numbers look better, and that the fall composition counts have improved for the Western segment of the herd. I urge the Board of Game to look at the composition counts and census data closely with respect to historical data. Read the important recommendations given by the area biologists who authored the 2023 and 2024 census reports, and the 2024 Fall composition report that includes 20 years of composition

counts. I encourage you to ask the Department questions pertaining to the following information contained in their own reports.

1. Has the Department considered revising the current Mulchatna Herd population objective of 30,000 to 80,0000, given historical and recent trends as noted by the Dillingham area biologists? (the herd has been stable at low levels for seven years ranging from 12,500 to 14,800 --- current population objectives are likely very unrealistic given habitat changes, disease factor and ongoing climate change conditions)

2. Can the Department provide you with information on the number of Mulchatna Herd calves who have died as a result of brucellosis that causes abortions, stillborns, and weakened calf conditions? How many diseased dead calves were retrieved in 2023 and 2024? Does the Department know how many diseased calves were scavenged or killed by bears? (these disease related questions are important because the aspect of disease for the Mulchatna Herd is excluded in the Department's proposal).

3. The Department boasts that the Mulchatna Herd has increased by 19%. But isn't this largely true because the Eastern segment of the herd grew by 28%, where there was no predator control? The Western segment only increased by 11% where there was predator control. It's interesting to note that the Eastern segment of the herd did better than the Western segment in 2024, where there was no intensive management. Given the small size of the Western segment of the Mulchatna Herd, is 11% a significant number?

4. Is the Department conducting a range analysis and the nutritional stress level for the Mulchatna Herd? The region is undergoing shrubification which benefits moose. What does climate change mean for the Mulchatna Herd in terms of quality of range and long-term population projections?

5. Should the Department be culling hundreds of bears to boost a herd that is suffering from other causes such as habitat changes, nutritional stress and disease? Should bears and wolves be the scapegoats even though they are not a significant cause for the herd's low numbers?

6. Has the Department made any effort to census the bears that live in the Mulchatna Herd calving region? Does the Department plan to indiscriminately kill every bear sighted in the defined calving zone for the next three years, with no thresholds or science-based bear studies? If so, doesn't this violate the March court ruling on sustainability requirements?

7. When the Mulchatna Herd was at its peak, was there a predator control program that led to these high numbers?

8. The Department notes that this proposed regulation is not expected to require an additional appropriation. Does the Department have an estimated cost for this intensive management program over the next three years?

In closing, I urge the Board of Game to request an independent analysis on the Department's proposed intensive management plan for the Mulchatna Herd. Many well-known scientists in Alaska have denounced the bear culling program. I also urge the Board of Game to look at other caribou herds throughout North America. Herds fluctuate and most populations are down in number. In Quebec, predator control programs for wolves, coyotes and bears have failed to limit the decline of caribou. Some of these control programs have run for several years, if not decades, without long term caribou recovery.

I urge you to oppose the Department's proposal to amend 5 AAC 92.111 (c), that would allow for indiscriminate and unlimited bear killing to boost the Mulchatna Herd numbers. This proposal is in violation of the sustainability requirement of our State Constitution, and the proposal does not address the real causes why the Mulchatna Herd numbers are low.

Sincerely,

Debbie S. Miller

PC926

Name: Miller, Diana

Community of Residence: No

Comment:

I am in opposition of killing the bears proposed in this bill. There should be strong scientific evidence that a program like this would be the best solution moving forward. This proposition is not science based and killing of these bears especially moms and their cubs will have a dramatic impact on there overall population. I respectfully ask for this to not move forward as there is a better way to increase the caribou population in this area.

PC927

Name: Miller, Elizabeth

Community of Residence: Blue Ridge

Comment:

First I have 2 words that truly exemplify what this is: SIMPLY BARBARIC. That being said, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the practice of aerial hunting of brown bears. This method of hunting, which involves pursuing bears from aircraft and shooting them from the air, raises serious ethical, ecological, and conservation concerns.

Brown bears are iconic wildlife species that play a critical role in maintaining the health of ecosystems. They are slow to reproduce and particularly vulnerable to overharvesting. Aerial hunting undermines the principles of fair chase and sportsmanship, as it gives hunters an overwhelming and unfair advantage over these animals. It also increases the risk of wounding and leaving bears to suffer unnecessarily.

Furthermore, such practices can disrupt bear populations and the balance of natural systems, harming not only bears but also other species and habitats that depend on intact ecosystems. Aerial hunting damages the reputation of wildlife management programs and alienates the public, many of whom value the opportunity to observe and appreciate brown bears in the wild.

I urge you to reconsider policies that allow aerial hunting of brown bears and instead promote science-based wildlife management strategies that emphasize conservation, fairness, and respect for these magnificent animals.

PC928

Name: Miller, Jessica

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I oppose the murder of bears. It's needless slaughter without any clear benefit. It's disgusting, morally unjust, and it has never been proven to help sustain the natural environment. Leave predators alone.

PC929

Name: Miller, Lisa

Community of Residence: 9309 Pearl St

Comment:

OPPOSITION to 5 AAC 9.111(c) proposed addition of brown and black bears to predator list to save the Mulchatna caribou herd. The bears and wolves should not be destroyed in such a careless and haphazard manner. Research should be conducted on the true reason for the herd's decline.

PC930

Name: Miller, Nicole **Affiliation**: Nicole Gabrielle Photography

Community of Residence: Fond du lac Wisconsin

Comment:

Bears may travel long distances to get to food sources, find mates and raise cubs. The bears of Brooks Falls may be impacted by this decision which will be heartbreaking to the community that enjoys viewing and photographing them. Regardless of that the bears are indigenous to the area and have barely (no pun intended) rebounded from being endangered. Please stop this plan. Put America first and protect our wildlife.

PC931

Name: Miller, Paula

Community of Residence: Washington DC

Comment:

Killing bear wildlife to defend another wildlife population is a dangerous game and is proven to be detrimental to natural ecosystems . It's also a sad portrait of what we are doing as people when we exterminate living things from helicopters who have no chance to defend themselves.

Please stop this dangerous and unethical practice immediately.

Name: Miller, Sterling
Community of Residence: Lolo

7/5/2025 (resubmitted because the original submission had the wrong year).

To the Alaska Board of Game

This is a comment in opposition to ADFG Proposal #1 "Intensive Management Plans, MCH predation management Area. I am a retired ADFG DWC researcher on bears and predator-prey relationships who has worked and recreated in the control area on both bears and caribou.

Bear sustained yield considerations

There is no information presented on the sustained yield of predators (bears or wolves) in the documents provided except for references to the literature (some of which I wrote) about the percentage of the population that can be killed on a sustained basis. The cited percentage figures are meaningless in any case for the area of bear culling because no information on bear density is available for this area (the denominator used to calculate the percentage number). There are extrapolation density estimates from elsewhere (some based on work I've done) but this does not suffice to know what kill numbers are sustainable.

Perhaps equally important, there is no target for reductions in density that would be classified as "sustainable". Expressing, as the reports do, targets in terms of caribou demographics is irrelevant to the question of what is sustainable for bear (or wolf) populations. It would be possible to eliminate all of the bears and still not achieve targets expressed (inappropriately) in terms of caribou demographics.

Pertinent information to evaluate whether the bear kill meets the constitutional mandate to manage for "sustained yields" has apparently been written by ADFG but not provided to the public. The Tentative Agenda for the July 14 meeting lists a report on "Sustained Yield of Predators Under IM: Overview for the Board of Game, July 2025" but, unlike the other two reports in the Tentative Agenda, this report is not available so the public cannot evaluate and comment on it for the Board's consideration. This seems to be a violation of the requirement to make reports like this available. Correspondingly, I believe the Board cannot make a finding that the bear kill is "sustainable" since there is information available on this topic that the public has no ability to review.

The absence of data on the sex and age composition of bears killed in the control operation also makes it impossible to evaluate the claims that the culling operation is sustainable. ADFG asserts that immigration from surrounding areas will restore bear numbers but this can only be evaluated (partially at lease) with information on this composition. It would be expected, for example, that immigrating bears would be predominantly young males and many fewer females (especially adult females). It is essential to have this information on

the kill sex and age composition (and location with respect to the adjacent NWRs) to get insights into the pattern of immigration and support for the assertions that it will suffice to restore bear population.

Additionally, in order to evaluate the source(s) of bears claimed as likely to repopulate the removal area on the calving grounds, the location of the bears killed in the culling operation needs to be provided and evaluated. Also, it is important for the BOG to be provided with information on the lost opportunity costs associated with other uses of the bears killed in the control actions. I saw a passing reference to an UAF study that pegged economic value of non-consumptives uses of bears in this general area at $1.2 million over a bear's lifetime. I have not reviewed this study but was a co-author of another ADFG study (Miller et al. 1998) that similarly documented the high values of non-consumptive uses of Alaska's bear resources.

The Mulchatna bear culling operation is unlike anything like that has ever occurred anywhere in the World yet there is apparently no information is being collected about it except for numbers killed. This is missed scientific opportunity to gain insights on bear population reactions to such a massive culling operation. In illustration of this point, I conducted a 20 year study on the effects of heavy hunting pressure on the grizzly bear populations in Subunit 13E and also in GMU 9 that concluded, among other things, that the sex and age composition of the population changed toward more females and fewer old adult males. However, contrary to reports from Scandinavia, we did not find a decline in cub survivorship associated with the decline in adult males (Miller et al. 2003). The level of removal in the Mulchatna is far greater than I had in Unit 13 and the potential to learn more about whether hunting is compensatory or depensatory on cub survival or other demographic factors is far greater as a result. Yet apparently no one from ADFG is interested in evaluating this which is an important question of sustainability of the Mulchatna bear kill.

Caribou considerations

There is no basis for the claim in Proposal 1 that "Continuing predator control is essential for herd recovery….". I am unaware of any science supporting a claim that bear or wolf predation is a limiting factor to recovery of the MCH and, in fact, the data presented by ADFG caribou researchers to the BOG in 2022 concluded that none of their data streams supported a conclusion that bear predation was limiting herd growth.

More recently, the ADFG March 2025 report to the BOG claims that there has been an "improvement" in caribou calf:cow ratios in the fall and this is attributed to the kill of bears.

There is no question that bears kill caribou (and moose) calves in the spring so it would be unsurprising if reduced spring predation did not result in higher calf:cow ratios in the fall before the major period of mortality for calves IN THE WINTER has occurred. The pertinent metric for calf survivorship is number who survive to become yearlings (especially during moderate-severe winters). No data is presented on this. In addition, the ADFG comparisons of spring calf:cow rations in eastern and western portions of the herd are puzzling and inconsistent as survivorship is not higher in the western portion where the most predators were killed.

ADFG's insistence that recent bear removals resulted in higher early calf survival and thus higher calf:cow ratios in the fall is inconsistent with that fact that early calf survival in the west during the years preceding bear removals was frequently comparable to early survival during after bear removals and also frequently higher than early calf survival in the east, yet did not lead to high fall calf ratios. This strongly implies that something other than predation on newborn calves was driving low fall calf recruitment in the west.

References Cited

Miller, S.D. R.A. Sellers, and J. A. Keay. 2003. Effects of hunting on brown bear cub survival and litter size in Alaska. Ursus 14:130-152.

Miller, S.M., S.D. Miller, and D.W. McCollum. 1998. Attitudes toward and relative value of Alaskan brown and black bears to resident voters, resident hunters, and nonresident hunters. Ursus 10:357-376.

Sterling Miller PhD
ADFG/DWC, retired

PC933

Name: Millmore, Mimi

Community of Residence: Ireland

Comment:

This is disturbing, unethical and unnatural. It has been a dream to travel to Alaska but this is off putting. As it is for many other potential tourists who would bring more money to the area.

PC934

Name: Mills, Zac

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I strongly oppose the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's proposal to establish a massive 40,000-square-mile black and brown bear control program in western Alaska. This plan feels like a reckless overreach, especially in light of recent court rulings that deemed the previous Mulchatna bear control program illegal and found that the State acted in bad faith by continuing to kill bears despite clear judicial orders.

There is no credible evidence that this program will achieve its intended impact on ungulate populations. Decades of wildlife science show that ungulates are far more influenced by weather patterns, grazing habitat quality, climate change, and regulated human hunting than by predator numbers alone. In fact, focusing on bear removal distracts from the root drivers of ungulate decline and risks unintended ecological consequences.

Moreover, this proposal would be a huge waste of taxpayer dollars. Funding an aerial gunning operation across 40,000 square miles—on top of ongoing wolf control—diverts limited state resources away from proven, science-based management strategies, habitat restoration, and community-led conservation initiatives that deliver real results.

As someone who brings dozens of visitors to Alaska each year to view bears in their natural habitat, I contribute significantly to the local economy through lodging, flights, guides, restaurants, transportation, and more. Ethical, sustainable wildlife tourism supports hundreds of Alaskan jobs and showcases our state's commitment to conservation. A blanket bear-control program undermines both our ecological values and the very economic engine that wildlife viewing provides.

I urge the Board of Game to reject this proposal outright and instead invest in transparent, science-based wildlife management that respects the rule of law, upholds ecological balance, and wisely allocates taxpayer funds to initiatives with proven benefits.

PC935

Name: Milne, Victoria

Community of Residence: South Yarmouth, MA

Comment:

As a young girl I learned to hunt from my father. Hunting was an honorable sport, the animals were given respect and not shot at dangerously should they be wounded and not killed. Our family ate what we got. Not many people hunted bear unless they lived where they could eat them.

Since then encroachment on their environment is a problem. Bear in general are losing habitat and in the lower 48 state of the U.S. they're wandering into backyards. There's less fresh water for them as well. The climate is hotter so they have to seek places to stay or eat they've adapted to . Polar bear are losing the ice they live on. Continental bear have less food because of rodenticide use even in rural areas.

To shoot bear from a helicopter is in no way sporting. The bear in question here are not a menace. They travel far to find food, and winters are warmer so their period of torpor is shorter. There is no reason this, or hunting them in general , should be allowed. Like National Parks, the bear bring money for folks willing to properly travel and view them safely. Explore.org has done an excellent job of educating and informing people from all over the world about the bear population that is the subject of this change. Such a change will, as with so many changes lately, cause people to think badly of the entitled people who would do such hunting. The amount of money one might spend this way for what, a trophy or bragging rights is not sporting. Better they should give it to bear conservation and watch them in the cameras to appreciate their magnificence. There is no reason to allow the hunting of these bears. And any reports about the bear suddenly becoming problems will not be believed. Just more anger will be directed at the government.

Thank you.

PC936

Name: Mincks , Janine

Community of Residence: Renton, Wa

Comment:

Dear committee

Aerial shooting of the bears at Brook Creek Falls should Not happen. There has already been 197 bears gunned down in this area, including mothers and cubs. Which is cruel and unnecessary. The first solution shouldn't just be to kill all the bears off. Other options should be included and introduced. We need to protect our wildlife and their habitats not destroying them. Please do the right thing.

Thank you for your time.

Janine Mincks

PC937

Name: Mira, Marie

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

We need to preserve our planet and keep the species safe. There is no room for enroachment or compromise . I beg and pray you do

---

PC938

Name: Mirabella, Cindy

Community of Residence: Ocean, NJ

Comment:

I oppose this proposed change. I have not seen scientific proof that killing the bears will have a meaningful impact on protecting the caribou. Nature should not be managed in this way.

PC939

Name: Mirphy, K.

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

Having lived on Kodiak and worked on the Katmai peninsula, I think what you are doing to the bears at the Mulchatna heard is wrong. I oppose it and believe what you are doing is illegal. How about listening to the Alaskan public instead of the big game guides. It's not all about them. End predator control now. Otherwise Alaska becomes just like the lower 48.

PC940

Name: Mitchell, Richard

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

I do not support the proposal - there is no reason to do it , these bears have not hurt anyone

---

PC941

Name: Mohan, Crystal

Community of Residence: 570 Clifton Crt

Comment:

Save the Bears we do not have the right to kill them! They deserve to live and be here on earth

---

PC942

Name: Molinari , Amynda

Community of Residence: Del City

Comment:

Please save the bears. They are critical.to human and nature's survival and they are being punished for no reason. Please.

PC943

Name: Molton, Wanda

Community of Residence: Highland

Comment:

Alaska should not allow the killing of bears and wolves to boost the caribou population because it disrupts the natural balance of the ecosystem. Predators play a crucial role in maintaining healthy wildlife populations by culling the weak and sick, which strengthens the herd overall. Targeted killing of wolves and bears not only causes unnecessary suffering but also ignores other factors that impact caribou numbers, such as habitat loss and climate change. Sustainable wildlife management should focus on preserving the integrity of ecosystems—not manipulating them for short-term gains.

PC944

Name: Moncada, Alicia

Community of Residence: Murrieta California

Comment:

Leave all the wild life as is .

PC945

Name: Mondschein , Alana

Community of Residence: Czech Republic

Comment:

This is unacceptable. You can’t just kill then , this land is also theirs . You tell they are overpopulated but what about us humans ? 8 billion ! We should live with nature together co existence , not to kill them ! Shame !!!

PC946

Name: Monsalve , Tiffany

Community of Residence: Fairfield

Comment:

Stop shooting bears

PC947

Name: Montague, Florence

Community of Residence: Idaho

Comment:

I've been to Alaska many times there's absolutely no reason to kill those bears, absolutely no reason whatsoever. The native Alaskans can eat bear just like they can Caribou so let them hunt for the bear.

PC948

Name: Montgomery , Ji

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

I oppose killing of these black bears they are so important to our ecosystem

Dear whom to concern,

I oppose killing of black bears as it doesn't help the environment or the communities please stop killing them

---

PC949

Name: Moody , Mike

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Hi, I am writing from North Carolina to support our brown and black bears,and the wolf population.. Please outlaw the killing of the beautiful animals. There has to be a more common sense way instead of murdering these beautiful animals

Sincerely,

Mike Moody

PC950

Name: Moody, Meagan

Community of Residence: Illinois

Comment:

Save the bears. Let the wild be the wild.

PC951

Name: Moore, Carol

Community of Residence: Atlanta GA USA

Comment:

We must learn to support and coexist with all things living. Surely the bears don't have to be gunned down indiscriminately from above. Find a better way to coexist.

PC952

Name: Moore, Carmyn

Community of Residence: Washington County

Comment:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE the wrongful inhumane killing of these bears in Alaska for the "sake of caribou. " There is no proof or study that proves killing these bears will positively impact caribou herds. The ecosystem NEEDS bears to thrive and flourish. What is being done is WRONG and immoral.

PC953

Name: Moore, Heather

Community of Residence: Willow

Comment:

I am commenting in OPPOSITION to 1 PROPOSAL 1 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area changes for the following reasons:

This proposal violates the Alaska Constitution's principle of sustained yield

because it values the sustainability of caribou herds but doesn't adequately

study bear populations and their sustainability. On March 14th, Judge Andrew

Guidi vacated this predator control program due to the lack of research that this

proposal has on the bear population. "Having carefully reviewed the record and

the arguments advanced by the State, it is apparent that the State did not

have adequate,relevant population studies or any genuine data about bear

sustainability in the area of the control program prior to adopting a

proposal that would have an obvious impact on a constitutionally

protected public resource.

The issue of the bear population and distribution is an obvious salient issue

touching on sustainability. Addressing the sustainability of a constitutionally protected resource like bears almost certainly requires the BOG to engage in more than a rudimentary discussion about a bear population or engage in conclusionary opinions when considering a proposal to initiate a program calling for the unrestricted killing of bears."

Alaska cannot afford to lose the economic advantages provided by wildlife viewing enthusiasts. Approximately twenty years ago, the state was compelled to back away from a wolf control program in response to public dissent and impending boycotts of the Alaska tourism sector. The bear population within nearby Katmai National Park is closely observed by naturalists, rangers, park visitors and live camera viewers. It is widely recognized among this group that a considerable number of the resident bears did not return to Brooks Falls last year. Bear viewing brings a tremendous amount of attention and revenue to the state. In this year's "Fat Bear Week" contest, over 1,041,124 votes were cast with between 80,000 – 100,000 people voting on a daily basis. Bear enthusiasts worldwide have recently become aware of the recent proposals regarding the bears of Alaska and are actively seeking to educate themselves on these issues. According to the Alaska Travel Industry's Alaska's 2022-2033 Visitor Profile report (2) 66% of the total visitors to Alaska stated that wildlife viewing was one of their primary activities, 30% identified bear viewing as a primary activity while only 6% listed hunting as a primary activity. Of those visitors who hired guides, 30% were sightseeing guides, 29% were wildlife viewing guides, 17% were fishing guides, and only 6% of guides that were hired were hunting guides. With the commonplace use of social media, I believe that if this predator control program is reinstated, it could potentially trigger an economic catastrophe for small businesses that depend on tourism dollars which will already be suffering due to the current boycotts and other uncertainties.

In a different study published by the University of Alaska Fairbanks - The Economic Contributions of Bear Viewing in South Central Alaska (3) found that

wildlife viewing for Katmai National Park and Preserve contributed a yearly total of 84.6 million dollars to the Alaskan economy.

According to the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (4), there were in total 640,000 non-consumptive wildlife-viewing participants in the State of Alaska including both residents and non-residents. It is reported that these wildlife-viewers spent a total of more than $2 billion dollars in Alaska in 2011, with the average participant spending about $3,200. Alaskan businesses cannot afford to lose this source of income.

The Mulchatna caribou herd has a history of significant population highs and lows. Many ADF&G research and management reports have attributed the recent population crash to adverse weather, nutritional losses due to habitat change, poaching, and disease. Much of the increase in herd numbers in the population count of Mulchatna caribou in 2024 was attributed by ADF&G researchers to better survey conditions. Most of the apparent increase occurred in the eastern segment of the Mulchatna herd, in a region where bears were not removed. Thus, there is no correlation between predator control and the increase in herd numbers. If herd population objectives were based on current knowledge of caribou ecology and the state's own research findings, there would be no need for predator control.

The money needed to implement this program would be better spend enforcing the current hunting closures in the area in order to curb the illegal poaching that continues to affect the herd. As a long time Alaskan, I am appalled at the amount of flagrant poaching of fish and game that I witness whenever I travel around the state. While I and my associates call in all of violations that we can, we realizes that the state does not have enough enforcement officers to control the amount of poaching that goes on here. The poachers realize this as well, which is why they make no attempt to hide their actions or stop when the illegality is pointed out. For evidence of this, I encourage you to walk down to any salmon stream that is currently closed to king fishing.

1 https://www.forbes.com/sites/suzannerowankelleher/2025/03/10/canada-travel-boycott-4-billion-loss/

1 https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/mar/12/i-feel-utter-anger-from-canada-to-europe-a-movement-to-boycott-us-goods-is-spreading

1 https://nypost.com/2025/02/22/us-news/canadians-cancelling-us-travel-en-masse-in-face-of-tariff-threats/

2 https://www.alaskatia.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/ATIA%20Alaska%20Visitor%20Profile%202022-2023.pdf

3

https://inletkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Bear-Viewing-Economics-St

udy.pdf

4 https://www.mdpi.com/1424-2818/14/11/939

PC954

Name: Moore, Linda C

Community of Residence: Vashon Island

Comment:

I strongly oppose the aerial shooting of bears, as it disrupts the natural ecosystem and the intricate web it weaves and works.

Please stop this murder of Alaska's beautiful bears!

PC955

Name: Moore, Sarah

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I am not against hunting, and I understand that hunting in Alaska contributes significantly to the state's economy. What I am against is the unethical practices to remove predators without significant scientific evidence.

This proposal isn't about removing an invasive species from a fragile ecosystem. This is a proposal about removing a native species from their natural habitat with little regard for the long-term impacts on the environment.

Additionally, this proposal does not specify a numerical limit on the number of bears that can be killed. While killing SOME bears may be beneficial to the Mulchatna Caribou Herd population in the short term, there have been no studies or evidence presented to show the long-term ecological or environmental impacts of removing a large number of bears in the area.

And lastly, while bears may account for some of the population decline within this herd, it is far from the main contributor. You can remove all of the bears you want, but it wont address the root cause of the population decline. Changes in vegetation due to climate change are affecting the availability of food for caribou and moose, favoring moose over caribou. Additionally, disease (Brucellosis), habitat changes linked to climate change that favor moose over caribou, and historical overpopulation and habitat damage when the herd was much larger have a much larger impact than bear predation. These underlying issues will not go away, regardless of how many bears you eliminate.

I urge you to take a firm stand against this proposal. The killing of these animals is not only unethical but also jeopardizes Alaska’s reputation as a destination for wildlife conservation and ethical tourism.

PC956

Name: Morales, Pito

Community of Residence: US

Comment:

DO NOT HARM ANDY WILDLIFE. ITS THEIR TURF SO WE NEED TO RESPECT THAT.

PC957

Name: Morales, Savanna

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Caribou decline has been a natural response to over hunting in the past, disease, and rapidly changing habitat. This is common knowledge and the reason judges ruled against this in the past. Yes there should be conservation efforts for the caribou but not at the cost of other species. Killing off bears is unconstitutional and severely unethical and for these reasons I urge everyone to oppose these killings. Thank you for your time.

PC958

Name: Morataya, Ines

Community of Residence: San Bernardino

Comment:

I'm sorry but killing a wild animal should be illegal. We are supposed to live one with nature, not destroy it. We need to share this Earth in harmony and peace. We must protect the animals not destroy them.

PC959

Name: Morbini, Pamela

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

Indiscriminate culling of bears in Alaska is not only an ethically questionable practice, but it also undermines the complex ecological balance that these apex predators maintain. Bears play a crucial role in regulating ecosystems by controlling prey populations, helping disperse seeds, and even influencing plant growth. Culling bears without considering the broader ecological context can lead to unintended consequences, such as overpopulation of certain prey species, disruption of plant communities, and degradation of other wildlife habitats.

From a biological standpoint, removing bears from an ecosystem often results in a shift in the food chain. Apex predators like bears help maintain the health and stability of ecosystems by preventing overgrazing by herbivores, which can, in turn, lead to habitat degradation. Additionally, culling bears without

understanding their individual roles or health can interfere with their genetic diversity, potentially weakening future generations.

Furthermore, there's a growing body of research showing that non-lethal methods of human-wildlife conflict resolution, such as habitat modification, better waste management, and more strategic wildlife management, are far more sustainable and effective. These methods respect the natural behavior of bears and ensure that ecosystems are allowed to function as intended.

Rather than resorting to culling, a more holistic approach to wildlife management that prioritizes conservation, long-term ecological health, and the prevention of human-wildlife conflicts is both scientifically sound and ethically responsible. By focusing on the preservation of the species and their habitats, we can ensure a more balanced coexistence between humans and wildlife.

PC960

Name: Morel, Hugo

Community of Residence: Lille

Comment:

don’t kill bears

PC961

Name: Moreno, Tatyana

Community of Residence: Coamo

Comment:

To whom this may concern, as you may be aware every living animal in any given ecosystem has a given purpose in its environment, as well as its own right to live. When these beings are hunted down, without mercy, for simply crossing an invisible line that they didn't know was there, that is unimaginable cruelty. These bears should be protected and revered not shot and killed for no good reason. The people giving the orders and the people pulling the trigger need to be held accountable and taken out of power. They should not be incharge of the safety of any human or animal if they are capable of committing such atrocities against these living, breathing, breeding animals. Hold these people accountable and stop this insanity. These bears may not be your brothers, sisters, mothers or fathers, but they deserve enough respect to not be gunned down as if their life meant nothing.

PC962

Name: Morgan, Joe

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

Do not shoot the bears or remove them.

PC963

Name: Morgan, Karly

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Please end the murder of these majestic creatures immediately. The citizens of the world do not want these behavior any longer . Conservation without killing

---

PC964

Name: Morris, Carolyn

Community of Residence: VA

Comment:

I firmly oppose the proposed regulation changes to the Mulchatna bear control measures being put before the board of game. I began watching the Explore.org Katmai Brown Bear cameras in 2018 and have enjoyed watching bears grow up and live along the river. This led to a vacation in Alaska in August 2024, including a stay at the Katmai National Park at Brooks Falls. Seeing the bears up close gave me a look into the wonder of Alaska like no other part of the state. Watching the bears do what comes naturally to them in the river - catch fish - made me realize how important they are to the natural habitat and biosphere of the area. Allowing hunting of the brown bears in any form, but especially aerial hunting, would destroy the connection they have to the land and create a hatred of Alaska by the millions of people who watch the bears online.

While I do understand the natural life cycle of animals, cutting an animal's life short by man's intervention is unnecessary and cruel. Bear's in this area of the country hold no danger to man unless man interferes with the bear's habits. There is no good reason to hunt brown bears, but many good reasons to leave them along. Alaska is the most wonderous place in our country because of the ability to observe animals in their natural habitat and protect them from the rest of the world. Please do not allow this to change.

PC965

Name: Morris, Natalie

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Although we currently live in California, my husband and I recently purchased a lovely spot in Homer, Alaska where we plan to retire. We love Alaska and its natural beauty, its wildlife, its wilderness. We are strongly opposed to the plan to slaughter bears and wolves in order to manage the caribou population. Although we understand that there are many challenges in managing Alaska's wildlife, fundamentally we want a landscape that includes caribou as well as bears and wolves. Predators are a part of the balance and provide natural - and free! - means to keep populations of caribou healthy. Without predators, disease in caribou populations increases, and makes the overall population less healthy. The plan to shoot bears goes way overboard and uses inhumane methods of bear population control. It won't make the caribou population improve in the long run because it will take away nature's balance. It will upset the ecosystem

and detract from all the things we love about the wilderness. Alaska needs its bears and wolves! We appreciate you taking the time to hear our comments and we urge you to find a better solution for improving the caribou populations.

Name: Morrisse, Jack

Community of Residence: Ireland

Comment:

Stop this indiscriminate slaughter of Black and Brown bears. Educate humans living in the environs adjacent to the parks to adapt human behaviour in proximity to wildlife.

Rather than a hard line boundary there should be an additional buffer zone.

Is the caribou herd being increased for commercial farming?

Increase the size of wildlife protected areas and bears and caribou will have space to thrive

These clearances seem more for benefit of human development than for wildlife conservation and validates toxic "sport" hunting culture

Stop

Name: Mortimer, Karli

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

I am AGAINST the take down of brown and black bears. I stand with 'The Wildlife Collective' and their views.

Name: Morton, John

Community of Residence: Soldotna

Comment:

This IM effort should not have been authorized from biological or legal perspectives, and it certainly shouldn't be expanded. ADF&G biologists concluded in 2020 that the main reasons for the decline of the MCH were lack of food (lichens) and brucellosis, not high predation. In fact, as is well known in the scientific literature on density-dependent population regulation, predation is a means to remove starving and diseased animals. Also consider that the MCH successfully increased from 14,000 in 1974 to 200,000 two decades later without predator control; there is no intrinsic reason to believe it won't do that again.

Furthermore, even as the MCH harvest has decreased in recent decades, moose harvest in the same area has increased as moose have expanded westward and northward in response to a warming climate and increasing shrubs (Tape et al. 2016). ADF&G reports are confirmatory: "In the last three decades, moose populations throughout Unit 17 have increased substantially in number and range" (Barten 2018); "the Kuskokwim [moose] population [in Unit 18] is growing and is still in the process of colonizing the available riparian habitat" (Perry 2023). The fundamental problem is that ADF&G and the BOG refuse to recognize that habitats (and their carrying capacities) are changing in response to a warming climate. Simply put, what is good for moose is not necessarily good for caribou. Consequently, historical population levels (and therefore IM objectives) of many native game species are no longer achievable with or without IM. Implementing costly aerial predator control simply compounds the problem by turning what should be "sustained yield" into "subsidized yield", a caricature of what was meant in the Alaska constitution under Article 8. I encourage the BOG and ADFG to think like biologists, not like card-carrying members of Safari Club International.

PC969

Name: Moss, Michael

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

I am deeply concerned about the ongoing killing of innocent bears in Alaska. These animals, including mothers with cubs and bears in protected areas, are being targeted through controversial hunting practices. This raises serious ethical and environmental concerns, as it not only disrupts ecosystems but also undermines conservation efforts. I believe stronger protections and humane policies must be enforced to preserve Alaska's wildlife and natural heritage.

PC970

Name: Motta, Samantha

Community of Residence: Dayton, Nevada

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill proposal. It is not science based and won't fix the real problem, which is mainly climate change and habitat loss.

PC971

Name: Moyer, Khrysten

Community of Residence: Chester County Pennsylvania

Comment:

Let the bears live!!!! Set up cameras for the world to view and we can pay to watch them be bears!!! You'll make more money then having tourists come and RUIN everything that is natural and beautiful!!! I'd be willing to pay a yearly subscription to watch these bears play in the water and feed!

PC972

Name: Mucha, Christopher

Community of Residence: Chalfont, PA

Comment:

I do not live in Alaska but spend tens of thousands of dollars photographing bears in Alaska each year. They are beautiful animals and butchering them for no scientific reason is murder. Apex predators help populations of other animals, not hurt them. Survival of the fittest.

Please reconsider the barbaric practice of murdering bears and cubs. It hurts the Alaska economy and natural selection.

PC973

Name: Mullally, Joan

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

[redacted]

[redacted]

Brooklyn, NY 11209

[redacted]

Comment in OPPOSITION to the State's 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I for the following reasons:

1. The court just ruled TWICE that these actions would be illegal. It's less than a month since that ruling. It is NOT going to be legal to try this again.

2. There is NO emergency-the caribou are dying for many other reasons than predation, including warmer temperatures and resultant changes in what is growing and able to feed them. Blaming black bears, in particular, and brown bears, is absurd. They do not actively hunt full grown caribou. And while it is sad to say, caribou can have one or more calves every year. A black bear might have a litter every 3 years, and a brown bear every four. That means there are at least 4 times more calves than there are new bears that might grow up to eat caribou. BUT, since the survival rate of bear cubs is only 33%, that makes the ratio of calves exponentially greater.

3. Human beings have continued hunting caribou for sport for years, even though they have seen the crashing population. At this point, it is no game, in any sense. Only indigenous people should be allowed to hunt caribou. Not big game hunters who breeze and out just looking for a rack of antlers to boast about.

4. In terms of the previous court case, the bear program was found to be unlawful because the public did not have an opportunity to comment, and the State didn't assess how the program would impact bears. They are doing the SAME again, with barely chance for public comment before the court date in July, far too short notice for most stakeholders in the issue to have a chance to weigh in. Especially with summer and 4th of July etc coming up.

   It's like we have to sit on this issue every single minute because they will sneakily try to flout the law all over again. Bears were killed in spite of the last injunction, and the only reason more weren't gunned down was because the planes got grounded by a blizzard.

   These people are badly intentioned bad actors who are more than happy to behave lawlessly. They need to start feeling the consequences of their lawlessness.

5. Nothing has changed since the ruling that the program is unlawful, EXCEPT the fact that the bears are out of their dens now. This is a disgusting excuse for murder of sows and their cubs.

6. Spring cubs who will die if their mother is killed. Even year old brown bear cubs would struggle without a mother; they are NOT old enough to be independent and would surely starve. There have been reports of cubs being shot too, whole families being slaughtered for no reason other than human 'entertainment'.

7. It seems like this move is more about clearing the way for future ‘development’ of the land rather than actually protecting the caribou. They are no doubt part of the ‘drilling school’ and ‘mining school’ of ‘management’.

   This approach—getting rid of wildlife to make development easier—is a well-known tactic. It’s not about helping the caribou at all. Instead, it seems like an excuse to remove animals so there’s less opposition when it’s time to drill or mine. When people say, "What about the animals?" they can say, "Oh, there aren't any." No, because they have killed them all off. How much money is enough to these people? And at what cost?

I hope this newest attack on bears and wolves will be stopped in its tracks like all of their other illegal proposals. Protecting our wildlife is crucial, and these short-term gains aren’t worth the long-term damage, which can never be repaired. You can't put a tree back once you've chopped it down. You can't bring back a balance of nature when you've destroyed 3 species, black and brown bears and wolves, that help keep it in balance.

And you certainly shouldn't tamper with nature without facts, figures and statistics about the impact killing bears from helicopters would have. Go out there with a bow and arrow, guys, and then let's see how keen you are to hunt bears and wolves. They say they will accumulate data after the fact, but are expecting open season until 2028? Unacceptable.

Thank you for considering all of my comments about my strong opposition to this senseless slaughter of innocent animals just doing what their species does--trying to survive. With moms trying to raise their families, just like us.

sincerely,

Joan Mullally

6-11-25

- Proposed Regulatory Changes to 5 AAC 92.111 by ADF&G (PDF.777.kB)

PC974

Name: Mullally, Joan

Community of Residence: NY

Comment:

Name
Address
Email

Comment Opposing 5 AAC 92.111 – Intensive Management Plans I

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposed changes in 5 AAC 92.111 for several reasons:

1. The courts already said this is illegal—twice. Just last month, a judge ruled that killing bears like this isn't allowed. Trying to bring it back so soon feels like ignoring the law.
2. This is not an emergency. Caribou are in trouble for many reasons, including climate change and loss of food—not because of bears. Black bears and brown bears don't hunt grown caribou. And while they may eat a few calves, that's part of nature. Bears have very few cubs, and most of them don't survive. The math doesn't support blaming bears.
3. People still hunt caribou for sport, even while the population crashes. That needs to stop. Only Native communities who depend on caribou for food should be allowed to hunt them. Trophy hunters just want antlers—not to feed their families.
4. The public is being left out—again. The courts said it was wrong to make these changes without letting the public give input. But now the same thing is happening—there's barely any time to comment before the court hearing. And it's summer, so people are away or busy. That's unfair.
5. This is a sneaky way to break the rules. Even after the court told them to stop, bears were killed anyway. The only thing that slowed them down was a blizzard. That's not responsible management—it's lawbreaking.
6. There's no change in the facts—just a new chance to kill. Bears have finally left their dens, and now people want to gun them down from planes. That's not wildlife management—it's slaughter. Mothers with cubs will be shot, and the babies won't survive without them.
7. This feels more about land development than caribou. Are they trying to clear animals out so no one objects when it's time to build, drill, or mine? That's a well-known tactic—wipe out the wildlife so no one can complain. It's wrong.

We need to protect our wildlife, not destroy it. Bears and wolves help keep nature in balance. Once they're gone, we can't bring them back. Killing animals from helicopters isn't just cruel—it's reckless and unnecessary. If the state wants real data, they should study first, not shoot first and study later.

Please stop this plan. It's unfair, unscientific, and harmful to Alaska's animals and environment. We owe it to future generations to make better choices than this.

Thank you for listening and taking my opposition seriously.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
July 2, 2025

PC975

Name: Mulligan , George

Community of Residence: Auckland New Zealand NZ

Comment:

Just leave the bears alone they not hurting anyone by culling them you will eventually make them extinct , they get stressed OK put the sho on the other foot how about if all bears got together and started hunting humans you wouldn't like it you would pack up and move witch they will do then you loose tourist's internet loose money, it a pitty I'm not from your country mind you at the moment I wouldn't want to be, thanks for letting me voice my mind, don't know how write I am but the bears were here first .

PC976

Name: Munns, Amanda

Community of Residence: Spokane, Washington

Comment:

I am in clear opposition of this. Culling the population is sometimes vital but from a helicopter? Seems a bit excessive and "big game hunty" to me. This is unfair to the bears and killing moms and cubs is CRAZY. Let's use some common sense in politics and respect nature and our natural surroundings. If you want to reduce the population, let people hunt bears, not mow them down from a helicopter.

PC977

Name: Munson, Spencer **Affiliation**: Cervicide

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

Shouldn't have to comment. This is ridiculous. The bears deserve to live their lives and freely as we do. What a joke you would be to slaughter all these bears

---

PC978

Name: Murdock, Maia

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed killing of bears. There is no proof that by decreasing the bear population the caribou population will increase. It is unethical and we need to protect wildlife not decimate it. We only get one earth and we must protect what wilderness we have left

---

PC979

Name: Murphy, Elena

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I OPPOSE the Mulchatna bear control program. This has been legally DENIED for good reason: it makes no sense from several perspectives including but not limited to economical, ecological, or humane/ethical practice. Unfettered killing without regard for any ecological role, sentience, tribal significance, or livelihoods that depend on them is foolhardy and thinly veiled pandering to a selfish and myopically oriented minority. Stop this now. It's truly enough already.

PC980

Name: Myers, Evelyn

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Evelyn Myers

Representing myself

PROPOSAL 1

5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation

Management Area.

Bears deserve to roam free and we as humans are responsible for their stewardship. Aerial shooting is not only inhumane, but wasteful and unnecessary. Shooting mothers and their cubs is not responsible stewardship, it is unnecessarily cruel. The science doesn't provide any merit to the killing of these bears. I urge you to deny the approval and keep these bears free from harm.

The Alaska Supreme Court ruled this year that this is unconstitutional and you must uphold this ruling. There are many predators of caribou apart from bears and this proposed solution is not only unnecessary but unwarranted as there is no guarantee that this will help. We must let nature take its course as caribou populations rise and fall naturally.

I, Evelyn Myers, therefore, oppose this proposal in its entirety.

PC981

Name: Myers, Madison

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I am writing to urge you to reject the latest plan from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game which would authorize gunners to utilize helicopters, snowmobiles, and other equipment to eliminate up to 80% of wolves, brown bears, and black bears across a 20,000-acre area. This area borders the Denali and Lake Clark National Parks and Preserves (Unit 16).

Under this plan, state agents would be authorized to shoot hundreds of animals on sight—as many as 80% of all wolves and black bears and 60% of all brown bears—on the doorstep of two national parks.

This operation is inhumane and represents a troubling approach to wildlife management. In addition, it lacks a scientific foundation as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor determining the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. Alaska should protect and not disrupt the healthy predator/prey balance in the wild.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management.

PC982

Name: Naeem, Saira

Community of Residence: NY

Comment:

PLEASE stop the shooting of these bears.

PC983

Name: Nagel, Terrie

Community of Residence: Columbia, Missouri

Comment:

I oppose modifying the caribou management program to take brown and black bears for a number of reasons. First, there is no research that indicates the bears are impacting the caribou. Second, the black and brown bears have the right to continue to live in Alaska in the national parks and other areas as they have always done, it is their territory too. Third, Alaska benefits immensely from bear tourism, meaning the dollars we give to support the conservancy, view the bears, visit Katmai and other areas, and book cruises and other trips designed to incorporate bear viewing. Please leave the bears alone, the caribou management program does not need to be changed to increase killing of these incredible bears who are an asset to Alaska!!!

PC984

Name: Namnum, Maya

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Don't do this. We ready have so much going on- there is no need.

PC985

Name: Neerings, Jacob

Community of Residence: Salt Lake City

Comment:

Dear Alaska Department of Fish and Game,

I am writing to urge you to maintain full protections for Alaska's brown bears. These bears are not only a vital part of our ecosystems, but they also represent the wild character that makes Alaska unique.

These animals play a crucial role in keeping our environment balanced — from supporting salmon runs to maintaining healthy landscapes. They are also a major draw for tourism, photography, and outdoor recreation, which bring significant economic benefits to the state.

Any move to weaken protections or increase hunting pressure on these bears would be a serious mistake. Grizzly populations remain vulnerable to habitat loss, overharvest, and human-wildlife conflict. True conservation requires science-based management, not short-term exploitation.

Alaska is known for its wilderness and its wildlife — but those values only hold if we're willing to protect them. Please reject any proposals that would put brown bears or grizzlies at risk and stand firm in protecting these incredible animals for future generations.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to Alaska's wildlife.

PC986

Name: Neerings, Michele

Community of Residence: 4720 Sycamore Dr Holladay UT 84117

Comment:

I am in complete opposition of killing the bears. As a resident of Utah, bears are almost impossible to see. We travel to Wyoming, to the Grand Teton National park in hopes of seeing some. We are wanting to travel to Alaska just to see the bears. Alaska should embrace the wonderful gift of having bears and let them be a natural predator. Please keep the existing rules on protecting bears. They are an important part of the ecosystem and they should be protected and not killed, especially by helicopters.

PC987

Name: Nehvonen, Ana

Community of Residence: Sweden

Comment:

My name is Ana Nehvonen, and I'm writing to you all the way from Sweden in opposition of the Mulchatna bear control program.

I became familiar with the Alaskan brown bears through the Brooks Falls livecams in Katmai National Parks. Through the cams, I have spent hours watching the bears make a living in the beautiful Alaskan wilderness. The black and brown bear control program in Western Alaska raises deeply troubling ecological, ethical, and scientific concerns about the long-term health of the Alaskan ecosystem. Perhaps the most troubling of these is the use of aerial gunning, which lacks the most fundamental ethics of traditional hunting. Coming from a family of hunters, I know traditional hunting to hold deep ethical commitments to respecting wildlife and the ecosystem. Aerial gunning, as a method, often lacks precision, and increases risks of bears facing a long and painful death. It turns hunting into nothing more than extermination with no moral, scientific or cultural legitimacy. Proponents might argue that reducing bear populations is necessary to preserve moose and caribou populations. However, this argument disregards the complex ecological relationship between predator and prey. Each bear carries its own set of generational knowledge that was passed down to them from their mother, including where and what to hunt. That means that not every bear will hunt moose or caribou. How will hunters decide which bear is a genuine threat to moose and caribou populations, and which ones are just passing through? The bear control program has failed to acknowledge these nuances. This management model disregards the broader values of conservation and wildlife management in favor of a specific interest group that has yet to demonstrate any scientific basis that justifies the program. Instead of reducing the bear population, the wildlife management program needs to address habitat loss, disease, and climate change in order to preserve the moose and caribou populations long-term.

The Brooks Falls livecams have introduced the beautiful Alaskan wilderness to people all over the world. As I work toward seeing it for myself one day, I ask the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to consider the bears and the ecosystem they live in, and to maintain the fundamental ethics of hunting as a means for sustenance, in making their decision.

PC988

Name: Neilly, Madison

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Save the fucking wildlife!

Protect our ecosystems.

Stop taking what DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU.

We have everything we could possibly need until we die. Allow the animals to be free, they are not our property.

PC989

Name: Nelson, Carlee

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to strongly urge you to put an end to the inhumane and scientifically unjustified practice of aerial hunting in Alaska.

This method of killing wolves and bears from aircraft—under the premise of protecting caribou populations—lacks credible evidence. Multiple studies show climate change, habitat loss, and human overhunting are the primary drivers of caribou declines, not natural predators. Climate shifts are disrupting food availability and migration patterns, while industrial development and unregulated hunting continue to stress these herds.

Aerial hunting is not only cruel—often leaving animals injured and suffering—but also ecologically reckless. Wolves and bears play essential roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems. Removing them without clear data is not wildlife management; it's killing without cause.

I respectfully urge the Board to end aerial predator control, prioritize science-based decision-making, and protect Alaska's wildlife with integrity and compassion. The world is watching.

PC990

Name: Nelson, Cynara

Community of Residence: GA

Comment:

I do not support the culling of any bears.

PC991

Name: Nelson, Daniel

Community of Residence: Va

Comment:

Leave wildlife alone, limit human interaction expansion and growth. We are the problem and the aggressors. We must stop

---

PC992

Name: Nelson, Ethel

Community of Residence: AK

Comment:

I hope I can be assured that a comprehensive study has shown that bear killing is necessary in the Greater Mulchatna Area. If these are the same bears that migrate to the McNiel and Brooks, I say, :Leave them alone."

PC993

Name: Nelson, Katrin

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

What you are doing is indefensible. I will take my tourist dollars to Canada.

PC994

Name: Nelson, Shannon

Community of Residence: Montana

Comment:

Please stop the vicious killing of these animals! We don't even treat criminals that commit murder the way you treat these animals!

This type of behavior is cruel and you are making me people hate all hunters and it's starting to make a lot of people mad! You are also showing a nasty violence to our children!

PC995

Name: Nelson, Sharon

Community of Residence: Homer

Comment:

Coming from a long line of hunters, I am vehemently OPPOSED to the "bear control program" for Mulchatna Bears. In two separate rulings, there is established a clear decision on the impropriety of opening up the Mulchatna Bears for any thinning action. To continue to push for this, in what seems to be mere sport, is not just inappropriate but cruel.

The Alaskan Brown Bear is a critical piece of the Alaskan ecosystem, with an impact on salmon and other fish lifecycles, on ground cover and undergrowth, as well as on providing a natural seeding/reseeding of native plant species through eating and expelling fruits, berries, grasses and other.

The Mulchatna Bear population is not overcrowding the land mass under consideration, and as is already established there is no lawful nor pending environmental/biological reason to proceed with culling this particular bear population.

I implore you to stand by the existing rulings and ask that you NOT consider this proposed reopening of the Mulchatna grounds for bear hunting.

PC996

Name: Ness, Adina

Community of Residence: Madison

Comment:

Completely against killing bears in an attempt to save caribou when there is zero evidence this would be a viable solution. This man made interference will have additional unknown consequences that humans will not be able to anticipate. The only interventions humans should take would be the removal of their own destruction of caribou herds - take the humans out of the areas and let nature control itself.

PC997

Name: Neuenschwander, Anna Katharina

Community of Residence: Steffisburg

Comment:

Dont kill the Bears!!!!!!!!!

PC998

Name: Newman, Monica

Community of Residence: Earth!

Comment:

This is Barbaric and unnecessary. Thoughtless killing of innocent animals just living!

PC999

Name: Nguyen, Baothu

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please respect nature and protect wildlife. There is no scientific evidence that proves slaughtering bears helps to increase caribou population. We have a responsibility as the most intelligent species to figure out how to avoid unnecessary killing of all animals whenever possible. Please reconsider.

PC1000

Name: Nicol, Albie

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I strongly oppose the Board of Game's proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the killing of brown and black bears by department staff to "benefit" the herd. The bears of Mulchatna are precious to many, even those who do not live in AK. The proposed modifications also do not seem to register how sacred all animals (but bears in particular) are to local indigenous communities and spirituality. The addition to allow aerial murder of these majestic animals is particularly cruel and reinforces the lack of respect the Board seemingly has for the sacred ground and beings who inhabit it. Expanding this project also could be detrimental to tourism in Katmai. If "Bear Cam Fans" learn that their favorite bears aren't returning because they were killed by the state, I'm sure no one will entertain going anymore. Overall this is heartless and cruel. Please oppose this proposal. Save our bears.

PC1001

Name: Nicponski, Steve

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I am against killing bears from a helicopter. Relocating them is the best option. However, they should be left alone.

PC1002

Name: Niemeyer, Georgia

Community of Residence: Waverly NE

Comment:

Why is the government so intent on killing the wildlife?? Each species is an important part of God's plan and they all work together to survive. Why are we so intent on destroying the earth? Please rethink this plan!

PC1003

Name: Nieuwstraten, Femke

Community of Residence: Netherlands

Comment:

Dear Sir/Madam,

With pain in my heart I have read this news about the killing spree on bears in Alaska. This petition has made it to the Netherlands. Now it is also my problem. For years the world has been fighting to release bears kept in captivity, only for Alaska to shoot these precious animals. Not only are they killing bears, they are wiping out the changes of a good ecosystem. Nature has always belonged to the animals, living creatures. It is very selfish to think we humans have a say in this. It is even more selfish to just go and kill them from a helicopter. Leaving momma bears worried till death, leaving the cubs behind to fight for themselves. Winter season is over, bears are hungry and looking for food. For years and years this has been going on. Now why would you think you have the right to go into your helicopter and shoot them like you are at a fair. Because you are scared they will attack you? Or your children? Or are you scared they will eat your salmon? See. Selfish, you only think about the benefits you are having from killing them. You don't think about their habitat, their HOME.

We humans have to come to realization, that we are in their home. We are disrupting their peace, their change to live and thrive.

Yes they eat, so do we. Maybe there should be eyes on the fishermen and their boats, stealing salmon from the bears.

Maybe you need to look into another source of food, instead of fish. The bears are already struggling to find food, that is why they will come closer to the houses of humans. Instead of protecting, you destroy. Not even with a plan in mind, you just shoot and I bet you even get money for it. Shame on you, they are not your enemy, humans are. Humans have always been the source of problems. So stop being so selfish and think for once. Talk to wildlife keepers, educate yourself.

If you will continue this "fight", you are wiping out entire generations of bears.

You are making sure, there will be big trouble in the future. Stop the killing of innocent animals, innocent bears. Start respecting your wildlife, learn how to live with them. Thank you.

Best regards,

Femke

PC1004

Name: Nieves, Fabiola

Community of Residence: Puerto Rico

Comment:

Im a huge animal lover and seeing thr government come to their conclusion to gun down wildlife, who are essential to our ecosystem, for reasoning that i can't comprehend. If its for pest control or overpopulation, it is unethical and disrespectful to hurt and kill such beautiful creatures. This must be stopped, same goes for animal agriculture, fish farming, the dairy industry, eggs industry, trawling, even traditions like Grindadrap. We are killing our earth.

PC1005

Name: Niles, Ryan

Community of Residence: Kenai

Comment:

There is absolutely no evidence to support the notion that this will in any way benefit various herds or anyone or anything else, this is nothing more than tax payer funded mass murder of one of Alaska and America's greatest treasures and most important animals. Our ecosystems maintain incredibly fragile balances and these kind of unresearched unscientific massive actions hurt all of us as much as the wildlife and the ecosystems.

PC1006

Name: Ninja, Jimmy

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Definitely opposing slaughter of these innocent animals or more rational solutions

---

PC1007

Name: Noble Seller, Christine **Affiliation**: Interspecies Voices

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Christine Noble Seller

Founder, Interspecies Voices

I'm writing in opposition:

This program was ruled illegal.

There's no scientific evidence that killing predators helps caribou herds.

Predator control doesn't work. Damage to wildlife is irreversible.

This isn't wildlife management. It's a taxpayer-funded massacre with no sound science, and it's happening in one of the wildest, most iconic regions of Alaska.

Be in right relationship with Nature, as humans we too are part of Nature. What we do to Nature, we do to ourselves.

Celebrating all voices,

Christine Noble Seller

PC1008

Name: Noel, Cassie Noel

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the aerial killing of bears. These practices are inhumane, unsporting, and disrupt the natural balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Bears are an iconic part of our state's wildlife heritage, deeply valued not only by Alaskans but by people around the world who come here to see and photograph them.

Aerial gunning is not consistent with fair chase principles and puts healthy bear populations at risk. I urge you to protect these animals and preserve ethical wildlife management practices by ending the use of aerial killing methods.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

PC1009

Name: Nolan, Karen

Community of Residence: Tourist to Southwest Alaska

Comment:

Oppose: I clearly oppose the planned Predator Control Program to aerial kill wolves and bears to hope that that will increase Caribou calf and teenagers to survive to adults, so that locals can hunt and kill them. Help me understand how that makes any sense? You are not Mother Nature, humans should not try to determine survival. Just maybe God has determined that the only way to stop Bruccellosis from transferring to human through these Caribou, is sadly that the ones here must die off. So please reconsider and don't cull the wolves or bears!

Karen Nolan

Name: Noriega, Anela

Community of Residence: Salt Lake City utah

Comment:

Please do not kill the bears!! They desire to live and they're beautiful! My dream is to go film them someday. Please don't tear families apart! :(

Name: Norlin, Sofie

Community of Residence: Sweden

Comment:

We need our beautiful bears and all animals so stop killing our animals

---

Name: Nosalik, Kylee

Community of Residence: Illinois

Comment:

I oppose the establishment of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area as currently proposed. This approach risks prioritizing short-term predator control over the long-term health of the ecosystem. Scientific evidence increasingly shows that indiscriminate predator reduction often fails to produce sustainable benefits for prey populations like caribou and can disrupt ecological balance. Instead, we should focus on addressing broader factors impacting the herd, such as habitat degradation, climate change, and human activity, while pursuing conservation strategies rooted in science, not short-term fixes.

Name: Nosko, John

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I support the right of these bears to exist. Humans don't have the right to just meddle with nature anytime they please.

PC1014

Name: Novais, Hugo

Community of Residence: Portugal

Comment:

We should protect the wild life by having specific proven programs and not by simply murder in cold blood such majestic creatures as bears and wolfs.

PC1015

Name: O, Kelli

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

I oppose the killing of bears in their natural habitat. Humans for too long have tried to play god, to no avail. Stop living only by your ego and consider the lives and spirits you desire to END. Stop playing god. Let nature take its course. Maybe focus on rehabbing endangered species or figuring out how to enhance their environment, not strip them of their right to be alive. Shame on you.

PC1016

Name: Oakes, Mary

Community of Residence: Illinois

Comment:

I am in opposition of taking black and brown bears for the regulation of the Caribou herd. There is no evidence that the taking of these bears is benefiting the caribou. We should allow nature to take charge of itself, and let the bears and caribou both live freely. It is unjust to play God, and decide what animals should live or die.

PC1017

Name: Oates , Virginia

Community of Residence: USA CALIFORNIA

Comment:

I do NOT approve of this.

It is a horrific idea and the benefits do not outweigh the practice of shooting bears from a helicopter. Let nature be and stop using taxpayer money on practices that are not supported.

PC1018

Name: Oberle, Melissa

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Please stop killing off these bears.

PC1019

Name: Ocaña, Josep

Community of Residence: Spain

Comment:

I dont agree with bear hunting.Please stop !!!

PC1020

Name: Oertel , Amberly

Community of Residence: Victoria B.C canada

Comment:

Bears don't need to be slaughtered!! I do not support the killing of bears..unless to eat!!

PC1021

Name: Oh, Sharon

Community of Residence: Los Angeles, CA

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS!!!!! To kill bears, moms, cubs… from a helicopter nonetheless! PLEASE. Do not do this…. Humans HAVE to be better than this….. imagine, at the end of the day, you're tucking in your child into bed, could you explain this to your child? How would your children see you? PLEASE.

PC1022

Name: O'Hara, Samuel

Community of Residence: Florence

Comment:

There is no benefit from this program. Aeriel hunting is illegal and hunting bears is just plain irresponsible. I can see no reason why anyone should be doing this anywhere.

PC1023

Name: Okrasinski, Kelly

Community of Residence: Rhode Island

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill proposal. It is not science-based and will not fix the problem.

PC1024

Name: Olson, Kristin

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I am very strongly opposed to the murder of bears in Alaska. The state clearly benefits monetarily from tourism based on these bears. As such their is irrational and unjustifiable.

C1025

Name: Olson, Tess

Community of Residence: East Boston, MA

Comment:

There is no scientific evidence that killing bears saves caribou. And why is the life of one animal more important than another? STOP THE SHOOTING NOW!

PC1026

Name: Oneill, Kim

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Don't kill rhe bears

PC1027

Name: Orellana , Karla

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Leave the bears and any wildlife alone. You are pushing it, if you are truly a believer of taking care of animals, then you know you will make nature turn on us. The bears have been here way before us, who [redacted] are you to kill them just to satisfy your thirst for blood. People who go into the wild know the risk. Do not act as if your doing something good to protect pathetic tourists, you're doing this because you are soulless people and don't even dare take pride of being from Alaska, you're an embarrassment.

PC1028

Name: Orizabal, Christina

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Heavily Opposed! Bear's low reproduction rates will affect them for much longer than this proposal takes into account. Doing this just outside of national parks with little evidence that this is successful is wrong. Reducing the over harvesting by humans and protecting the habitat and discouraging habitat loss in the area is a much more respectful approach to the life in this area.

PC1029

Name: Ormond, Marina

Community of Residence: Brazil

Comment:

There is no evidence that reducing the number of predators increases the population of prey animals. This nonsense needs to stop. We say no to the killing of brown bears in Alaska.

PC1030

Name: OShea, Stephen

Community of Residence: New York, New York

Comment:

I am completely opposed to the scientifically unsound and ethically immoral slaughter of the brown and black bear population - particularly by aerial gunnery.

It's a disgrace and a stain on the reputation of Alaska

Do Better

Be Better

PC1031

Name: Oszimek, Natalia

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

STOP KILLING THE BEARS! It's unnecessary and cruel ; it is a senseless act of violence that doesn't even aid the public or environment in any shape or form!!!

PC1032

Name: Ouchterlony, Teresa

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Our animals must be left alone. It is attrocious that certain individuals even could think of such a terrible crime.

Please take time to study our ecosystem. Take your families travelling and learn about animals and our delicately balanced ecosystems in various parts of the World.

Please leave these bears alone. Please focus on charity , or starving homeless, or find a cause where you can make a difference.

This is definitely an issue I stand firm on - Hoping that all the decision makers will listen to the people. The corruption now a days is bad enough!

Leave our planet alone and maybe try a gun range ….

Very very sad to observe things like this even be discussed now a days!

Teresa Ouchterlony

PC1033

Name: Owens, Amielynn

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

It's bad enough that humans are responsible for the accidental decline of animal populations, why are we now trying to mass kill predators to save prey??? Let nature take its course the way God intended. Stop killing.

PC1034

Name: Pack, Jennifer

Community of Residence: South pasadena, ca

Comment:

There is no reason to get rid of any wildlife in ANY manner whether it's from a helicopter or by foot. Bears are smart of our ecosystem and they are definitely a part of Alaska's beauty. To massacre such animals is an injustice to our earth and the hierarchy of mammals.

PC1035

Name: Padgett, Malina

Community of Residence: Chugiak, AK

Comment:

I am writing to express my urgent opposition to the Mulchatna bear control program. My relationship to the bears of Mulchatna is one of deep respect for their place in the Alaskan wilderness. The plan to gun them from helicopters is unacceptable and does not align with responsible wildlife stewardship. I implore the Board of Game to reject this program and protect these vital animals.

PC1036

Name: Palmer, Daniel

Community of Residence: Perth

Comment:

Despicable what they're doing in this must be stopped, innocent lives been taken and for what reason? Disgraceful and disgusting.

PC1037

Name: Panagos, Karen

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

Please reconsider the awful decision to modify the Mulchatna caribou herd by indiscriminately shooting and killing brown bears from the air! There are better, more humane ways to cull wild animals, if actually necessary. Please do not reinstate this practice!!!

PC1038

Name: Panayi, Ericka

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I am writing to share my opposition of the new Mulchatna bear control program. Bears are already facing Mother Nature day to day, no days off, always fighting to survive, adding another fear of being killed by guns is wrong. I watch these bears enjoying their habitat follow these bears via live cams, they bring me and so many others around the world so much joy and the reminded of how big and beautiful Alaska is. That's why so many people want to visit Alaska, that's how so many people have grown to know and love Alaska, it's by the bears!! Shooting bears is wrong, this is their home and they do not deserve it.

PC1039

Name: Pansch, Andrea

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

As leaders, we have a responsibility to protect not only our communities but the natural heritage that defines them. Alaska's bears are a keystone species—vital to the health of our ecosystems, tourism economy, and cultural identity. Reckless hunting practices and habitat encroachment threaten not only these iconic animals but the balance of the environment itself. I stand in strong support of science-based conservation efforts and urge decision-makers to act with integrity, foresight, and respect for the wild. Protecting Alaska's bears is not just an environmental issue—it is a legacy issue.

PC1040

Name: Papa, Kevin

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I strongly oppose opening up a larger size hunting area of predators. Culling several different predators has not prevented the caribou decline, and allowing bear hunting from helicopters is insane when it will have no beneficial impact to nature or our surrounding ecosystems.

PC1041

Name: Pareti, Judy

Community of Residence: NYC

Comment:

Please STOP killing bears immediately ! There are ways to prevent them from accessing the community. To end their lives is cruel and unusual punishment and especially when there are existing measures to control them.

PC1042

Name: Parish, Kara

Community of Residence: PUYALLUP

Comment:

This is wrong. It has been proven that this doesn't work. The bears are not any more responsible for the killing of the carabo than any other predator. They have a right to be there as much as any other animal. THIS IS INHUMANE!!!

PC1043

Name: Parker, Derin

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

I urge you to vote against the modification of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

There is no scientific evidence that killing predators helps caribou herds.

In some years, golden eagles killed more calves than bears or wolves.

When 250 wolves were killed in this region by 2017, the Mulchatna herd still collapsed.

Predator control doesn't work. But the damage to wildlife is irreversible.

PC1044

Name: Parks-Smith, Rps

Community of Residence: Orlando, FL

Comment:

There are no logical, supported reasons for killing these animals. Stop this heinous act before it begins!

PC1045

Name: Parmentier, Antoine

Community of Residence: Upper Black Eddy, PA

Comment:

Right now, ADFG is proposing to reinstate a taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears—including mothers with cubs. In 2023 alone, 99 bears were killed from the air, and another 80 in 2024. There's no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover. Quite the opposite, bears are an essential part of the self-regulation by the ecosystem.

Furthermore, the tourism revenu they generate is superior to that of the hunting.

PC1046

Name: Parrish, Cindy

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Leave our wildlife, wolves, bears, and any other alone!!!!!!!!!!

PC1047

Name: Pashinina , Irina

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any proposed or ongoing bear hunts in Alaska. These majestic animals are an iconic symbol of Alaska's natural heritage and play an essential role in maintaining the health and balance of the ecosystem. Sanctioned hunting of bears—particularly practices that may include baiting, killing mothers with cubs, or hunting in protected areas—raises serious ethical, ecological, and conservation concerns.

Grizzly and black bears are slow-reproducing animals whose populations can be severely impacted by even small increases in hunting pressure. Many Alaskans and visitors from around the world come to experience the unique opportunity of seeing bears in the wild. Wildlife tourism contributes significantly to Alaska's economy, and the indiscriminate killing of bears risks undermining both ecological integrity and sustainable economic benefits.

Furthermore, public sentiment across the U.S. increasingly favors protection over persecution of predators. Allowing or expanding bear hunts, especially those using extreme or unethical methods, runs counter to evolving wildlife management principles that emphasize coexistence, scientific data, and long-term conservation over recreational trophy hunting.

I urge you to cancel or reconsider any policies or proposals that permit the killing of bears in Alaska. Instead, I encourage investment in non-lethal wildlife management strategies, robust scientific monitoring, and public education campaigns that promote the preservation of Alaska's irreplaceable wildlife.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that Alaska will choose the path of conservation and ethical stewardship of its wild lands and animals.

PC1048

Name: Pasternak, Emily

Community of Residence: Mat-Su

Comment:

This is absolutely disgusting and does not represent the people of Alaska or protect the spaces, wildlife and beauty that bring us here. I can't believe that there are people on this planet that would actually make something like this a reality. Shame on you. Leave the wild spaces wild.

PC1049

Name: Patel, Shreya

Community of Residence: Milton, Ga

Comment:

We need the bears for our ecosystem. Please do not kill them.

PC1050

Name: Patterson, Kimberly

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Please allow the bears to live. There is no scientific evidence that killing these bears will help the caribou population. It is not our right as human beings to take the lives of these bears when they are just living in their own environment not bothering anybody.

Please allow the bears to live.

PC1051

Name: Paulson, Martha

Community of Residence: UNIT 117

Comment:

Please stop the indiscriminate killing of bears. This is not management nor stewardship. Nature knows better than humans

---

PC1052

Name: Paxi, Wilia

Community of Residence: Outside USA

Comment:

Position: Opposed to the Proposed Regulation to Allow Bear Take

I'm writing to oppose the proposal to allow the killing of brown and black bears to try to boost the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. I understand the caribou numbers are struggling, but targeting bears is not the solution.

What's frustrating is that most of the time, the department stands by and lets nature run its course - as they should. But now, when it comes to predators like bears, suddenly that rule gets thrown out. It feels like a double standard. Bears are part of that same natural system. Removing them to try to fix the caribou issue ignores how complex and connected everything is.

Bears are an important part of the ecosystem, and they deserve better than being treated as a problem to get rid of. There's no guarantee this kind of predator control will actually help the caribou long-term — and it risks causing more harm than good by upsetting the natural balance. Plus, bears have value beyond this debate — for tourism, for the environment, and for the people who respect and appreciate them.

I think the focus should be on real, science-based solutions that look at the whole picture — things like habitat management, climate impacts, and human pressure on these areas — not just removing predators as a quick fix.

Thank you for considering my comment.

PC1053

Name: Payne , Paula

Community of Residence: Cordova

Comment:

I opposr shooting the bears. Please dont shoot the bears. We love going to McNeil River Bear Sanctuary. McNeil does an amazing job raising awareness to coexist with bears. Coexist. Coexist. Coexist. The bears you shoot may be some of the same bears that Coexist peacefully with people at McNeil.

PC1054

Name: Pearson, Ella

Community of Residence: Canmore Alberta

Comment:

This is Barbaric! Innocent animals

should not be killed even if it is to help other species. Nature will always take its course. We are in their home. Absolutely disgusting criminal act.

PC1055

Name: Peixoto, Jessica

Community of Residence: Alaska Visitor

Comment:

Do not kill the bears. This will not solve anything, as was seen when wolves were killed. Please use other measures, such as blocking new developments that destroy their habitats, reforesting areas, and growing more species that the caribou and other partner species rely on for food and shelter.

PC1056

Name: Pelfrey, Regina

Community of Residence: Sacramento

Comment:

Why kill them it makes no sense

PC1057

Name: Pelletier , Marie

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I oppose the hunting and killing of bears and wolves anywhere. We have seen time and time again the ecological ramifications that happen when we disrupt the balance of the ecosystems that these predators belong in. In other states, these predators were wiped out and the entire ecosystem suffered because of humans throwing off the natural balance that keeps prey populations in check. Not only does this affect the hunted animal populations, the prey populations, but also the plant life and water ways. Bears are not invasive species, they are part of Alaska's ecosystem and allowing them to be hunted is a terrible choice. This seems to be merely the typical response uneducated people have to predator species, people are afraid of them, think they're a nuisance and want them dead. Bears eat a variety of things and they are important to the natural world in Alaska. Education of their importance and how to handle encounters with Bears seems a better solution than hunting them. The same is true for wolves as well.

PC1058

Name: Pereira , Zinia

Community of Residence: Indian

Comment:

Why do v need to harm them..they r all part of this ecosystem and have full right to live...just because they cannot voice it doesn't mean v get to do what v feel like with them...

They dont harm us..they don't bother us..they r not harming d world..

We are..we r the ones that need to check ourselves..let them live...save the bears

---

PC1059

Name: Perella, Pamela

Community of Residence: Whitefish, MT

Comment:

Please do not kill these bears

PC1060

Name: Perez, Lexxie

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Reasoning Against Bear Hunting from Helicopters or Bear Hunting in General in Alaska:

Bear hunting from helicopters is an unethical and unsportsmanlike practice that undermines the principles of fair chase. It gives hunters an extreme advantage, stripping animals of any chance to evade pursuit, and often results in unnecessary suffering due to rushed or imprecise shots. Beyond the method, bear hunting itself raises significant ecological concerns. Bears play a vital role in Alaska's ecosystems as apex predators and seed dispersers, helping to maintain balance in wildlife populations and forest regeneration. Overhunting—especially of grizzlies and black bears—can destabilize fragile ecosystems and diminish biodiversity. Moreover, Alaska's bears are a cornerstone of its wildlife tourism industry, drawing photographers, hikers, and nature lovers from around the world. Preserving these iconic animals benefits both the environment and the state's economy more sustainably than hunting does.

PC1061

Name: Perez, Nancy

Community of Residence: Fremont CA

Comment:

I'm against killing bears, especially when it's done for sport or population control, because it's simply unethical. These animals play a vital role in the ecosystem, and targeting them for convenience or recreation shows a lack of respect for wildlife. There are more humane and balanced ways to manage nature without resorting to killing.

PC1062

Name: Perez, Stephanie

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Nature deserves to be left alone. Humans are the invasive species in their habitat

---

PC1063

Name: Perkins, Jon

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

I am against the bear kill, it is non scientific related and will not solve the larger issue at hand.

PC1064

Name: Persons , Libby

Community of Residence: NH

Comment:

I oppose the bear kill project as it is not based in science. Caribou populations are declining due to habitat loss, not due to predators. Reducing the bear population will not solve the problem,

---

PC1065

Name: Pertin, Arthur

Community of Residence: Yes

Comment:

Protect the poor wildlife, the bear. Be sane.

PC1066

Name: Peters, Zayne

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I oppose the act. I do not believe that destroying necessary carnivores from their native habitat would benefit any animal living there, including caribou. I do not believe there is enough evidence to support the statement that it benefits the herd for these animals to be killed.

PC1067

Name: Petrucci, Amanda

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I am a wildlife biologist and I strongly oppose this proposal. This is not wildlife management for the good of the people or wild-lands. This is a massacre and an abomination.

PC1068

Name: Petry, Matthew

Community of Residence: Londonderry, NH

Comment:

The government has no place slaughtering these predators beyond what it already has on the basis of what is at best flimsy science. There seems to be just as much evidence that this will do only harm and no good as there is evidence to the contrary. Long before human involvement these populations were managing themselves just fine. We have no business interfering.

PC1069

Name: Phillips, Frances

Community of Residence: Georgetown SC

Comment:

I am in opposition of of killing the bears . This is not a rational thoughtful approach and gunning them down especially cubs and mothers is barbaric.

PC1070

Name: Phillips, Liane

Community of Residence: P O BOX 653

Comment:

I oppose this slaughter of bears 🐻

PC1071

Name: Phipps , Denise

Community of Residence: New York State resident

Comment:

As a persons who has visited the great state of Alaska I find this truly upsetting. I have photographed beautiful bears in your state and the thought of them being killed for no good reason is appalling. Why would you kill off one animal to try and increase another without any scientific evidence. Please rethink what you are doing here!

PC1072

Name: Pilon, Michael

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

This is a war on wildlife disguised as "management."

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game isn't using science—they're using bullets. Shooting bears from helicopters, including mothers and cubs, isn't conservation; it's extermination. These killings happen shockingly close to national parks where the same bears are protected—meaning a bear could wander out of Brooks Falls' safety and into a kill zone the next day.

The state's justification is a lie. Independent scientists agree: caribou declines are driven by habitat loss and climate change, not bears. Even Alaska's own studies show predation isn't the main threat. So why slaughter a keystone species that holds entire ecosystems together? Because it's easier to scapegoat bears than address real problems like industrial development and overhunting.

And after a court ruled these killings illegal, Alaska ignored the law and killed 11 more bears. This isn't just unethical—it's a blatant disregard for democracy.

PC1073

Name: Pilon, Racquelle

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

This is ecologically reckless and morally reprehensible. Slaughtering brown bears—including mothers and cubs—from helicopters is not wildlife management; it's indiscriminate killing. There's no credible science proving this helps caribou populations, and Alaska's own data shows habitat degradation and climate change are far bigger threats to caribou than predation.

These bears live just miles from protected national parks, where they're celebrated as keystone species and economic drivers (via tourism). Brooks Falls alone brings in millions in ecotourism revenue—why destroy the same bears people travel globally to admire?

Worse, a judge already ruled these killings illegal, yet Alaska ignored the ruling and killed 11 more bears. This isn't management—it's defiance of ethics and law. Taxpayers are funding cruelty that undermines ecosystems while failing to address real caribou declines.

The state needs to end this archaic, unscientific slaughter immediately

---

PC1074

Name: Pimentel, Claudia

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

I oppose shooting and killing bears. Killing bears is an ineffective strategy in management of caribou herds and frankly quite inhumane.

PC1075

Name: Piper, Darlyn

Community of Residence: Residence

Comment:

What is so sad,,,, doing this will not help… it's really out of our control 😡 they do what they want ..

PC1076

Name: Plummer, Gary

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

The bears have lived in harmony with the river and forest for hundreds of thousands of years!

Nature can balance its own environment. Something humans cannot do. Particularly destructive dictatorships such as the current American government!

How about they focus on humanity at home rather than declaring war on everything decent?

We are so happy to not live in America under their current disgusting regime

Gary

From Australia!

Cull the tourists instead!

PC1077

Name: Png, Ava

Community of Residence: Wausau, Wisconsin

Comment:

My name is Ava Png. I am a resident of Wisconsin and an Environmental Science student at UC Berkeley. I strongly oppose the culling of brown and black bears. There is not sufficient scientific evidence that bears are responsible for caribou herd declines. It is likely that hunting or other human activities are serious cause for population decline. Bears play important roles in their Alaskan ecosystem as nutrient cyclers, berry seed dispersers, and critical predators, supporting biodiverse communities and healthy habitats.

PC1078

Name: Pollard, Austin

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

This is absolutely disgusting. Leave the bears alone, they did nothing wrong. I don't care what anyone says, this is so wrong. I'm appalled, and enraged, among many others. I may not live in Alaska, or even America, but I am a Canadian in between them. We are all part of North America. We are on their land, not the other way around. This needs to stop. Bears can't speak for themselves, so here I am. Leave them alone. There will be outrage when this news continues to spread. Those responsible need to be punished.

PC1079

Name: Pollard, Gary

Community of Residence: 6080 Maple Springs Rd.

Comment:

This killing of bears is despicable! Killing the mothers and cubs is outrageous! Why the senseless killing of bears? If you are going to kill them at least make it so people can use the carcass for sustenance. They could use this for meat!

PC1080

Name: Pompey, Sharon

Community of Residence: PA

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of bears especially moms and their cubs. There is no evidence that this will help the Caribou herd.

PC1081

Name: Ponnana, Abhimanyu

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

They shouldn't be killed. They have to live.

PC1082

Name: Ponton, Alexandra

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

I oppose this. It's a waste of our tax dollars for something that has not shown to have any benefit. If anything this will disrupt the role that these predators have in the natural ecosystem. The environment is meant to have a balance between predator and prey and this violates that and for what? If we want to actually boost the population of animals like caribou we need to look into what is killing them, because it's not their natural predator. It's us. We, as humans, are the invasive species that is stealing their land and their food. That's why they're mostly dying from starvation, not predators. And this isn't even including the fact that by killing female bears with cubs you are significantly hurting their population.

PC1083

Name: Pope, Gabe

Community of Residence: Lake Arrowhead

Comment:

Stop hunting Bears, there's no evidence that proofs it helps the Caribou.

PC1084

Name: Porcheddu, Beatrice

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

Please save bears from the risk to be killed

PC1085

Name: Potgieter, Emmy

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

I'm outraged over the sickening killing of BEARS, you killed Moms, Cubs, Dads. This is just heartbreaking and despicable actions by the GAME BOARD. The Caribou can exist on their own without the ridiculous help you think you're giving them. [redacted] There is NO NEED TO MURDER 197 HEALTHY BEARS. LEAVE THE BEARS, SQUIRRELS AND RACCOONS ALONE!!! Everything you touch turns to crap.

PC1086

Name: Poulain, Cole

Community of Residence: Nanaimo

Comment:

Please for the love of god hire educated ecologists. I am a wetland conservation ecologist and I am telling you the vast majority of the time removing these bears both apex predators and keystone species will cause a shift in the full food web.

I can appreciate that you are trying to save the caribou but this is not the way to do it. You need conservation and breeding programs not hunting. Instead of killing one to try (and fail) to save an another protect them all.

Might a suggest reach out to Dr Eric Sager at Trent University to discuss better solutions or at the very least get a board of actual ecologists and conservation experts to make an actual strategy. Not this sorry excuse of a plan.

PC1087

Name: Powell, Brittany

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

Do not permit the take of brown or black bear for caribou management. The science is not sound that this will help the situation.

PC1088

Name: Prado, Jennifer

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please I beg of you to have compasión and empathy for these innocent animals, we are here on their land and must respect them as living beings and respect the land that we've been blessed with

No More Hunting BEARS !!!!

PC1089

Name: Prajaghupta, Nyett

Community of Residence: Indonesia

Comment:

If the bears left to be endangered, our next generations will be able to experience through Paddington movies only.

PC1090

Name: Pramodhan , Bernadine

Community of Residence: Goa India

Comment:

I totally oppose the indiscriminate killing of bears.

Please stop it. We humans are killing this world and it's the only one we have. For the sake of future generations, Stop the killings!!

PC1091

Name: Prasad, Ashwini

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

I highly oppose the management of the about herd. There is no scientific support that predator control helps the caribou herd. Additionally the decline in the caribou herd is due to disease as its root cause not predators. There is a serious concern for ethical and legal violations for bear population control. I urge you to reject the proposal and instead use scientific study, habitat restoration and disease control to manage the caribou herd

---

PC1092

Name: Preece, Caroline

Community of Residence: New Jersey

Comment:

I deeply oppose the shooting of bears and their cubs because they are part of the ecosphere and have a right to be here, just as we humans do. Please allow them to continue to be part of the wildlife in Alaska. One of the most beautiful places in the world to see this amazing wildlife. Thank you.

PC1093

Name: Prellwitz, Eliana

Community of Residence: Mequon

Comment:

every bear and every animal should be protected by law, not killed for game

---

PC1094

Name: Premnath, Tara

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1095

Name: Price, Jeremy

Community of Residence: AK

Comment:

The state must allow for same day airborne hunting of black and brown bear for all areas that the mulchatna herd encompasses. Allowing state officials to waste tax payer resources on indiscriminately shooting bears from helicopter, without allowing resident hunters to participate in same day airborne, is against the state constitution. You must amend this and allow same day airborne hunting of bears to commence.

PC1096

Name: Priest, Debbie

Community of Residence: South Tx

Comment:

This is ridiculous. Killing off the bears is not the answer. It didn't work before and it will not work now. We have been through this before with another predator. It just doesn't work. Please reconsider and don't slaughter those bears

---

PC1097

Name: Prince Bertrand, Ryan

Community of Residence: Lower Vancouver Island

Comment:

Any predator or creature interférence by our population today, is highly contradictory to the security of species.

These animals are under siège or our destructive path with natures natural stable biome and behaviors. We do too much daily, not neutral to opérations amongst time and nature.

Bears lean heavily on fats to sustain sparse winters. Berries are thinned every year, by logging atop of fish being culled by mans greed of animals as a dependence. These créatures need more of their natural mature traditional biome we all came from and all need. This requires us to do less, in format to inflict suggestive balancing, to give space or time for Breeding in other less aggressor species, like élk or caribou...they also need more traditional roaming space and végétation to clean enviroment to dépend on. Not feel cornered into a small remainder of their habitat we share. This amplifiés mating. When à buck and faun can look apon à vast forest and not see amongst the fields too much confinement they live in less scared or worried conditions, making room for mental and physicial conditions to trust mating, is not a wistful or less succession of possibilité.

All predators except man, are prédominantly aware they should not collapse their victim or non predatorial spécimen. Spare them seasons, to grow, from thousands of years of evolutionary logic. However, they had thick rivers undisturbed by mans abusés, like gold mining, daming, fisheries...plus anything else we have pushed back into the natural biome.

They do not need a bunch of culling. They need a species evolved enough, mentally strong enough, to let live in habitat and reform so their footprint does not continue to run yearly the wrong direction, to habitations longevity.

Culling créatures is not an answer. Accomodating and recovering/rebuilding printing, off the remaining most traditional landscapes least disturbed and grow deeper further and wider...giving security to the mating majority of non aggressors. So the minority of prédators, will half a denser world to get by on.

PC1098

Name: Pritt, Sara

Community of Residence: Eugene

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the killing of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation. Stop the senseless killing and cruelty.

PC1099

Name: Priyadarsini, Alisha

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

They have life. We have live. Will you guys be killing them just for living? What kind of stupidity and ungrateful thing this is? They came here first. Nature is there's. So we will go into their home and we will kill them? How will you feel when someone will break into your house and kill your family. NOT GOOD I guess.

PC1100

Name: Puder, Jim

Community of Residence: Boalsburg Pennsylvania

Comment:

Bears are a unique part of the food chain. This is their habitat? Are we going to kill them for simply doing what they do? Why do we always take the “human point of view?” You never get to hear the spotted owl’s take on the logger… what would they say about their habitat if they were using a human voicing?

Let’s give bears a chance by thinking about what they need to survive

---

PC1101

Name: Pugj, Aaron

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Open up same day airborne hunting of brown and black bear in these units for Alaskan hunters! This simple regulatory change will directly increase the kill rates of brown and black bear, which then directly increases the survivability of caribou and moose calves. All the while allowing the public do the hunting vs only govt hunters doing the exact same thing.

If management is key, which is what is used to justify the govt going in and killing predators from helicopters, then there's absolutely no reason why same day restrictions cannot be removed for brown and black bear in these units.

At a minimum, even if the state decides to proceed with their proposal of killing bears themselves, the board should also, in unison, remove same day airborne for brown and black bears in these units for Alaskan hunters, so Alaskans can hunt browns and blacks same day airborne!

PC1102

Name: Pye, McKenzie

Community of Residence: Bakersfield

Comment:

Save the bears. Do not be they disgusting monster that's kills innocent bears

---

PC1103

Name: Quilliam, Caroline

Community of Residence: Andover

Comment:

These bears are beautiful creatures and they are crucial to our eco system. We must stop killing them.

Submitted to the Alaska Board of Game

Re: PROPOSAL 1 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area

Dear Members of the Board,

I submit this comment in strong opposition to Proposal 1, which seeks to reinstate and expand aerial killing of brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area.

As a Koyukon Athabascan wildlife biologist carrying two ways of knowing—Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) from my ancestors and formal training in Wildlife Biology and Conservation—I know these knowledge systems are complementary, not contradictory. Both teach that stewardship is rooted in respect, reciprocity, and balance. Both reject the illusion that complex ecosystems can be managed through force and secrecy.

Predator Control Betrays Indigenous Values

Let me be clear: I fully support traditional hunting, fishing, and trapping. These practices do not erode conservation—they uphold it. I am living proof that one can advocate for both wildlife and food security. In fact, we must. I was raised with the teaching: *"If you take care of them, they will take care of you."*

Our culture is built on reverence for nature. We are taught never to offend the spirit of an animal—especially powerful beings like bears and wolves. These are the laws of the land, of relationships, of being a good relative—relationships that are as binding as any statute and codified within our laws of the land.

Between 2023 and 2024, this Board authorized a predator control program in the Mulchatna region that permitted the aerial killing of any bears encountered—without baseline population data or limits. Under this program, state agents killed at least 175 brown bears, five black bears, and 19 wolves. In spring 2025, despite a court ruling that deemed the program unconstitutional, the state resumed aerial gunning and killed an additional 11 brown bears.

Two Alaska Superior Court judges ruled the program "unlawfully adopted and, therefore, void and without legal effect," citing due-process violations and bad faith (Superior Court, March 2025). Still, the state presses forward with more helicopter-driven eradication—despite no peer-reviewed evidence that predator removal has increased caribou numbers, and despite ADF&G's refusal to track outcomes or submit to independent review, while operating predator control outside of any research framework.

As an Indigenous scientist, I cannot separate this policy from the long history of settler colonialism that severed Indigenous people from our lands, waters, and animal relatives. These bears and wolves are not just data points. They are relatives and teachers, essential to ecosystem balance.

I think about the animals who didn't die quickly—shot from helicopters and left to suffer. I think about the cubs clinging to their mothers, confused and terrified, killed or orphaned by a policy that sees them as expendable. This is not management. This is cruelty.

Proposal 1 ignores the real drivers of caribou decline—climate change, habitat degradation, disease, and nutritional stress—and instead scapegoats predators because they are "the only thing we can control." But this is not control; it is avoidance.

This Board is dominated by politically appointed sport hunters and guides with commercial ties, and has prioritized short-term optics over long-term ecological integrity. A current member even leveraged personal ties to the Alaska Federation of Natives in 2023 to pass supportive resolutions—violating conflict-of-interest rules (AS 39.52) and eroding public trust. This is exploitation, not stewardship.

True Stewardship Through Co-Stewardship

Wildlife biologists bring expertise in population dynamics, habitat requirements, predator-prey relationships, and the interpretation of complex data. They are trained to evaluate scientific reports, understand ecological trade-offs, and assess the long-term consequences of management actions. Without this expertise, decisions are driven by anecdotes, political pressure, or short-term interests—not sound science.

True wildlife management must be rooted in both TEK and science. That means co-stewarding with Indigenous communities—not just checking a box. Our knowledge is not anecdotal. It is empirical, place-based, and tested over millennia.

I call for a clear distinction between TEK and Local Knowledge (LK) in all wildlife policy discussions. If Alaska incorporates TEK into wildlife management, it must follow its own policy on meaningful government-to-government consultation with federally recognized Tribes. This is a legal and ethical obligation recognizing the sovereign status of Tribal governments. Anything less perpetuates extractive practices that exploit Indigenous knowledge while excluding Indigenous voices.

Recommendations

I urge the Board to:

1. Pause the Mulchatna predator-control program.
2. Establish a TEK-science working group where Tribal councils, elders, and biologists co-design monitoring protocols
3. Submit ADF&G's raw data on predator removals to the National Academies for transparent, peer-reviewed assessment.
4. Require at least one Board member to possess formal scientific training in wildlife biology.
5. Stop misusing Indigenous knowledge and TEK to justify political or financial agendas.
6. Clearly distinguish TEK from Local Knowledge (LK) in all policy discussions, and honor meaningful government-to-government consultation with federally recognized Tribes.
7. Redirect funding from helicopter eradication to habitat restoration—protecting unburned lichen meadows, managing wildfire risk, and creating wildlife corridors.

Predator control is a costly distraction from the work that truly matters: restoring ecosystems, rebuilding trust, and honoring the stewardship of Indigenous peoples.

If we lead with humility, reciprocity, and science that respects Indigenous values, we can protect this land for generations to come. Healthy landscapes will reflect the well-being of our caribou relatives—and of ourselves.

Respectfully,
Michelle Quillin

Wildlife Biologist

Koyukon Athabascan of the Caribou Clan

PC1105

Name: R , Randy

Community of Residence: Idaho

Comment:

As a scientist and consummate outdoors person, I stand in strong opposition to the proposed regulation that would authorize the Department of Fish and Game to lethally remove brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area as part of intensive management efforts.

While I appreciate the goal of restoring caribou populations and preserving subsistence opportunities, this proposal reflects a troubling trend toward ecologically unsound and ethically questionable predator control strategies.

Scientific Consensus Is Lacking

Multiple peer-reviewed studies have found that large-scale predator removal—especially targeting slow-reproducing species like bears—often fails to produce sustained improvements in ungulate populations. Ecosystems are complex, and simplistic predator-prey models seldom capture the full picture.

Bears Are Keystone Species

Both black and brown bears play vital ecological roles—from nutrient cycling to regulating scavenger dynamics. Their removal risks unintended cascading effects, undermining ecosystem integrity in ways that may be irreversible.

Reactive Management Undermines Long-Term Conservation Goals

This regulation promotes short-term numerical targets over long-term sustainability. Intensive management should not equate to intensive disruption. Let us instead invest in habitat restoration, more nuanced herd monitoring, and non-lethal intervention strategies.

Respect for Indigenous Knowledge and Values

Many Alaska Native communities regard bears with deep reverence. Removing them en masse alienates local stewards of the land and erode the collaborative spirit needed for effective wildlife management.

I urge the Board to reject this regulation and call for a more balanced, evidence-based approach, a plan one that prioritizes ecosystem health, ethical stewardship, and genuine long-term solutions for caribou recovery.

Predator removal can destabilize ecosystems, especially when targeting apex species like bears.

Scientific evidence on effectiveness is mixed—some studies show limited long-term benefits to prey populations.

Bears are slow-reproducing and intelligent animals, and indiscriminate removal can have lasting impacts on population dynamics.

Subsistence and cultural values may be undermined if predator control is perceived as excessive or disrespectful to traditional ecological knowledge.

Again, I urge the Board to reject this regulation and call for a more sustainable, evidence-based management approach, a plan one that prioritizes ecosystem health, ethical stewardship, and genuine long-term solutions for caribou recovery.

PC1106

Name: R, Kavya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

No animals should be killed or used or tortured for any purpose , the biggest and most dangerous animal on earth is human when he can live freely without being killed or punished why does voiceless innocent animals are suffering ?

Shame on humanity shame on government

PC1107

Name: Rabb, Susan

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

STRONGLY OPPOSED!

It has been shown that culling the bears, and the wolves, has not benefitted the herd. This random, inhumane killing is abhorrent.

Please, do the right thing and stop.

Thank you.

PC1108

Name: Racy, Ursula

Community of Residence: Rio de Janeiro

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1109

Name: Radcliffe, Randi

Community of Residence: The wildlife collective

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1110

Name: Rajah, Myron

Community of Residence: Scarborough

Comment:

Killing the bears is not the answer. You take away so much land from habitat loss and degradation from industrial development. Mining and logging should be curtailed to prevent disruption in migration routes for a start instead of solely blaming the bears. Impose limitations on hunting caribou. All of these are viable options. People traveling to see wildlife like bears are important revenue to Alaska. Killing the bears is not based on science.

PC1111

Name: Rajiv , Sanjay

Community of Residence: The world

Comment:

Dear Humans,

We are apex predators. With the power of thinking comes great responsibility, please do not go ahead with this plan. The richest country in the world can do what no others can. As a guiding light to this world, don't lose your soul,dear America. A nation of immigrants using such barbaric methods to remove animals from their natural habitats through killing is just senseless. Can't we co exist, we have the brains they don't? We can learn, they cant. As rulers of this world can't we be more responsible as humans? Please stop. This cannot be the answer. We can be the change that animals cannot. From one animal to another, please stop and think of something better. I'm sure we can. Please.

PC1112

Name: Raleigh, Elizabeth

Community of Residence: Pennsvile

Comment:

I am writing to oppose the planned aerial assault and killing of bears. The proposal states it is for recovery of caribou herds. Why not trap and move bears to another location instead of killing them? Who makes us humans the decider of who gets to live and die? That is God's decision. I urge you to think of more humane ways of dealing with this issue.

PC1113

Name: Ramos, Cristina

Community of Residence: Sacramento

Comment:

Please STOP HUNTING THE BEARS. This is something that is cruel and unnecessary. Let the bears live their lives.

PC1114

Name: Ramos, Jessica

Community of Residence: Noatak

Comment:

Please stop the slaughter of innocent creatures born on the land. This is their home. You cannot play God from a helicopter

---

PC1115

Name: Rangel , Nevaeh

Community of Residence: Bakersfield

Comment:

Bears need love to

PC1116

Name: Ranger, Brodie

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

Describe my reasoning? Because you believe you have some type of right to take an animals life for what ever be reason your sick mind makes up. The ones looking to end the bears life. Should be the ones who are killed. Humans love taking power they don't/never did, have the right to in the first place. Animal killing scum you are. So much killing going on all over the darn place and humans just want more and more of it. How ashamed I feel to even be human myself. Shame on you murders and your spawns. You are a human form of cancer itself and I feel the effects of said scum. Not that anything I say will be looked at in any type of way by you fools. Shame!! Humans suck!

PC1117

Name: Rapson, Elle

Community of Residence: None of your business

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS

Murderers

PC1118

Name: Ravlyk, Yaryna

Community of Residence: 33160

Comment:

Terrible!! Stop the killing!

PC1119

Name: Rawat, Shikha

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

I am writing to express my profound concern for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and to support measures that genuinely contribute to its recovery. I believe that all wildlife has a fundamental right to thrive within its ecosystem, and the current state of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd is deeply troubling.

The data clearly indicates a critical situation for this herd. Once a robust population numbering around 200,000 animals in 1997, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd has experienced a precipitous decline, reaching approximately 14,846 caribou in 2024. This represents a decline of over 90% from its peak, putting the

herd well below the state's objective of 30,000-80,000 animals. This drastic reduction has significant implications for the ecological balance of the region and the subsistence needs of many communities that historically relied on this resource.

While I understand that the proposed regulation focuses on the take of brown and black bears by department staff, and that bear predation, particularly on newborn calves, has been identified as a significant factor limiting the herd's recovery, I urge the Board to consider a holistic and adaptive approach. The ADFG's findings that brown bears are a primary cause of death for calves in their first two weeks are compelling, indicating the immediate pressure on calf survival.

However, historical context also suggests that factors like overgrazing during the herd's peak in the 1990s and the presence of diseases like Brucellosis have also played a role in the herd's overall vulnerability and decline. Effective management should therefore not solely rely on predator removal but also address potential long-term habitat improvements and disease monitoring.

My support for this proposal stems from the urgent need to give the Mulchatna Caribou Herd a chance to recover and ensure the survival of this vital species. While predator management is a controversial tool, if scientific data strongly indicates it as a critical short-term measure to increase calf survival rates, then it warrants serious consideration to prevent further decline of the caribou population.

I respectfully request that the Board of Game carefully weigh all factors, prioritize the long-term health and sustainability of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, and continue to explore multi-faceted approaches that support the caribou's ability to survive and thrive.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Shikha Rawat

Environment & Social Sensitive Citizen of the world (India)

PC1120

Name: Rea, Mary

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

Do not kill the bears! This is ridiculous! Do not shoot the brown bears from helicopters or any other way!!!

PC1121

Name: Rebecca, Amanda

Community of Residence: Coppell

Comment:

I oppse the bear killing proposal because it really won’t fix the real problem

---

PC1122

Name: Recordon , Ombline

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

Killing bear for a lobby is absolutely inhumane. There's no science supporting this killing and it should never be authorized.

PC1123

Name: Reego, Rach

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

We are encroaching on their territory! Not the other way around. Save these precious souls.

PC1124

Name: Reese, Andrea

Community of Residence: NC, USA

Comment:

I am opposing the use of aerial guns to kill these beautiful bears. This is their home and we just live in it so it's not fair to kill them. Please learn to co-exist.

PC1125

Name: Reeves, Kristi

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

Bears were placed on this earth just as humans. We must redirect the fear and aggression exhibited towards these beautiful animals. To kill bears via aerial shooting is inhumane because it's slaughter~plain and simple. What do the American Indian and Alaskan people feel? Surely, there is wisdom to be had~better ways to deal with bears.

We all must learn to live together. Not destroy. Please do not allow the slaughter

---

PC1126

Name: Regnier, Christian

Community of Residence: Winnipeg

Comment:

I strongly oppose the Intensive management plan, mostly regarding predator control efforts. Brown bears have an extremely low reproduction rate and removing 179 of them in a two year span near protected areas where wildlife is thriving is beyond me. While it cannot be denied that predators do certainly have an impact on calf survival, other factors such as climate change and habitat destruction are far greater threats to caribou populations. Areal gunning of wolves and bears is not a sustainable or feasible solution in my opinion when the real issues lie in the way humans treat the wild places caribou need. Studies also show that bears and wolves regulate their own numbers and manage their own populations as they have since the beginning of time.

PC1127

Name: Reiley, Bryan

Community of Residence: Corvallis Oregon

Comment:

To the Alaska Board of Game:

Re: Opposition to Proposed Increase in Bear Control in GMU 17

As the former area wildlife biologist for GMU 17 for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and a Wildlife Ecologist of 20 plus years with a PhD, I write to express strong opposition to the proposed expansion of bear control efforts in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area. The current and proposed predator control efforts lack scientific justification, procedural transparency, and alignment with Alaska's constitutional mandate to manage wildlife under the sustained yield principle.

1. The Science Doesn't Support It

Since 2011, predator control targeting wolves has been in place with no measurable benefit to the caribou population, which declined from ~24,000 to ~12,000. In 2023 and 2024, ADFG pivoted to bears, killing 94 and 81 brown bears respectively—despite having no baseline data on bear populations in within the predator control area instead they relied on outdated studies and anecdotal "pilot correspondence." Additionally, no estimate were provided for black bears. These actions are not science-based management; they are guesses with lethal consequences.

2. Violating Alaska's Sustained Yield Mandate

Article VIII, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution requires the management of all game species—including brown and black bears—on a sustained yield basis. Yet ADFG has never conducted bear population studies in GMU 17 and admits to relying on speculative estimates. Without data, sustained yield cannot be assessed, much less maintained.

3. No Defined Metrics of Success

The operational plan lacks defined criteria for success. Though "increased calf survival" is mentioned, ADFG failed to conduct concurrent monitoring in 2023 and only began limited efforts in 2024. Without calf and yearly collaring to track survival, there's no way to reliably evaluate effectiveness—an issue long documented in Alaska's predator control history (Miller et al. 2022; NRC 1997). So far the only measurable change in the population has been changes in calf:cow ratios which can be a misleading indicator of population growth. And interestingly, there has been no measurable increase in the MCH population despite 2 years of bear culling based on ADFG Mulchatna Photo Survey estimates done in 2023 and 2024.

4. Ignoring Habitat and Forage Dynamics

The long-term decline of the MCH aligns with known caribou boom-bust cycles, largely driven by habitat degradation and lichen depletion—factors worsened by climate change. ADFG has not assessed winter forage availability or quality despite suggestions by me and others (including federal partners) and additionally being a legal requirement under predator control regulations. When I proposed a going out to collect vegetation data on a randomized subsample of known wintering areas in 2021 I was told we didnt have the money or the expertise yet somehow they've come up with millions for this bear culling effort.

5. Expert Opposition and Public Concern

In 2023, 34 retired biologists publicly opposed the bear control effort, citing the same concerns raised here: lack of data, lack of justification, and disregard for ecological complexity. Their expertise should not be ignored.

Recommendation:

The Alaska Board of Game should reject the proposed increase in bear control in GMU 17. Instead, the state should pause all current predator control operations in the region until:

Robust bear population assessments are conducted.

Clear, data-driven success metrics are implemented.

Forage availability and habitat limitations are evaluated.

Alaska's wildlife deserves responsible, science-based management. What's happening in GMU 17 is anything but.

Sincerely,

Bryan M. Reiley, PhD

PC1128

Name: Reinhart, Gilda

Community of Residence: North Bellmore, NY 11710

Comment:

I oppose the culling of bear and wolf populations via aerial hunting. From what I have read, the more important considerations for caribou survival is preservation of their habitat and reversal of climate change. Do not kill more of God's majestic creatures because you think it might improve the size of

future caribou herds. There is no scientific evidence that shows that bears and wolves have decimated the caribou population. Alaska should remain a beacon of all that is great and wild in the U.S.A. and should remain so for future generations.

According to the Journal of Wildlife Management,"ADFG killed 94 grizzly bears in 2023 and another 97 in 2024 despite a lack of data indicating that grizzly bears had contributed to the decline of the caribou herd. Similarly, ADFG's efforts at wolf control failed to restore caribou numbers. Recognizing that the issues with caribou abundance might relate to nutrition and overgrazing during peakabundance of >200,000 caribou in 1997 (Boertje et al. 2017), ADFG noted that there was nothing that they could do to recover caribou habitat for the Mulchatna herd (Alaska Department of Fish and Game 2024), yet ADFG had the ability to kill bears, and bears can kill caribou calves (Leblond et al. 2016). Consequently, the target of the AlaskaBoard of Game was to eliminate all bears from a 7,800-km 2 area centered surrounding calving range for theMulchatna caribou herd. Such extreme predator control is unacceptable to the public, especially when there is no evidence of its efficacy (Decker et al. 2006, Miller et al. 2022), and the lack of science flies in the face of the NAM". *

* Boyce, M. S., and A. E. Derocher. 2025. Bears in North America: Habitats, hunting, and politics. Journal of Wildlife Management e70057. https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.70057 pp8-9

PC1129

Name: Renteria, Luz

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Killing wildlife does not equate wildlife conservation. Alaska should be ashamed for even allowing this to be up for debate. You’re supposed to protect them all.

Find a different solution.

PC1130

Name: Resident , Concerned

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Please stop this terrible act of killing our bears. We do not want this.

PC1131

Name: Reyes, Silvia

Community of Residence: APT 416

Comment:

Wildlife should always be something we protect. There is plenty of selfish acts towards animals on this planet it's heartbreaking. Why can't we be compassionate toward them. It's not all about humans it's about everyone please please don't hurt any bears or anymore wildlife. Animals are one of the most precious things and I still have a little hope that humanity will learn to respect wildlife.

PC1132

Name: Reynolds, Kayla

Community of Residence: Boise, Idaho

Comment:

Bears, especially in the great stage of Alaska where most of my family resides, are essential for the entire ecosystem to thrive and remain beautifully wild. Eradicating these necessary creatures by means such as aerial shooting is incredibly inhumane and unethical and violates court ruling, setting a dangerous precedent for other disastrous attempts at wildlife "management".

PC1133

Name: Rhodes, Janet **Affiliation**: Alaska Wildlife Alliance

Community of Residence: Temecula, CA

Comment:

Please work with the AWA to shut down the cruel and unethical Mulchatna Predator Control Program.

Thanks.

PC1134

Name: Rice , Georgina

Community of Residence: Hope BC canada

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to the killing of these bears. I cannot believe the killing of bears is actually being considered. Aerial shooting is cruel and inhumane. Bears are important to the eco system. Don't you people understand that. What is the real reason wants to reduce the number of bears.

Please leave them one.

PC1135

Name: Richards, Ashley

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

Please do not erase this iconic American species

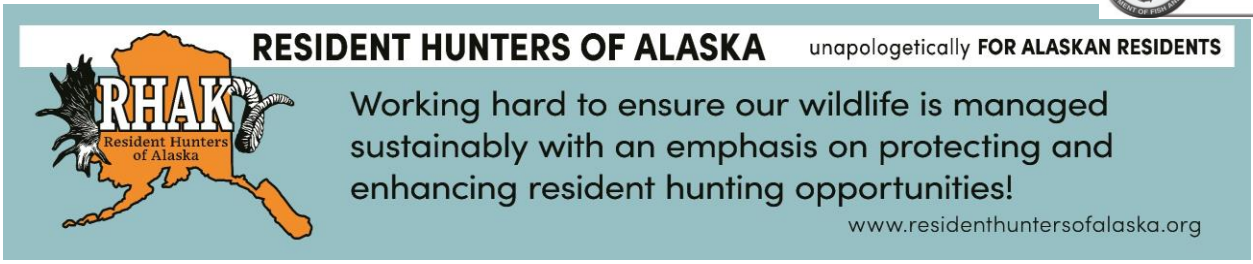
PC1136

Name: Richards, Bob

Community of Residence: Chattanooga Tenn

Comment:

Please don't not do this! Bears are innocent creatures who deserve a chance at life like everyone else! There has to be predators for balance. And they are God's wonderful creatures!



June 20, 2025

To: Alaska Board of Game
Re: Special Meeting regarding Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd

Dear Chairman Fletcher and members of the board,

Below are our comments regarding Intensive Management plans for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Please consider these comments at the July 14-15, 2025 special meeting in Anchorage,

Mark Richards – Executive Director Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK)

Mulchatna Caribou Herd Intensive Management Program

Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK) supports Intensive Management efforts that are grounded in science and efficacy. If the state is going to remove predators to benefit prey populations important for feeding Alaskans, there needs to be clear indications that such efforts will result in increased prey populations over the longer term.

Prior to any Intensive Management (IM) efforts, the Department must first study and determine why a prey population is in decline. In the case of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH), the primary reason the herd is in decline is due to disease and nutrition issues. The habitat is changing and there is less prime forage available, and brucellosis is more common within the MCH. While IM efforts sometimes involve habitat improvements such as prescribed burns to benefit moose, there is nothing the state can really do to improve caribou habitat. Similarly, there is little the state can do to curb disease within the MCH.

We know that bears kill caribou calves on the MCH calving grounds every spring. And we know that the bear removal efforts in 2023 and 2024 resulted in higher caribou calf survival six months out. If more calves survive longer term, it means more recruitment and an increased population.

RHAK has no conservation concerns that the overall brown bear population within the range of the MCH will be harmed long term with continued removal of bears on the calving grounds.

The science tells us that nutrition and disease are the cause of the MCH decline, but it also tells us that removing predators during the calving period helps with overall recruitment. The overriding question with the MCH IM program is whether the herd can really increase substantially over the long term with such poor habitat and disease issues.

The bottom line is that we don't know. So, we are left with the choice to do nothing, or to try to do the only thing we can do to improve outcomes, which is to increase calf survival.

In this case, RHAK supports doing something, rather than nothing, to try to increase the MCH population, even though we can't be sure it will lead to an increase in the population that will benefit Alaskan hunters in the region. Only time will tell if there is efficacy with these IM efforts.

PC1138

Name: Rico , Marta

Community of Residence: Calle Paseo Solares #300 Casa 39

Comment:

🤎💔💔💔🐻😤😤😤🤎

STOP KILLING animals, LET THEM LIVE FREE! 🐞❤️🐞

PC1139

Name: Riddle, Michael

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I'm an ER veterinarian and this is absolutely ridiculous! Shame on you!

PC1140

Name: Rigger, Karen

Community of Residence: Washington state

Comment:

Please save the bears

PC1141

Name: Riggio, Isabella

Community of Residence: New jersey

Comment:

I am incredibly disgusted with the killing of these wild bears. This needs to stop it's not our job to play population control as our own species is completely invasive on this planet. These poor bears deserve to roam the earth they were born on and face any natural consequences, not being shot by a gun up in the air. This is not something I pay taxes for. This makes me disgusted in my country. Stop killing innocent earthlings.

PC1142

Name: Riley, Kevin

Community of Residence: Kansas

Comment:

Stop hurting wildlife

PC1143

Name: Ritchie, Madison

Community of Residence: Elmvale, Ontario

Comment:

What you are doing to these crucial animal and the entire ecosystems they exist in is shameful. We will not tolerate your mass killings of the bears

---

PC1144

Name: Rivera, Vanessa

Community of Residence: Torrance, CA

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to reinstate aerial gunning of brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

There is no clear scientific evidence showing that killing bears will help the Mulchatna caribou herd recover. Research from the state itself points to disease and food shortages as the main reasons for the herd's decline, not bear predation.

Aerial gunning is not only ineffective, but it also raises serious humane concerns. Shooting bears from helicopters often results in unnecessary suffering, especially when animals are wounded but not immediately killed. This is not consistent with ethical, science-based wildlife management.

Nearly 180 bears have already been killed through this program in the last two years, including females with cubs. Without clear data proving this approach works, continuing it is irresponsible.

I urge the Board to reject this proposal and focus on solutions based on sound science that address the real causes of caribou population decline.

PC1145

Name: Rivers, Esperanza

Community of Residence: Ann Arbor

Comment:

Opposition to the proposed game hunting. 1. It is extremely harmful to our environment to hunt from a carbon emitting aircraft.

2. Compared to traditional hunting methods, using an aircraft to hunt dozens of not only adult bears, but cubs as well, is cruel, excessive, and an abuse of hunting.

PC1146

Name: Roach, Cana

Community of Residence: Atlanta, GA

Comment:

Hi team of Anchorage, I would like to strongly urge you to reconsider your current position of mass black and brown bear slaughter in efforts to build the caribou population. Similar efforts done in the past to maintain species population have had incredibly inconsistent results, often leaving the ecosystem with more human-induced damage than before. Thanks for reading my message, and I hope others will continue to reach out too.

PC1147

Name: Roark, Emily

Community of Residence: Missouri

Comment:

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed regulation allowing department staff to kill brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. While I understand the intention to support the caribou herd, I don't believe predator control is the right solution. Bears are an important part of the ecosystem, and removing them could cause more harm than good. The real issues affecting the herd—like habitat loss, climate shifts, and food availability—need to be addressed first. Let's focus on long-term, science-based solutions that support both caribou and healthy predator populations.

PC1148

Name: Roberts, Sally

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am writing to indicate my opposition to predator control in the name of protecting and growing the Mulchatna caribou herd. Research has shown that predator control is ineffective without addressing the root of the problem, i.e., the habitat quality is insufficient to support caribou at the level proposed by ADFG. 30,000-80,000 caribou in this area is likely an unattainable number and continuing to indiscriminately kill predators is a waste of resources, not to mention unethical. There is also no accounting for the impact these broad scale predator killing is having, or may have, on places like Katmai National Park and Lake Clark National Park and substantial proportion of their revenue that comes from bear vieiwing. On a broader but perhaps most important note, the Intensive Management Law needs to be revisited. ADFG used to be a respected agency producing good science but is now known as an agency not worthy of the respect of scientists or the general public and has become the laughingstock of the wildlife world.

PC1149

Name: Robinson, Amanda

Community of Residence: Pleasant Prairie WI

Comment:

I oppose this proposal. I understand the need to moderate populations. However, bears are know to have sizable territories that they call home. The proposal as it stands is very close to national parks, and if allowed, would greatly reduce the numbers within the parks. The bears don't know boundaries - they just know their home. Please consider moving the areas significantly away from the national parks, so as to not impact the wonderful ecosystems within Katmai, Lake Clark, and other NPs.

Thank you.

PC1150

Name: Robinson, Dana

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

I am writing to oppose the renewal of the predator culling program.

This program is not based on clear and concise scientific evidence and is mailnly due to the loss of grass the caribou eat due to climate change and disease.

No clear evidence that the bears and wolves are the predators.

PC1151

Name: Robinson, Jackie

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

A disgusting slaughter that makes no sense as there's no scientific standings behind it. The killing free of innocent victims that have no voice. We are raising our voices against this.

PC1152

Name: Robinson, Lesly

Community of Residence: Marin county California

Comment:

Are they out of their minds!!!. Killing the bears isn't going to help the Caribou.

This has to be a Trump move. So very disappointed and full of sorrow. Living creatures, wild and free and your answer is to kill the bears. SO WRONG!!

PC1153

Name: Roche, Jim **Affiliation**: Magnum Guide Service, LLC

Community of Residence: Eldorado, TX

Comment:

This spring I was guiding a client on a brown bear hunt in Unit 17B between May 17-26. Our tent camp which was on top of a small hill and easy to see was buzzed twice within a couple hundred feet by a blue/silver R44 helicopter with four occupants, one wearing a fluorescent orange coat along with a red/white Super Cub with two antennas in its struts. The helicopter spent no less than 45 minutes flying all around our hunting area as low as 100 feet while the plane flew grids with intermittent circles within 1-6 miles of our camp for an hour. We would see these same two aircraft along with a lighter colored Cessna 185 in the area for the next 3 days. Our bush pilot assumed they were Fish & Game surveying the caribou or counting bears. Either way, our hunt was a disaster from the effects of the air traffic. We went from seeing 14 bears (mostly sows with cubs) in the first couple of days of our hunt to seeing none for the remainder. My comment is that any predator control should be conducted prior to May 10 or after May 31st when most guides have clients in the field. The interference can be very detrimental to our occupation and certainly influences our clients thoughts on "the Alaska experience!"

Thank you,

Jim R.

PC1154

Name: Rock, Krystal

Community of Residence: Edmonton

Comment:

We do not need to aimlessly kill bears at large. Killing bears, mama bears and their cubs. There is no scientific evidence that proves this mass murder and slaughter helps caribou population. We need bears. Stop this madness.

PC1155

Name: Rodman, Jacqueline

Community of Residence: North Hollywood

Comment:

There is no science behind this terrible and tragic practice.

PC1156

Name: Rodrigues , Vanessa

Community of Residence: São Paulo

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

Animals are sentient Beings and have a right to live free from harm, free to live life on their own terms. #respect

---

PC1157

Name: Rogers, Amanda

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

As someone who loves to visit Alaska, the wildlife is one of the main attraction factors as a tourist. I am strongly opposed to expanding the predator control zone. As someone who lives in a state with a tourism based economy, every time the government chooses to cheaply flush Lake Okeechobee they affect the local economy negatively (background info: flushing out Lake Okeechobee reduces the pollution from local sugar agriculture but causes red tide in the Gulf of Mexico and thus causes beaches to be shut down in coastal towns and cities). Choosing to kill bears will have negative downstream effects on the local economy, additionally there's no scientific evidence that supports predator control as a beneficial tool for caribou populations. Please don't kill the bears, my family and I are planning a trip in 2026 and we were planning on stopping in Brooks Falls. I'm monitoring this closely to determine if I'll still be planning on making stops in Brook Falls and Katmai.

PC1158

Name: Rogers, Chase

Community of Residence: Truckee

Comment:

I am in opposition of culling brown and/or black bears as indicated by this proposition. There is little to no evidence that bears are affecting the herd and I implore you to exhaust any and all efforts to determine cause before culling.

I live in a community with bears. It was their home first. Humans have absolutely no right to cull these magnificent and majestic animals.

Thank you,

Chase Rogers, Concerned USA citizen

PC1159

Name: Rogers, Claire

Community of Residence: Cross Farm

Comment:

I absolutely oppose the culling of the bears. The human species needs to evolve out of this idea that we have the right to kill anything that is a mild inconvenience to our own narrative. Let's be honest this is not for the benefit of the heard! The herd will manage themselves without our intervention and should be left to do so! This arrogant attitude that it's up to us to make these decisions and take it upon ourselves to terminate the life of other beings whenever it suits us is beyond ludicrous. It is why the planet is in such a mess!!!! NO!

PC1160

Name: Rogers, Heather

Community of Residence: Wyoming

Comment:

Please quit killing the beautiful , precious animals. Only an amoral, soulless person would do that. You must be part of the MAGA cult. Stop before you destroy all that is good in the world,

---

PC1161

Name: Rogodzinski, Leslie

Community of Residence: Agassiz British Columbia

Comment:

Where is the proof that Ariel killing bears improves caribou numbers?

PC1162

Name: Rohde, Rosemarie

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I'm writing against allowing the ADFG's request to kill more bears. It is clear that more research is required before making that decision. Let's be thorough and thoughtful in regards to making these decisions regarding these magnificent animals. As someone who lives in the lower 48 with the high population of humans, I clearly see the need for protection of our public lands and all of its inhabitants.

Thank you,

Rosemarie Rohde

PC1163

Name: Rojas , Nicole **Affiliation**: Wild For Change

Community of Residence: Illinois

Comment:

On behalf of Wild For Change, I oppose the culling of the Mulchatna Bears.

Wildlife makes up only 4% of all biomass on Earth, and as wildlife populations continue to decrease, the loss of key individuals like the grizzly bear triggers a cascade effect throughout the ecosystem. As a keystone species, bears support the ecosystems we depend on and help maintain nature's balance. The declines in prey animal populations are not caused by the grizzly bear but, in fact, by climate change and ecosystem destabilization. Culling bears in Mulchatna will further disrupt the ecosystem and will not benefit ungulate populations. Nor will it enhance our well-being. Keystone species are named for the essential role they play. This is not by accident. Their presence benefits us, and science can prove this. The question then becomes, how can we prioritize wildlife the same way we prioritize ourselves?

https://ourworldindata.org/wild-mammals-birds-biomass

PC1164

Name: Roller, Carolyn

Community of Residence: Arkansas

Comment:

Bears need our protection. I oppose shooting the bears, especially from the air. I strongly oppose this.

I watch the Brroks Falls bears at Katmai. Thousands and thousands of people watch the bears and get enormous pleasure from seeing their beauty.

I oppose shooting the bears in this inhumane way.

PC1165

Name: Romano , Michael

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I oppose the helicopter killing program and any wildlife thinning that is not necessary and doent have a history of supoorting the other herd but only decimating the targeted animals historical and genetic. Humane hunting to support true findings only Make it necessary when trully waranted and capabilities are known.

This is ad hockey decimating of the bears. Be more truthful and scientific and anylitval with disclosure of real findings and needs. This is bogus representation of wildlife management. Stop killing the bears

---

PC1166

Name: Romantico, Chris

Community of Residence: Nj

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear Predation.

PC1167

Name: Romero, Sofia

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1168

Name: Romo , Vince

Community of Residence: Arcata California

Comment:

Opposition, killing predators to preserve hunting opportunities for trophy hunters has nothing to do with subsistence hunting. Ungulates are impacted by oil and gas development, fragmenting habitat is the most impactful stress

---

PC1169

Name: Rondorf, Heather

Community of Residence: Park City

Comment:

The proposed expansion of the Mulchatna bear control program—covering roughly 40,000 square miles—is an alarming step backward for Alaska's wildlife management. This sweeping plan not only threatens to disrupt fragile ecosystems, but also undermines the values of science-based conservation, ethical stewardship, and public trust.

Bears are keystone species. Their presence is not incidental—they shape the environment around them. By dispersing nutrients, influencing prey populations, and supporting forest regeneration, both black and brown bears are vital to maintaining ecological balance. To remove them en masse is not management—it's ecological vandalism.

Worse yet, this plan lacks the transparent, peer-reviewed evidence required to justify such a drastic and indiscriminate approach. Scientific scrutiny must guide wildlife decisions—not expedient politics or pressure from narrow interest groups. Alaskans and the broader public deserve policies that are grounded in data, ethics, and long-term sustainability.

Finally, the bears of the Mulchatna region are more than data points or management targets—they are icons of Alaska's natural heritage. They are cherished by Indigenous communities, photographers, scientists, tourists, and generations of Alaskans who recognize their intrinsic value. Slashing their numbers through aerial gunning and indiscriminate culling is not only inhumane—it's indefensible.

We call on the Board of Game to reject this reckless proposal and instead invest in strategies that uphold Alaska's rich ecological legacy, respect Indigenous voices, and preserve our wildlife for future generations.

I strongly oppose the new Mulchatna bear control program. Targeting brown bears under the guise of predator control is not only misguided but undermines the balance of a delicate ecosystem. The evidence linking brown bear populations to the decline in Mulchatna caribou is thin at best, yet the consequences of such lethal programs are lasting and often irreversible.

This approach ignores root causes like habitat degradation, climate change, and human encroachment—factors that deserve far more attention and action. Instead of resorting to killing iconic wildlife, we should be investing in science-based, ethical solutions that protect both predators and prey.

Alaska's natural beauty and biodiversity are worth preserving, not sacrificing for short-term management optics.

PC1170

Name: Ronowska, Kamila

Community of Residence: Poland

Comment:

How could they kill so many bears. They dont't know where they arę to close to city or peple.

PC1171

Name: Roosmark, Beatrice

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

Absolutely disgusting to slaughter the bears, many more humane ways to make changes. Disturbing

---

PC1172

Name: Rosas Gil, Carolina

Community of Residence: Colombia

Comment:

I oppose to the killing of bears because it's not necessary. The bears deserve to live.

PC1173

Name: Rose, Jaiden

Community of Residence: West Bend

Comment:

there is no reason to be killing this many living beings, as well as babies they have lives to live and we are not the ones who get to decide when they go on to the next life

---

PC1174

Name: Rose, Miles

Community of Residence: Boardman

Comment:

I believe the unnecessary killings of the bears are heartbreaking i believe they were here first so why kill the bears on there own land i hope someday these can be reduced the numbers shown are horrific

---

PC1175

Name: Rosen, Trina

Community of Residence: Valley peak

Comment:

Hi my name is Trina and I've witnessed the beauty of Alaska firsthand countless times. Wild and untamed the nature there is unlike any other state I've been to, however I was blissfully unaware of the bear slaughter that takes place there every year. The very thing me and my family spend thousands and thousands of dollars to see each and every year, treated so inhumanly. It's beyond disappointing and shameful. I've decided to cancel our upcoming trip and hope that this unnecessary slaughter comes to an end. Until then my family and I have decided it's against our values to give any of our money to the state of Alaska.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely

Trina Rosen

PC1176

Name: Rosenthal, Jan

Community of Residence: Po Box 212

Comment:

Please do not disturb wildlife!!Especially gunning down bears & wolves!!

Please!!

PC1177

Name: Ross, Kelly

Community of Residence: Melbourne, Australia

Comment:

I am writing about a serious problem that I care about. Today's wildlife is suffering. We need to start paying more attention to this matter, and doing everything we can to help. This is a problem that we caused and now we need to start making up for it by protecting our wildlife.

Today, our wildlife face habitat loss, habitat destruction, and habitat fragmentation. It takes wildlife years to recover from disasters that we cause. Human activities such as, agriculture, oil, and gas exploration, and commercial development damage ecosystems.

Many people are ignorant when it comes to our wildlife. They leave garbage that can be harmful to animals without even batting an eye. We drive living creatures out of their homes. We kill creatures, and destroy plants and forests. We need to stop and think who and what we are hurting.

I OPPOSE the murder of these bears!!!

PC1178

Name: Rossow, Sami

Community of Residence: Wauwatosa, WI

Comment:

This is cruel and inhumane, and I do not want my taxpayer money to be going to this massacre. Even killing them in the most cowardly way possible. What a joke.

PC1179

Name: Roth, Lily

Community of Residence: New Jersey

Comment:

I support.

PC1180

Name: Royle, Zoe

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

Stop the unethical killing of brown 🐻 bears.

PC1181

Name: Rubinstein , Jen

Community of Residence: 22425 SE 18TH STREET

Comment:

I oppose this indiscriminate killing of bears without a solid scientific study. I will repost all activity in the interest of decreasing tourism to a state that allows this. How awful to kill mothers and cubs. You have absolutely no evidence to support this program. Pathetic.

PC1182

Name: Rudd , Barbara

Community of Residence: Naples, Florida

Comment:

I totally opposé the killing of Animals. I believe Relocation is the right thing to do.

People are the ones encroaching into their space.

Also, what are we teaching our young children? Have you not noticed all the school shootings? When will the killing of Everything STOP.

PLEASE

Thank you for listening. Please do something good

PC1183

Name: Rudofsky, Samantha

Community of Residence: Nantucket, Massachusetts

Comment:

Please stop killing wildlife.

Not every problem should be met with a gun. Killing is not a solution — it's a shortcut. It reflects a refusal to evolve, to listen, to lead with empathy and look for safer alternatives

Stop the killing

Evolve as a species

PC1184

Name: Ruple, Elizabeth
Community of Residence: Columbus Ohio

Comment:

We humans are responsible for taking care of our planet and the creatures on it. These bears are important to our environment, and we need to provide protection. Please stop these killings. There is no justification for the killing of innocent creatures. We want our children and our children's children to ask us to see the bears, not ask if they really existed, like dinasoars. If we follow this ideology of killing selfishly of these magnificent creatures, we are only bringing about an unbalanced planet, and a far emptier one.

PC1185

Name: Ruppe, Adrienne

Community of Residence: Seattle, WA

Comment:

There's not enough evidence (scientific data) showing that killing bears in this area will help other animal populations. Please don't allow this to happen. Revise this bill and prevent the killing of the Alaskan bears. All life is energy (which is scientifically proven) and by killing these bears from helicopters or on land will not solve this problem. It's a cruel bandaid on the situation. We the people want to save our land and our animals and the government agencies and departments using death as a problem solver need to educate themselves. It won't ever solve anything. Never has and never will.

PC1186

Name: Russel, Pamela

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I am strongly and unapologetically against this taxpayer-funded aerial gunning of Alaska's bears — especially mothers with cubs. It's not "management." It's a state-sanctioned massacre, and it's cruel, unnecessary, and politically disgusting.

There is zero scientific evidence that this slaughter benefits caribou populations. What it does do is normalize violence against wildlife for the sake of convenience and outdated agendas.

We're talking about intelligent, sentient beings that play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance. Killing them from the air is not only brutal — it's a shameful reflection of how disconnected some political decisions are from ethics and science.

Enough is enough. We need to protect, not destroy. The world is watching.

PC1187

Name: Rustagi, Arti

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

It is sad that we as humans decide whatever we deem fit for everyone else and think that is what being superior means.

I write a letter to that effect and this is motniust for the bears but for all earth that suffers at the hands of humans

We came to this planet as the superior species.

But look at what we've become — to nature, to animals, to each other.

If Earth could speak, I imagine she'd say this:

"Dear Humans,

I see you.

All of you.

The young and the old, the rich and the struggling, the ones who take and the ones who try to give back.

I see what you build, what you break, what you ignore.

I see the forests you cut and the towers you raise.

I see the animals you wound and the oceans you poison.

I see the way you treat each other — and yourselves.

And yes, I am hurting.

I bleed quietly through the cracks in your air, your soil, your water.

You call it a crisis. I call it consequence.

You think your actions disappear into silence —

But I feel every drop of oil, every tree that falls, every mountain you carve into scars.

Still, I held you.

For centuries, I held you.

But now, I am changing.

Not to punish you.

To mirror you.

In the air you breathe, the food you eat, the storms you call “unexpected,”

I am there.

I am the cancer that cannot be explained.

The flood that arrived too soon.

The drought that won’t leave.

The fever you don’t yet understand.

You have named me Nature.

But I am not just trees and rivers.

I am your reflection.

What you do to me, you do to yourselves.

It is not too late.

But the window is shrinking.

Respect is no longer a choice.

It is your only way forward.

I will survive you.

But I wonder — will you survive yourselves?

— Earth"

#earth #humanity #planet #saveourplanet #beinghuman #lifeonearth #water #air

PC1188

Name: Ryan, Brianna

Community of Residence: Courtenay

Comment:

I am unequivocally opposed to the killing of bears for outdated wildlife management practices. Bears are intelligent, sentient beings that play a vital role in their ecosystems. To take their lives for convenience of humanity is not only unethical, it's ecologically reckless. The justification for bear hunts, "population control," is often rooted in fear, ignorance, and a disregard for the natural balance that predators help maintain.

We must stop accepting the killing of bears under the false guise of "wildlife management" — a euphemism for state-sanctioned killing and ecological manipulation.

It's time we stop glorifying the slaughter of wild animals and instead focus on protecting them. Bears deserve to live free from persecution, not be targets in someone's twisted idea of "management."

PC1189

Name: Ryan-Mayer Ryan, Kelley

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

As a lifelong Michigander, I have watched our DNR in the state of Michigan make grave mistakes when it comes to controlling populations of wildlife. As evidence by the near complete disappearance of wolves in the state.

We as a society, as a culture, as human beings have the ability to think before we act. The reality is you killed the bears you set off the predator prey balance. I have no idea why this is actually happening other than I suspect is to develop land. Reality is you should be remembering that you are the steward of the land not the owners. It is your responsibility to keep the land, not manipulate it. And that includes the wildlife. We all know you have no good reason for this action, and the reaction to this will be devastating to the Alaskan ecosystem. This is not the right thing to do. And to chase them down and shoot them down from helicopters, how more inhumane can you be right along with shooting them in their den. We have to learn to live with the wildlife, not decimate them.

PC1190

Name: Rydgren, Sarah

Community of Residence: Nh

Comment:

I strongly oppose the actions of the Alaskan government shooting the great bears of Alaska simply for existing. Please use taxpayer money more appropriately instead of slaughtering animals and their offspring.

PC1191

Name: S, Av

Community of Residence: .

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1192

Name: S., Aria

Community of Residence: .

Comment:

Killing of any kind of animal is inhumane. The bears have done no wrong. They are cubs for Christ's sake! Would you be doing this to human children if they start to overpopulate? This is brutal, inhumane and completely unnecessary. Relocate the bears if need be, but killing them?? From helicopter??? How on earth is that a solution? are you following Thanos?? Humans are the smartest and strongest right? So come up with a solution which does NOT involve harming the poor animals who can't speak for themselves.

STOP HARMING THE BEARS.

PC1193

Name: Sacks, Sara

Community of Residence: Egg harbor township

Comment:

Stop killing the bears. Cruel and inhumane.

PC1194

Name: Saint Clair, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Edmonds wa

Comment:

Please do not renew this proposal to murder brown bears. There can be other ways to distribute them throughout the wild. We need to come up with better solutions. This is cruel and wrong. Animals deserve to live in peace in nature. They are just trying to survive.

PC1195

Name: Saltsman, Libby

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

There is no reason to be mercilessly killing bears. These animals are vital to our ecosystem and deserve a chance to live safely and happily. Please do not use tax payer money to needlessly hurt these animals.

PC1196

Name: Salvatierra , Itzel

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

I oppose to the killing of any bear

PC1197

Name: Sanchez, Anaira

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bears!

PC1198

Name: Sanchez, Char

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Please save the bears and all wildlife

PC1199

Name: Sanders, Kerry

Community of Residence: Lake of the Pines

Comment:

It is my belief that as human beings we have a duty to be Shepards to the wild animals we CO EXIST with. They have a right to life and a right to exist every bit as much as we do, we should be looking for opportunities to protect their species instead of opportunities to eliminate or cull their species. Shame on

Us for being so arrogant as to think we should get to decide if they live or die and how long their time spent here should be?

That being said…

I am admittedly opposed to the culling of any and all wildlife using this manner or any other manner in Alaska or anywhere else within the United States and Territories.

PC1200

Name: Sandford, Louis

Community of Residence: Uk

Comment:

This is absurd to be killing bears when there is no scientific proof it helps caribou. It is entirely unethical. Nature always has a way of resolving itself - the species population will absolutely sort itself out without human interaction. And even if by some miracle it didn't, killing these bears is abhorrent and inarguably unethical.

PC1201

Name: Sangalang, Mal
Community of Residence: Los Angeles, CA

Comment:

I strongly oppose the expansion of aerial gunning programs targeting bears. These practices are inhumane and unjustifiable—especially when they involve killing mothers with cubs. There is no credible scientific evidence that this helps caribou populations recover. Alaska's bears deserve better. We need to protect—not persecute—these incredible animals.

PC1202

Name: Santiago , Heather

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

When we were kids it felt like there was so much magic left in the world, in nature. Soon they'll be drilling and logging. They'll be selling off pieces off this nature until there's nothing left. This planet took and is taking care of us. This is how we say thank you? These animals, These rivers, these lands depend on us to protect them. They can't speak but we all understand and refuse to listen. Total disregard and no respect. We are the only species that can change things but don't. We were given this garden, we've paved and destroyed it even for future generations.

Shooting these animals from a helicopter is wrong. We should be fighting to protect these animals and lands. Nature is pure. The last thing man didn't make or destroy YET. Our lands and animals. Even our oceans will be bled dry. Don't you want your children to experience the magic you did? Protect these animals.

In the end, when you've lived your life and stand before god. You will have to tell him you destroyed his garden. The gift he gave you. The destruction of innocence and purity for greed.

Defend the planet. Defend innocence. Defend the voiceless. Shooting bears from a helicopter is cowardice and cruel. Have the strength to fight for the earth. Stand up. They desperately need you. Please

---

PC1203

Name: Sartori, Silvia

Community of Residence: Treviso, Veneto, Italy

Comment:

I am deeply and unequivocally opposed to the aerial killing of bears in Alaska.

Shooting these majestic, sentient beings from helicopters is not wildlife management — it's a brutal and heartbreaking act of violence. Bears are intelligent, emotional animals who feel fear and pain just as any other living being does. To chase them down from the sky, without warning, without mercy, is an act that strips away every ounce of dignity from both the hunter and the hunted.

These are not just animals — they are mothers, siblings, individuals with lives of their own. Watching them fall from gunfire, terrified and alone in the wilderness they call home, is a tragedy that should never be justified by policy.

There are better ways — ethical, science-based, humane ways — to care for our ecosystems. We are stewards of this earth, not tyrants. Let us choose compassion over cruelty, coexistence over control.

Please end this senseless, violent practice. The world is watching. And the bears deserve better.

PC1204

Name: Sauer, Jeff

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

I am a 40 year resident of Alaska and am interested in the conservation of our resources, and the responsible management of all of our wildlife. I strongly oppose the bear control proposed, and what has happened in the past couple of years. I also note the decision of bad faith found by the Superior Court regarding F&G. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

PC1205

Name: Saveri, Gabrielle

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears. It is cruel and inhumane. There is no scientific evidence that it affects the Caribou populations. It is a bad reflection on our country that we are killing our beautiful wild bear populations. People travel from all over the world to see these bears and now we are killing them. It makes no sense.

PC1206

Name: Savicka, Patricija

Community of Residence: Latvia

Comment:

There is no scientific evidence that killing bears it this way helps caribou population recover.

PC1207

Name: Saxena, Abhishek

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

I don't see why this news is kept hidden from the world. As humans we are not allowed to alter with the nature's own balance. Whatever is happening is a part of nature and the best we should do is secure our boundaries. Not enter theirs and kill them

---

PC1208

Name: Sayen, Laura

Community of Residence: Royal Oak, Michigan

Comment:

I am not from Alaska nor do I live there but I am conscious of the fragility of ecosystems and the hubris of humans to think we have the right and superior knowledge to disrupt them. I strongly oppose the proposal to allow Department Staff to kill brown and black bears under the unfounded assumption that it will protect the Caribou herds. The science does not align with this initiative and leaves one to wonder what the true motivation is to slaughter a vital contributor to an increasingly fragile ecosystem. Alaska is a beacon of wildlife habitat throughout the world. Without careful research, indiscriminate killing of brown and black bear is nothing but willful ignorance in action and a waste of public funds.

PC1209

Name: Schilling-Alvarez, Elisa

Community of Residence: Washington DC

Comment:

It is unacceptable that these bears are subject to such a killing spree for no justified reason. This must stop right now. It is mere cruelty!

PC1210

Name: Schirmer , Barbara

Community of Residence: Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears. There is no proof that this will reinstate the caribou heard size.

PC1211

Name: Schirmer , Rebecca

Community of Residence: Susquehanna

Comment:

I do not support the needless killing of animals. It is up to us as human beings to use our god-given abilities to think of a solution. Will we make another species go extinct so we can spend millions of dollars trying to use their DNA to bring them back to life? We disrupt another ecosystem by killing off an essential species that's part of it? In no way, is killing a population of animals humane or effective.

PC1212

Name: Schmidt , Jo

Community of Residence: Nashville TN

Comment:

I 100% oppose to the killing of innocent brown bears & black bears in Alaska.!. There is NO Scientific proof that killing bears help the population of the caribou. Nursing bears being murdered and taken from their cubs is disgraceful. If there's no evidence to back your claim it's disgusting to believe you'd just murder these bears to "see". What if that was you?.

PC1213

Name: Schmittle, William

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

Don't kill the bears. I'm opposed to thinning out by aerial shooting. RICICULOUS.

PC1214

Name: Schnirer, Dana

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Proposal # 4 AAC92.111

Intensive management for Mulchatna Caribou

Strongly Oppose

There is no science behind a move to decrease the bear population, to strengthen Caribou population. There is science behind decreasing Caribou population because of extreme logging and development in the Boeal forest however.

Dana Schnirer

PC1215

Name: Schoebl, Sydney

Community of Residence: Ontario Canada

Comment:

Bears like other wildlife do not have a voice. But I will speak for them and say that this is wrong!

This is not management in any fashion. This is murder. If only humans could be put on trial for heinous crimes that they commit against wildlife and the environment.

PC1216

Name: Schoen, John

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

John Schoen Letter to the Board of Game on Mulchatna IM 7-4-25

I am a 49-year resident of Alaska currently living in Anchorage. I am a retired wildlife scientist and worked professionally in Alaska for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) as a wildlife research biologist, research coordinator, and senior conservation biologist from 1976 through 1996, including 10 years conducting brown bear research in SE Alaska. I also worked as senior scientist for Audubon Alaska from 1997 through 2011. I have hunted Mulchatna caribou and watched and photographed brown bears on the Alaska Peninsula and I maintain a strong interest in returning to observe and photograph bears in the future. I have closely followed the Mulchatna Intensive Man-agement (IM) Program and have previously commented to the Alaska Board of Game (Board) and ADF&G on this program. I do not support Proposal 1 to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH) Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff (5 AAC 92.111 Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area).

Summary:

I will summarize my concerns here and follow with more detailed analysis. I do not believe that the Mulchatna IM Program to kill additional brown and black bears is adequately grounded in the best available science. (The Alaska Court has determined the program was adopted without adequate public notice and lacked credible, quantitative scientific supporting data.) I also do not believe the ADF&G reasonably followed its own protocols for intensive management. In addition, the Board and ADF&G have consistently ignored the 1997 recommendations of the National Research Coun-cil regarding predator control in Alaska. The Mulchatna caribou herd has a history of significant population fluctuations. Previous ADF&G research and management reports have attributed the recent population crash to adverse weather, habitat change, nutritional stress, illegal hunting, and disease rather than bear predation alone. I also believe that the current population and harvest goals set for this herd are unrealistic, and recent ADF&G reports have suggested that those goals should be reassessed. Further, there is no emergency to make these regulatory changes at this time since any additional bear control would not occur until spring of 2026.

Recommendations:

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully recommend that the Board and ADF&G do not reinstate the Mulchatna IM Program targeting the lethal removal of brown and black bears unless it can be scientifically and socially justified after addressing and correcting the scientific problems encoun-tered during the last three years. I strongly recommend that this program be paused until it is re-viewed by an independent committee of scientists to ensure that the program is scientifically sound and includes current population data for both predator and prey. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd population and harvest goals must also be reassessed relative to the carrying capacity of the range. It is unlikely that the goal of maintaining a population of 30,000-80,000 caribou is achievable.

Additional Details Regarding the Mulchatna IM Program:

Hinkes et al. (2005, Journal of Wildlife Management) estimated that southwest Alaska Caribou peaked in the early 1860s but declined by the late 1880s and remained low for the next 100 years. They report that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH) grew to about 14,000 by 1974 (the first major census). "The herd grew rapidly during the 1980s and 1990s…estimated at 200,000 animals by 1996." (Hinkes et al. 2005). Before the irruption of the MCH in the 1980s, the herd was about the size it is today. It is likely that the MCH declined rapidly as a result of declining range conditions, particularly impacts from overgrazing of winter lichens. Some caribou biologists have suggested that it takes many decades for overgrazed lichens to rebound to their former levels. Add to this the impacts of climate change resulting in increased shrubs overtaking lichen habitat.

One of the important recommendations of the National Research Council's (NRC) 1997 report on Wolves, Bears, and Their Prey in Alaska was "Before any predator management efforts are under-taken,…the carrying capacity of the prey's environment should be evaluated." ADF&G has not undertaken any quantitative assessment of carrying capacity of the habitat within the range of the MCH. ADF&G research staff previously reported (Demma & Sattler ADF&G research reports) that caribou cows exhibited nutritional stress. IM progress reports for the Mulchatna herd (Units 9B, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, 19B, Alaska Department of Fish and Game) allude to nutritional problems among adult caribou and many calf deaths due to malnutrition, dehydration, and "failure to thrive" that are nowhere mentioned in ADF&G reports to the Board. Many Alaska biologists have stated "It is unlikely that the goal of maintaining a populations of 30,000-80,000 caribou is achievable and bear control is unlikely to substantially increase caribou numbers given current nutrition, dis-ease, and illegal harvest issues." Thus, the current population and harvest objectives are likely unat-tainable and could lead to continued long-term predator control. In fact, the 2024 Mulchatna Cari-bou Herd Photo Survey IM progress report concludes that, "It may be appropriate to consider revis-ing the current population objective of 30,000 to 80,000 given historic and recent population trends."

Another important recommendation of the NRC (1997) was that "Before any predator control ef-forts are undertaken, the status of the predator and prey populations should be evaluated (including whether they are increasing or decreasing)." The ADF&G has not quantitatively assessed bear populations in the range of the MCH. This is a fundamental flaw of the Mulchatna IM program. This was also a recommendation of ADF&G's own IM protocol. How can ADF&G and the Board ensure that their management of predators is sustainable if they do not have a scientifically sound population assessment prior to conducting predator control? To date, 186 brown bears have been killed in the Mulchatna intensive management area. Brown bears have the lowest reproductive productivity of any land mammal in North America. Thus, having adequate population data is es-sential to assuring sustainability of management as required by state law.

The NRC (1997) recommendations also included: "ADF&G should broaden the scope of its studies of predator and prey species. It should collect better data on habitat quality and on bear ecolo-gy…" Further, the NRC also recommended that "Wolves and bears should be managed using an adaptive management approach in which management actions are planned so that it is possible to assess their outcome." This approach requires establishing monitoring protocols so that the results of management actions can be scientifically measured. This was not applied in the Mulchatna IM program. There was inadequate experimental design or monitoring established to quantitatively measure the effectiveness of predator control actions.

I was among 34 retired Alaskan wildlife scientists and managers who authored a commentary in the Anchorage Daily News on Aug. 15, 2023. We concluded then that "…there is weak scientific support for the Mulchatna predator control action. The Mulchatna intensive management program has unrealistic population and harvest goals given the history of the herd. It is unlikely that the goal of maintaining a population of 30,000-80,000 caribou is achievable and bear control is unlikely to substantially increase caribou numbers given current nutrition, disease, and illegal harvest issues. Finally, there is a lack of clear criteria for evaluating this intensive management program." This sit-uation has not changed.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully recommend that the Board and ADF&G do not reinstate the Mulchatna IM Program targeting the lethal removal of brown and black bears unless it can be scientifically and socially justified after addressing and correcting the scientific problems encoun-tered during the last three years. I strongly recommend that this program be paused until it is re-viewed by an independent committee of scientists to ensure that the program is scientifically sound and includes current population data for both predator and prey. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd population and harvest goals must also be reassessed relative to the carrying capacity of the range.

John W. Schoen, Ph.D.

Wildlife Ecologist, retired

Anchorage, AK

PC1217

Name: Schooler, Lynn

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

Mulchatna proposal / strongly opposed

The proposal to continue the serial killing of bears in an ostensible effort to rejuvenate the Mulchatna herd is unsupportable. The program flies in the face of established facts regarding predator prey relationships, ignores professional

Studies clearly laying the blame for the severe population drop and slow recovery on overgrazed range, and will do nothing to improve that or slow the effects of brucellosis on the caribou. Furthermore, it Is contrary to the directive contained within the Alaska State Consitution to manage wildlife in a sustainable manner as a benefit to all citizens of our state. And perhaps most disturbing of all, it is a clear effort to circumvent the express instructions of the court in a manner that borders on contempt. Do not pass this thing.

PC1218

Name: Schramm, Candace

Community of Residence: WA

Comment:

This is outrageous and morally wrong!!! Stop the slaughter of these beautiful bears, let them live their lives in peace. All men ever want to do is kill kill, kill…their answer to everything. It's sick and wrong. Wildlife has a tough enough time surviving in the wild, without the treat of man shooting them down from the air or by land. No baby bear deserves to have his mama die, leaving him/her to be killed by other predators. If man wants so badly to take the life of a bear, let him go one on one with the bear, no weapons, just their hands…same as a bear. Now that's a fair fight in my eyes. Please stop this insanity!!!

PC1219

Name: Schuler, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Travis county

Comment:

I am against the proposed plan of management of the caribou herd by gunning down brown and black bears by helicopter. There is no evidence backing up the regrowth of the caribou population by doing so, no scientific facts or figures to support this. It's wrong to gun down from a man made vantage an apex predator in its natural habitat just because it exists.

PC1220

Name: Schultz , Sarah

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

I oppose this measure. Our summer tourism and economy depend on the bears. They live harmoniously with us and are an integral part of our ecosystem. Please do not mess with nature and start shooting them!

PC1221

Name: Schultz, Ava

Community of Residence: Beaumont, AB, Canada

Comment:

I am against the hunting of bears in support of protecting caribou herds. There is no scientific evidence that removing predators, such as black bears and brown bears, benefits caribou herds populations. I also believe it is unethical and inhumane to shoot and kill bears with cubs.

PC1222

Name: Schwab, Dieter

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

Concerned citizen from Australia. Stop this genocide

PC1223

Name: Schwalm, Heather

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Please do not kill the bears they are integral to the ecosystem. They have not been proven to hurt the Elk population. This is not the way to correct anything. Please do not kill the bears!!!!

PC1224

Name: Scott, Sarah

Community of Residence: ID

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own

esearch, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program IS the best way to help them.

If the Boara of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1225

Name: Sears, Ash

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1226

Name: Sears, Nikolai

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1227

Name: Seeds, Sarah

Community of Residence: New Yorl Vity

Comment:

To do this is inhumane, and not backed by science. No need to kill these bears.

PC1228

Name: Segal, Ellen

Community of Residence: Canmore, BC

Comment:

I very strongly oppose any taxpayer-funded barbaric aerial gunning programs by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game modifying the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area and planning to kill Katmai & Southwest Alaska Bears, including essential mother's with cubs of Brown Bears and Black Bears which is particularly inhumane and disruptive!!! I also oppose using hunting, trapping, snaring, snow mobile killing any of these Bears and Wolves!

Why are you holding new board hearings when this program was developed behind closed doors, and the public did not have a chance to comment before it was passed? The public opposition has been extensive, so, by using the "emergency regulation" you bypass the public who pay for these killings when that is not what they want?

When you killed the Bears & Wolves in the second and principal period from May 10 to June 5 of 2024 you left Bear meat on the ground, which is a sacrilege. The local community did not want Bear meat and you killed Wolves when they were not in peak season so no Wolf hides were salvaged.....and yet this is

sustainable & scientific and over $415,000 of state money was allocated for the planned spring predator control program?

Your plan is flawed with copious ethical concerns, and potential threats to other nearby Bear populations-particularly around Katmai.

Where is the robust science, PUBLIC INPUT & DUE PROCESS before any predator control continues?

You're disrupting natural ecosystems and you lack baseline data on Bear populations and uncertain sustainability!!! These are a protected species for a reason! The problem is not rooted in keystone predators, the problem is rooted in disease and climate change/global warming affecting habitats, food sources diminishing thus depriving female Caribou and Moose of adequate nutrition which can negatively affect the survival of their off spring.

A court (Judge Guide) in March of this year, 2025, ruled this program unconstitutional-saying it violated public process and lacked proper Bear population data!

For ADF&G to respond by pushing an "emergency regulation" to resume aerial control in the spring of 12025, despite the court's voiding the program is illegal and WRONG! The people do not want our great Bears sniper killed, and treated like vermin when they are a protected species!

It's important that you recognize the in May 2025 Judge Rankin issued a temporary restraining order, citing ADF&G's "bad faith" the State acted in bad faith, the Emergency Regulation was passed, it is invalid and without legal effect,, further, the Board's actions are not in compliance with the March court order and again halting aerial gunning after eleven more great Bears were killed.

Katmai & Southwest Alaska Bears are in danger with this unsustainable and unscientific approach. Bears in the Mulchatna range often migrate through neighboring areas like Katmai NP and Wood-Tikchik State Park.

Your actions may impact these great Bear societies and harm the broader Bear ecosystem and tourism in Katmai! These Bears are iconic and you're plan treats them as inconvenient vermin.

In closing~ADF&G's aerial predator control has faced strong legal and scientific challenges due to:

Procedural deficiencies and insufficient ecological data.

Continued Bear kills despite court injunctions.

Widespread condemnation from experts, environmental groups, and local communities.

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility-senior ecologists calling the methods "barbaric" and "unsupported:".

Retired ADF&G biologists (e.g., Ken Whitten, Jim Dau)-highlight nutrition, disease, and climate as primary drivers, not predation.

Public opinion & petitions -labeling aerial gunning as inhumane and urging science-first policies.

Please stop this ill conceived and destructive plan now.

PC1229

Name: Segrin, Kim

Community of Residence: Wisconsin

Comment:

Please do not support the mass slaughter of bears in Alaska. Let nature be nature!

PC1230

Name: Seibel , Beth

Community of Residence: Pittsburgh, PA

Comment:

The idea to gun down innocent and beautiful wildlife in our country is barbaric and lazy. Yes, lazy. You could partner with legitimate wildlife protection organizations to find non-lethal means to manage wildlife and land. Instead, the call is always for savagery and killing. I vehemently oppose this brutality and DO NOT want my tax dollars supporting such evil. Do better...its possible. Thank you.

PC1231

Name: Selby, Dena

Community of Residence: Haines, AK

Comment:

Please do NOT make a regulation change to instate bear predator control in the Mulchatna region of southwest Alaska. That area is just 30 miles from the border of Katmai National Park and 3 miles from Lake Clark National Preserve.

Brown bears have home ranges up to 50 - 195 square miles. Collaring projects in Lake Clark from 2014 to 2018 show bears moving into the proposed control area from the safe havens of the National Preserve.

I just returned from a trip to McNeil River and had an unforgettable experience. This is due to careful regulation of human activity in that area, which has allowed bears to accept a small cadre of humans in their space. If they begin associating bear deaths with humans, what has taken 40+ years to create will be mute.

Let Mother Nature rule, not mislead humans.

PC1232

Name: Selthun, Pam

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I am opposed to The Board of Game's proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. There is no scientific evidence for the claim that fewer predators, and particularly less black and brown bears, results in larger Caribou herds. Please do not resume the aerial shooting of bears. Thank you.

PC1233

Name: Selvatico, Daniela

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

Men should never interfere with nature skills in balancing populations on earth because we know nothing and we count nothing in the economy of the universe. We simply are too proud to acknowledge it.

PC1234

Name: Semoni, Anthony

Community of Residence: Cedar county

Comment:

The Bears should be shot with the camera only, if there is a hunting season that's a different story, but to just kill them no let them be. Should a bear attack a human I understand the reasoning behind

---

PC1235

Name: Sen, Riya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Please don’t do this to the bears

PC1236

Name: Serrano, Valerie.

Community of Residence: [redacted] LA, CA 90008

Comment:

I strongly oppose the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. I am an active USA voter. Please do not kill wildlife.

I strongly oppose the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. Theirs no scientific evidence it would be beneficial. Please, do not kill wildlife. We must protect wild animals not kill. This is Alaska after all. Do better. I am from Los Angeles, California and visited Anchorage with family a couple of years back. We were drawn to visit to view wildlife. We would like to go again. If this passes, we will not forget it and you can forget counting on our tourism money.

PC1237

Name: Sesto, Mary

Community of Residence: DeForest

Comment:

I oppose the proposed Mulchatna bear control program. I have had the opportunity to visit Katmai and see Alaskan grizzlies. I am thankful for that opportunity and hope to return with family but I can't do so if the bears are being indiscriminately killed.

I have significant concerns about the potential negative effects on bear populations, including the bears at Katmai National Park which inhabit the some of the same areas part of the year. Research is needed to understand the implications of killing of these bears and the impact on the ecosystem. Not to mention the ethical concerns related to these actions.

PC1238

Name: Shah, Vini

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1239

Name: Shaikh, Salim

Community of Residence: Protect Wildlife

Comment:

Pls stop this killing!!! Period

PC1240

Name: Sharma, Monika

Community of Residence: Slovakia

Comment:

I will always Stand with animals ,we are not wort to have these beautiful creatures

---

PC1241

Name: Sharma, Shailaja

Community of Residence: Pune, india

Comment:

We have stolen their homes, children, polluted the rivers we share with them, grabbed their food and now propose to kill them, citing lack of space and resources. If there is one species which needs to self reflect and curb their population- it's humans.

PC1242

Name: Shaw, Ashley

Community of Residence: Peru Illinois

Comment:

All animals matter and are important

PC1243

Name: Sherma, Kayla

Community of Residence: Maine

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears!!!

PC1244

Name: Sherwonit, Bill

Community of Residence: Anchorage, Alaska

Comment:

OPPOSE

We have been down this path before. And, as before, I wish to express my STRONG AND WHOLEHEARTED OPPOSITION to this proposed regulation or any other "intensive management" or bear-kill actions that (in the state's words) would purportedly "benefit " the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

Based on past experience, the Alaska Board of Game (BOG) will rationalize its way to approving this proposed regulation by the Department of Fish and Game (F&G), which continues a bear (and wolf) kill effort that is a travesty from any number of perspectives, among them economic, biological, and ethical.

I have shared my observations and opinions with the board—and the larger public—on previous occasions, so I won't go into great length here. But I will emphasize and reiterate several key points that the BOG has chosen to ignore or dismiss in the past and will be asked to consider once again.

To begin, this IM kill of bears (the large majority of them brown bears) makes no biological sense. The department's own researchers have concluded that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's dramatic decline over the past couple of decades has resulted from several factors. These include changing habitat conditions in the herd's range, at least partly tied to climate change, that have resulted in the diminished availability of foods that the caribou need to survive. At the same time, it's possible, perhaps likely, that the herd overgrazed its range when it numbered 200,000 animals (or thereabouts), far above the long-term average, thus also diminishing available foods. This has happened to caribou herds across the state over time, resulting in cyclical highs and lows, and is likely happening right now in Arctic Alaska and elsewhere. It's my understanding that state researchers also pinpointed brucellosis as a likely factor in the herd's decline, as well as human overhunting (including some illegal hunting). Predation by bears (and wolves) has not been identified as a significant factor in the herd's decline nor in its failure to "rebound" substantially. The herd faces much bigger challenges than bears or wolves.

In short, brown (and black) bears never should have been targeted by the state in an IM program.

Not surprisingly, F&G staff have determined that their aerial slaughter of nearly 200 bears since 2023 has improved caribou calf survival that it links to the state-run bear kill. But it must be recognized that the department has a vested interest in seeing such success, even when the evidence shows otherwise. Several independent biologists—some of them former F&G employees—have made a strong case, using F&G's own data, that there is no evidence that the kill of so many bears has significantly improved calf survival. I defer to those independent biologists outside F&G, who will present their findings and interpretations to the board.

At least two other factors need to be considered by the BOG in assessing the state's newly proposed regulation. First, it's my understanding that F&G has failed to adequately address the question of "sustained yield," as it applies to the brown bear population the state is determined to "control." This is a key question. It shouldn't be necessary to remind the board that this was one of the critical issues that prompted two Alaska judges to rule against the state's Mulchatna bear-kill program in 2025. I hope that the BOG will press this issue and require F&G staff to show it has adequately addressed the questions raised by Alaska judicial system. Second, biologists outside the department have questioned whether F&G's "target" size for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, of 30,000 to 80,000 animals is realistic. It may be that current and future range conditions will only support a much smaller herd. This too needs to be adequately addressed by the board, because it figures into F&G's rationale for killing bears (and wolves).

Though others will address the question of economics in more detail, I will point out that many opponents of the "Mulchatna bear massacre" are incredulous that the state is willing to spend so much money to kill these bears, particularly when there's no sure evidence that this aerial slaughter is going to make any substantial difference in the caribou herd's recovery. The numbers I've seen total nearly $1 million for 2023-2024—not including the costs for staff involved in the program, or the legal costs of defending the state's unlawful actions. It's not clear to me how much of the cost is paid by the "Intensive Management Fund" the state has devised for its predator control programs, but surely questions have to raised about the

economic costs of this IM program, during a time of significant Alaska "budget shortfalls." I hope all of this will be considered in depth as well.

Finally, there is the question of ethics. F&G administrators have assured the public that the aerial kill of Mulchatna bears—including mothers and their cubs—has been done humanely. I find it hard to believe that the use of helicopters to chase bears, including families of bears, and then kill them, can be considered humane by any stretch of the imagination. If F&G has evidence that the killing of these bears has been done humanely, I would ask that it share such evidence. That bears would be terrorized and killed in the hope that their suffering might boost Mulchatna caribou numbers is another aspect of this program that in my mind makes the state's actions reprehensible and all those participating in the slaughter—or approving it—should be ashamed.

Bill Sherwonit, Anchorage

PC1245

Name: Shinn, Lisa

Community of Residence: Pa

Comment:

I am adamantly against the aerial murdering of any animal!!! These bears are watched on explore.org by hundreds of thousands of people around the world who may never get the opportunity to travel to Alaska to see them in person. They have personalities, are individuals with storied pasts & are identified by those that follow them year in year out through all of their challenges to survive.....all the ups & downs thrown at them and do not deserve to be slaughtered by a species that is destroying everything they touch & thinks it knows best how to manage the other species when we can't even manage our own!!!

THE GREATNESS OF A NATION AND ITS MORAL PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS ARE TREATED....Gandhi

No truer words have been spoken. I implore you to not go through with the aerial murder of ANY species!!! It is evil, cruel & barbaric!!!

PC1246

Name: Shirazi, Fatima

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

What an awful thing to be reading, we already don't take care our of wildlife. Please have some mercy and a conscience. This isn't ok, it's never ok.

PC1247

Name: Shirley, Jill

Community of Residence: Saskatoon

Comment:

I am so disappointed to hear in the decision to harm so much wildlife. Canada is better than this.

PC1248

Name: Shockey , Jenna

Community of Residence: Hillsboro, OR

Comment:

Stop the innocent slaughter of wildlife

PC1249

Name: Shomo, Diane

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

I oppose this unnecessary slaughter of bears. As a wildlife enthusiast and photographer, I have spent thousands of dollars to spend time in the wilderness. It is this kind of ill-advised mismanagement that keeps me from traveling to Alaska, I place I dearly would like to visit before I die.and since I am at high risk of my cancer metastasizing, that doesn't give me a lot of time. I plead with you, please do not make every interaction between humans and wild animals one that diminishes the latter.

PC1250

Name: Siebert, Cindy

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

I do not pay taxes for you to murder bears. Learn to coexist with them and provide the public with appropriate resources and education on how to interact with bears safely. We must also learn how to protect ourselves by educating ourselves on how to coexist with wildlife. It is UNNECESSARY to kill and depopulate endangered bear populations. Hold the people accountable for their actions of killing bears NOW.

PC1251

Name: Sierra, Kuulei

Community of Residence: Eagle River, AK

Comment:

I strongly oppose the culling of bears in the Mulchatna caribou herd management area. There is not data to support such a practice. The graphs clearly show that even after taking out other predators like wolves, starting in 2017, the herd continues to decline. I have a strong bond to the bears in Katmai National Park, having visited Brooks Falls in 2023, 2024, and next weekend. I also watch them for hours each day on the explore.org cameras. I get immense satisfaction seeing how they go about their daily lives and learning how they navigate the incredible difficulties of raising cubs and trying to find enough food to just survive another year. The bears who live in the national park could also be spending time in herd management area. I would hate to think of some of the bears I have seen being shot from a helicopter, without sufficient studies to show that it will positively impact the herd.

PC1252

Name: Sigwart, Kimberlee

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I am writing because I strongly oppose Alaska's predator control program, particularly the killing of bears (and wolves) under the justification of increasing moose and caribou populations for hunting. This practice is inhumane, ecologically destructive, and scientifically unsound. Both bears and wolves are vital apex predators that maintain balance in the ecosystem. Their removal causes a ripple effect that harms the natural biodiversity Alaska is known for. Instead of killing these iconic animals, plans to invest in science-based wildlife management that respects the integrity of Alaska's ecosystems should be considered! Predator control is a short-sighted solution to a complex issue, and it ultimately harms the environment, wildlife tourism, and the global image of Alaska as a place of wild beauty and ecological responsibility. Please end the program and protect Alaska's bears for future generations.

PC1253

Name: Sills, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Tucson, AZ

Comment:

This letter expresses strong opposition to the herding and killing of brown and black bears in Alaska. This practice is often part of predator control programs designed to increase populations of other species like caribou and moose.

The use of lethal methods, such as aerial gunning, may be unethical, potentially ineffective, and detrimental to the broader ecosystem. Bears are crucial for maintaining ecological balance, and their removal can have effects on biodiversity and habitat stability.

There are concerns about the legal and ethical implications of these practices. Recent court rulings have questioned Alaska's adherence to its constitutional provisions regarding sustained yield and public trust in wildlife management, as well as due process. Continuing these programs despite the law and public opposition is troubling.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game are urged to suspend the Intensive Management Program and similar initiatives that involve the herding and killing of black bears. Science-based, non-lethal solutions that address the root causes of prey population decline while protecting Alaska's natural heritage are encouraged instead.

Practices like aerial gunning tarnish the state's image as a responsible steward of its natural resources.

It is hoped that a responsible decision will be made to protect Alaska's black bears and uphold the integrity of the state's wildlife management policies. Please do not pass this and allow myself and those like me to enjoy these animals in wild areas for years to come.

PC1254

Name: Silva, Patricia

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Please all bears alone, adult and ba y bears..

PC1255

Name: Simard, Linda

Community of Residence: Po Box 31 Stn Main

Comment:

I read about your horrific plan to snuff out the bears. The war on animals has got to end. We do not have the right to do this to another species sharing our planet. I think it is actually not ethical even though it may be legal. Shame on anyone involved. I 100% oppose.

PC1256

Name: Simonis, Evan

Community of Residence: Alexandria Ohio

Comment:

Oppose, nature does not need human intervention. Let it take it’s course like it has for 1,000’s of years.

PC1257

Name: Sims, Crystal

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

I strongly oppose this sory of culling of predators, especially bears, without first determining the actual causes of caribou decline. For instance, is it due to decreased habitat, changing climate, disease or is it predation by bears?

If the latter, are there specific bears who are the problem or is it a wide population of bears doing the predation?

I support necessary culling of over populated soecies when they are shown to be causing dangerous declines of other vital animal species. However, it does not seem that the necessary investigation has been done to justify this extreme solution.

PC1258

Name: Sindon, Antibiotics

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I absolutely oppose this bill! These animals have a right to survive in their own habitat. Hunting them down by helicopter and not even giving them a chance is absolutely tragic and this needs to stop.

My reasoning is because it's wrong, it is not OK to take the life of a healthy animal.

The same way God made us God made them and they have every right to be here too. Every life matters.

PC1259

Name: Siner, Ann

Community of Residence: Paradise Valley, AZ

Comment:

Alaska is one of the most special places on earth, in part because of its wildlife and its "wild-ness". Let's face it, bears and other major predators have existed for thousands of years without "government" interference. The thought of gunning down any animal is absolutely sickening and if this happens, I won't be going to Alaska again. Please have some compassion for the animals and for those of us that fight for them. Thank you for listening.

PC1260

Name: Singh, Arpita

Community of Residence: Krishna Puri Road Mohru Nagar

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1261

Name: Singh, Prathamjit

Community of Residence: Delhi

Comment:

please stop the bear killings it's unethical they're innocent souls

---

PC1262

Name: Singh, Sherrie

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Stop slaughtering the bears

PC1263

Name: Singh, Shreyash

Community of Residence: Virar, Maharashtra

Comment:

The world needs to understand Every species relies on one another stop the worthless killing

---

PC1264

Name: Singh, Simray

Community of Residence: London

Comment:

This has to be stopped there's no need for this please leave them alone they're hurting no one.

PC1265

Name: Skelton, Niamh

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Stop the brutal slaughter of bears. There is absolutely no scientific evidence that this will help the caribou populations.

PC1266

Name: Skiles, Katherine

Community of Residence: Plano, Texas

Comment:

Dear Members of the Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendment that would allow department staff to kill brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area, under the justification of benefiting the caribou population.

This proposal is deeply troubling on both ethical and scientific grounds. Targeting bears — including mothers with cubs and older males — indiscriminately, and by shooting them from helicopters, is an inhumane and deeply irresponsible method of wildlife management.

These types of predator control efforts are not only ineffective but may also disrupt the ecosystem in unintended and irreversible ways. There is little to no conclusive evidence that killing bears in this manner will lead to a meaningful or sustainable recovery of the caribou herd. Research has shown that eagles actually kill more caribou calves than bears do. Instead of relying on outdated and brutal tactics, I urge the Board to invest in evidence-based, ecologically sound approaches that address the root causes of caribou decline — including habitat degradation, climate change, and human activity.

We have a responsibility to manage wildlife populations with compassion, wisdom, and science — not by resorting to widespread killing of apex predators. I respectfully urge you to reject this proposal and seek solutions that honor both scientific integrity and humane values.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

PC1267

Name: Skurtys, Zuzanna

Community of Residence: 69a Warner Road

Comment:

The fact this is even considered is fucking appalling - we destroy their habitat and ruin their ecosystems make this planet less inhabitable by the year and now on top killing them from helicopters so that bored rich fat men can find entertainment, is a consideration??? How can you sleep at night.

PC1268

Name: Slattery, Julie

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Stop the violence!! Stop murdering innocent animals!!! Save the bears!

PC1269

Name: Slay, Heidi

Community of Residence: MI

Comment:

Stop killing these bears & they're babies

PC1270

Name: Sloan, Hallie

Community of Residence: Seattle, WA

Comment:

I oppose. 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I. It's inhumane to shoot bears from helicopters, and unnecessary.

PC1271

Name: Slonaker, Lynn

Community of Residence: Pawling, NY

Comment:

What is wrong with our country that we think we need to control everything? Have we not learned from any of our mistakes? Just stop!!

PC1272

Name: Smith , Caroline

Community of Residence: New jersey

Comment:

The proposal to hunt bears aerially just a few miles from a national park is absolutely preposterous. Hunting bears at all is a preposterous, ludicrous suggestion, but especially from aircraft. There are very few ways to ensure the safety of hikers and other species when hunting is done this way. Furthermore, it endangers a vulnerable population of predators in an ecosystem which ought to be protected to the fullest extent of the law. The hunting of bear is not for food, but for recreation. It is not necessary for the preservation of human life and therefore it’s just not permissible legally, ethically, or morally. It’s a disgusting proposition.

PC1273

Name: Smith , Kaitlin

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I strongly oppose the policy of killing brown bears in Alaska under the justification of protecting caribou populations. This approach is not only ethically troubling, but also ecologically short-sighted.

Brown bears play a vital role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Targeted predator control like this ignores the natural balance that has existed for millennia. Scientific research consistently shows that such interventions often fail to produce the intended outcomes and can even backfire by destabilizing ecosystems and causing ripple effects across species.

Furthermore, using lethal methods to manipulate wildlife populations for human-centered goals—such as boosting caribou numbers for hunting—is a dangerous precedent. Wildlife management should be rooted in science, respect for nature, and long-term sustainability—not short-term interests or pressure from special interest groups.

There are better, non-lethal, and more ecologically sound ways to support caribou populations—such as habitat restoration, limiting human disturbance, and addressing climate change.

Alaska's wild landscapes and the species that inhabit them deserve thoughtful, science-based stewardship—not misguided predator eradication.

PC1274

Name: Smith Isgar, Lillian

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

Don't kill animals if you think something's overpopulated its people. Why the hell are we killing bears instead of committing suicide?

PC1275

Name: Smith, Abriana

Community of Residence: Phoenix, AZ

Comment:

I Stand in Firm Opposition to Alaska's Intensive Management Policy for the Mulchatna Caribou: A Statement from a Concerned and Ethical Visitor

As an avid traveler, a supporter of ethical wildlife tourism, and someone who has long admired Alaska for its natural grandeur, I write to express my profound opposition to the state's current approach to wildlife management, specifically, the proposal to intensively manage predators in the region of the Mulchatna caribou herd. Let me be absolutely clear: I do not and will not support a state that engages in the

unnecessary and politically motivated killing of wildlife, particularly apex predators, in the absence of clear scientific justification.

I have always regarded Alaska as a symbol of wild integrity, a land where the ecosystems remain largely intact, where nature governs itself, and where wildlife still roams in a balance that has been shaped over millennia. However, the recent proposal to conduct large-scale lethal removal of bears and wolves under the banner of "intensive management" is a betrayal of that ideal. It undermines the ecological values that draw millions of visitors, including myself, to Alaska each year. And it is a policy I cannot, in good conscience, support through tourism, spending, or silence.

The decline of the Mulchatna caribou herd is a serious concern, but the root causes have been clearly documented by biologists and wildlife experts: climate variability, habitat degradation, disease, and human overharvest. These are complex, long-term pressures, and yet, Alaska's response is to shift the blame onto predators and authorize their mass removal. This is not science-based management. It is scapegoating, and it is deeply unethical.

There is no compelling scientific evidence to support the notion that killing bears and wolves will lead to a sustained rebound in caribou numbers. On the contrary, predator control efforts of this scale have often resulted in ecological imbalances, unintended consequences, and, ultimately, failure. The natural systems in which caribou, bears, and wolves coexist are not simple predator-prey equations to be manipulated at will. They are intricate, adaptive webs of life, and disrupting them through aggressive intervention is not only irresponsible — it is dangerous.

Furthermore, this type of policy alienates a growing demographic of visitors who travel not to hunt, but to witness Alaska's remarkable wildlife in its natural setting. The bear watching industry alone brings in tens of millions of dollars annually, supporting rural economies and promoting a vision of Alaska as a leader in wildlife conservation. Decisions that prioritize a narrow hunting interest over broader public values are economically shortsighted, environmentally reckless, and socially tone-deaf.

I do not oppose hunting. Ethical, regulated, subsistence-based hunting is a longstanding and important tradition in Alaska, one that I respect. What I oppose — unequivocally — is the wholesale removal of predators from the landscape to artificially inflate game populations for human harvest. That is not conservation. It is manipulation, and it is morally unacceptable.

When the state authorizes the aerial gunning of bears, the trapping of wolves, and the widespread disruption of intact predator populations, it sends a clear message: that wildlife exists primarily to serve human desires, not as part of a greater ecological whole. It tells visitors like me that the values of dominance and exploitation prevail over those of stewardship, humility, and restraint. And it makes clear that Alaska's reputation as a global leader in wildlife management is under serious threat.

I will not support this direction. Until these practices are halted and replaced with science-based, ecologically literate, and ethically sound wildlife management policies, I will withhold my tourism dollars, my recommendations to others, and my support for the state. I will not travel to a place that treats iconic, sentient, ecologically vital species as expendable obstacles to political expediency.

Instead, I will lend my voice and resources to conservation organizations working to protect Alaska's predators. I will write to lawmakers, speak to fellow travelers, and continue advocating for a more ethical and enlightened approach to managing the state's incredible natural resources.

Alaska has an opportunity to lead, to model a vision of wildlife conservation that respects ecological complexity, values all species, and recognizes that we are not separate from nature, but part of it. That is

the Alaska I believed in. That is the Alaska the world wants to see. And that is the Alaska I hope to return to — once this misguided and destructive policy is reversed.

Until then, I will not return.

Name: Smith, Alecia

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

I strongly oppose shooting and killing the Mulchatna bears. I have spent my entire life dreaming about coming here to see bears. I will not stand by and allow them to be shot in cold blood when the Caribou population is doing just fine. If anything maybe humans should hunt less caribou to help the population reset but brown bears are absolutely the problem. This state survives on tourism. A lot of people come here to view wildlife. Leave the mulchatna bears alone!!

Name: Smith, Caroline

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

The land was the bears land first. This fact alone is reason for them to live and not be murdered by humans encroaching on their land. Killing the cubs impedes on their existence. It is unethical and was also deemed illegal by the courts last year. What is the purpose of the mass slaughter? Bears do not go out of their way to harm people and they are omnivores. They do not hunt prey generally. Please stop killing innocent bears for no logical reason. Every life is precious. Do not forget your humanity with thinking life is not precious.

Name: Smith, Denelle

Community of Residence: Little River

Comment:

The bears have a right to the forest and river where they live. You should be protecting them, not shooting them. The action of shooting them is a disgrace.

PC1279

Name: Smith, Helen

Community of Residence: 7 The Drove

Comment:

Please let the wildlife live their life as we having taken away sooooo much of their habitat and they were around first. The in themselves are a tourist attraction which should satisfy the money men!

PC1280

Name: Smith, Jenna

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

Save the bears. There is no need to kill the beautiful animals for the fun of humans. It is despicable.

PC1281

Name: Smith, Nay

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

all wildlife deserve to live in their natural habitats without human interference especially if that interference is resulting in slaughtering.

PC1282

Name: Sneddon, Laura

Community of Residence: Los Gatos, California

Comment:

To the Members of the Alaska Board of Game:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the continued implementation of the Mulchatna bear control program and the practice of aerially gunning bears from helicopters. The current approach is not only scientifically unsound but also represents a fundamental violation of Alaska's legal processes and ethical wildlife management principles.

The scientific evidence overwhelmingly demonstrates that predator control programs do not effectively recover struggling ungulate populations. Research conducted by the State's own biologists in 2020 identified the primary causes of the Mulchatna caribou herd's decline as disease (particularly brucellosis) and habitat loss due to climate change, not predation. Bear predation is not even among the top three identified causes of mortality in the herd. In fact, studies including research on moose harvests in GMU 13 and wolf predation on the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd have shown that reducing predators does not lead to increased ungulate populations. The data from the original wolf control program supports this conclusion—250 wolves were killed by 2017, yet the caribou herd continued its rapid decline during the

same period. The current program's own mortality data from 2024 reveals that 69% of monitored calf deaths resulted from starvation or dehydration, not predation, further undermining the rationale for bear control.

The legal and procedural violations surrounding this program are deeply troubling and undermine public trust in Alaska's wildlife management system. Two separate judges have ruled the bear control program "unlawfully adopted" and "void and without legal effect," yet the State has continued operations in direct defiance of court orders. The Superior Court noted that the State acted in "bad faith" by implementing an emergency regulation designed to circumvent judicial rulings, stating that "compliance was not the goal of the Emergency regulation—continuing predator control by any means was the goal." This program was developed behind closed doors without the required public, biological, or fiscal review, denying Alaskans their right to participate in wildlife management decisions. The Board's pattern of deliberating in closed sessions and rewriting proposals without public input represents a fundamental violation of the democratic process that should govern natural resource management.

The scale and ethics of this program are unprecedented and indefensible. In just two years, State gunners have killed 175 brown bears from helicopters, including cubs and nursing mothers, across nearly 3,000 square miles of pristine habitat that includes Wood-Tikchik State Park—created specifically to protect the area's fish and wildlife. The program's operational plan callously mandates killing "every bear, regardless of age or sex" within the control area, including the tragic deaths of 20 cubs in 2023 alone. This indiscriminate slaughter has drawn condemnation from 34 retired Alaska wildlife scientists and managers, former governors, and former ADFG commissioners, all of whom recognize the program as scientifically unjustified and ethically indefensible.

I urge the Board of Game to immediately discontinue the Mulchatna bear control program and redirect resources toward evidence-based conservation strategies that address the actual causes of the caribou herd's decline. Rather than continuing this costly and ineffective program—which has consumed over $500,000 in state funds annually—Alaska should focus on disease management, habitat restoration, and climate adaptation strategies that offer genuine hope for the Mulchatna herd's recovery. The bears of southwest Alaska deserve protection, not persecution, and the people of Alaska deserve wildlife management based on science, law, and ethical principles rather than political expedience.

Thank you for your consideration of these critical concerns.

PC1283

Name: Soares, Anela Whittney

Community of Residence: B 2

Comment:

Culturally as a Native this isn't our way. This doesn't respect our way or give any hope for a future of this land and our people. We could work towards a better solution that gives input for cultural sensitivity and respect. Instead of this killings that's outraging thousands of us natives and non natives. I humble and seriously ask of you to consider what we are saying and come to the table of compromise to discuss a better solution for all.

PC1284

Name: Sobianina, Katrina

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

Please stop killing these bears. They are part of the natural ecosystem. The killing is brutal, cruel and outdated. Stop!

PC1285

Name: Sobity , Al

Community of Residence: Missouri

Comment:

I support the right if bears and I believe that nature is going to be okay without the involvement of people they are part of this planet just like any other species.

Thank you

PC1286

Name: Solis, Alison

Community of Residence: Unsure

Comment:

Do not cause war on wildlife and believe you know better than creator. We are responsible for all life and it is especially the leaders responsibilities to uphold safety for all species. If you threaten them or any species you threaten us all.

PC1287

Name: Solis, Kasandra

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

They deserve to live just like any other being. We as humans are the reason why animals go to extinction. We need to let them live their lives in their land free from harm from humans. Instead of hunting them, we should be protecting them

---

PC1288

Name: Song, Robin

Community of Residence: Talkeetna

Comment:

I am in opposition to the proposed regulated changes to 5AAC 92, 111 by the ADF&G

which would allow the killing of black and brown Bears in Mulchatna. This is illegal, as these Bears are constitutionally protected. It is also completely unacceptable and unnecessary.

Leave these protected Bears alone!!!

PC1289

Name: Sonthar Lingam, Shevane

Community of Residence: Malaysian

Comment:

Animals are not to be stripped off their basix right - which is to live peacefully in this Earth! We humans, are supposed to learn how to share this planet with them and not just go on a killing spree. Are we that brutal and heartless to kill these bears?? PLEASE SHOW SOME COMPASSION AND DO BETTER!

PC1290

Name: Sorbo, Amber

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears! This is unneeded and terrorizing! Absolutely appalling

---

PC1291

Name: Soucy, Karen

Community of Residence: Lynnwood Washington

Comment:

I implore those who read these comments to listen to us. Bears are not what put hunting “game” at risk. They are just trying to eat to survive, in like human kind who kill for sport and trophies. What is putting these animals at risk is deforestation and destruction of habitats across Alaska and the entire world. If you want to protect hunting prey, protect their homes. Killing more animals in order to be able to kill more of another type of animal is just atrocious. When will the death be enough? What we call governing has turned into callous and self righteous. You deem acts legal and pretend that actually makes it ok. We put human sport over the life of any other species. Please govern with your heart and soul instead. Realize that bears deserve to eat and to live. Realize that humans should not be entitled to decide who lives and who dies indiscriminately. I beg you to stop the bear slaughter.

PC1292

Name: Spalter , Diane

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please, let nature and the natural world alone!

We do not need to interfere in the process.

It is wrong and cruel!

No, just NO!!!!

PC1293

Name: Sparke, Susan

Community of Residence: Nevada state

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of bears, especially in the spring as some may be trailing cubs which would be left behind to die.

PC1294

Name: Spencer, Heather

Community of Residence: East Tennessee

Comment:

It is cruel and inhumane to shoot bears and cubs from helicopters.

PC1295

Name: Spice, Charley Lauren

Community of Residence: Nottingham

Comment:

There is no valid proof to show that killing bears increases the preys population. There are too many factors involved for this to be the only solution.

PC1296

Name: Spice, Pat

Community of Residence: Sioux Lookout

Comment:

Killing wild life should never be condoned, culling is just humanity interfering in the natural processes. All too often we use culling methods without research that it is effective or needed. Nature will create a balance on its own we need to stand back and stop jumping to unsupported conclusions that culling works. Caribou can travel further and faster than bears in order to protect the herd. If anything humans need to stop infringing on bear habitat so they don't need to spread further out to feed and survive.

PC1297

Name: Spiegel, Suzanne

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

Killing brown bears to "control the predator population" is not only unethical—it's ecologically reckless. Brown bears are keystone species whose presence supports the health and balance of entire ecosystems. Their role in dispersing seeds, enriching soil with salmon remains, and naturally regulating prey populations cannot be replicated. Removing them disrupts this delicate balance and reflects a dangerous misunderstanding of how nature works. Predator control programs often ignore the long-term damage they inflict in exchange for short-term gains rooted in outdated wildlife management models. We should be working to protect these apex predators—not eliminate them to suit human interests.

PC1298

Name: Sponder, Allison

Community of Residence: King Salmon, AK

Comment:

I oppose (and despise) the proposed plan for 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation

Management Area. It's truly appalling. Even if the science was accurate, this is not an acceptable solution. It's entirely unethical. Populations, especially predatory populations, will control themselves. The fact that you want to maul down bears and wolves simply because you're mad that you can't harvest enough caribou for human consumption is sickening. This will hurt the ecosystem more than it will help it. Not to mention some of the bears that might be killed are loved by many. This is overall a terrible idea, all the way around. I don't understand how you can even justify it. The science and the ethics all point to no.

PC1299

Name: Spriggs, Ashlie

Community of Residence: Sitka

Comment:

Meddling just makes matters worse. We need these majestic apex predators to keep habitats healthy. Also it's funded with our tax dollars. They don't go after old and sick bears. They kill cubs and sows on sight.

PC1300

Name: Springer, Christa

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Stop killing bears

PC1301

Name: Stade, Alexa

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!!!!

PC1302

Name: Stahl, Victoria

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

These methods have been proven ineffective, utterly disruptive to wildlife, and inhumane. To continue to allow these types of things to happen is incredible folly. You have a national park that is a haven for wildlife and draws countless tourists 30 miles away.

PC1303

Name: Stanley, Constance

Community of Residence: CT

Comment:

I am strongly opposed.

----Every year some individuals, who watch the Brooks Falls, Katmai bear cams, spend THOUSANDS of dollars to see CERTAIN bears they have seen on the cameras. Not random bears, but ones who have numbers & sometimes names. Currently there is a bear 128 Grazer (a female w/a yearling cub) who

surprisingly won the annual Fat Bear Week contest twice. This event financially helps the Katmai Conservancy & Explore.org. as well.

------Bears 747, 856, 164 Bucky Dent, 503, 909, 910, 910jr. Bead, 909jr. Bean, 903 Gully, 83, 32 Chunk, 480 Otis, are extremely popular & draw people in to pay ($$$$'s per person) to see them. Each bear has a different story & we have been fortunate so far to see cubs grow to be huge 9 year olds and to see rare adoptions happen. Naturalist Mike Fitz has written a book about these bears & research papers documenting the unique behaviors of bears at Brooks Falls.

---- These bears return to this place every year & they tolerate humans being there. Where else ON EARTH, can one walk down a wooded path & just step back off the path as a huge, several hundred pound (to over a 1,000 lb) coastal brown bear casually walks past you....even a mother with cubs? Nowhere...not Russia, not China, ...not even our Montana. There are generations of bears here that have been taught by the previous generation to tolerate/ignore us because salmon is the goal.

---- Moving the shooting area closer to this area would be shooting yourselves in the foot or more likely the wallet.

----Each of these bears is unique in behavior & personalities; so much so that people buy T-shirts, books, mugs, calendars, etc...of them every year. They also donate money every year.

----What may be concerning about the current & expanding shooting area is that mother bears used to bring their first year cubs to Brooks Falls, but now we are seeing less & less mothers with cubs.(Currently 128 Grazer's yearling is the ONLY cub this year at the falls according to the bear cams.) This is a disturbing trend. Mother bears likely move slower (because of cubs obviously), across different territories to get to where they were raised & taught how to fish by their mothers (possibly Brooks Falls).

----Expanding the area of "gunning down the bears" near Katmai may severely impact this Alaska attraction for generations. These bears travel every year to this unique area to feast on the salmon run which we must also protect.

----I ask whether ALL the other options to ensure the population of the Mulchatna Caribou have been explored. Is there a way to treat them for disease? Are there ways to enrich their habitat if it is in poor condition? Would darting the caribou for brucellosis or vaccinating them somehow be an option? I would assume all hunting has stopped & any possible poaching has stopped. I just think a balanced approach may bring back the herd. Can we air drop hay or grain with necessary vitamins to give them an immune boost?

----I just ask that you please don't expand the shooting "range" this year or any year. I really feel that in the expansion, you may kill MANY of the Brooks Falls bears and that would be a huge loss. Anyone can see a bear in a zoo, but only at Brooks Falls can one just walk by you. What a GEM that place is.

----Thank you.

PC1304

Name: Stanley, Rick

Community of Residence: Sarasota, Florida

Comment:

Haven't been to Brooks Falls. Several times I can fully attest to the magnificent beauty of this special place. Berries, here and other places are such an integral part of the ecosystem and the amazing beauty of this region. It is a travesty and a tragedy to just drop this another amazing natural settings.

PC1305

Name: Stann, Deb

Community of Residence: Washington state

Comment:

I strongly oppose the aerial shooting of innocent bears for the sake of human hunters. These bears deserve a place where they can thrive without human interference. Please reconsider this irrational solution. We are not here yo play God with their future.

PC1306

Name: Stansbury, Bill

Community of Residence: Templeton

Comment:

Stop this now.

PC1307

Name: Staples , Hillary

Community of Residence: Lagrange

Comment:

Please stop killing defenseless bears. Please leave the wild animals and the land alone.

PC1308

Name: Stark, Lucy

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed Mulchatna bear control program, which would allow the aerial gunning of brown bears from helicopters. I respectfully urge you to reconsider this plan and instead prioritize humane, science-based wildlife management practices.

While I may not live in Alaska, I care deeply about the bears of Mulchatna and the ecosystems they help sustain. These magnificent animals are not only critical to the health of the land, but they also hold deep cultural, ecological, and symbolic significance. The use of helicopters to kill bears is not only ethically troubling—it also risks damaging the delicate balance of the region's wildlife populations.

Predator control programs like this often lack sufficient scientific evidence to prove long-term effectiveness, and they ignore broader ecological relationships that deserve careful study and respect. As a concerned individual who values biodiversity, conservation ethics, and the humane treatment of wildlife, I cannot support a program that resorts to lethal methods as a first response.

I respectfully ask the Board to halt this plan and instead invest in non-lethal, ecologically informed solutions that reflect a deeper commitment to coexistence and conservation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

PC1309

Name: Starkweather , Val

Community of Residence: Watkins Glen NY

Comment:

I strongly oppose this legislation that allows bears to be killed. It is cruel and inhumane

Please do not allow the killing of brown and black bears to benefit the herds of caribou There are far greater number of caribou than there are either of the bear species

You must reconsider this horrible and cruel assault these beautiful bears have every right if not more it is there home and they have cubs they are not trophies!!!!!

PC1310

Name: Starkweather, Vanessa

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Why are we killing bears?!? They were put on earth for a reason. They are not over populated. People that are greedy and money hungry are overpopulated. Animals got along just fine before humans decided to take control. How many humans have caused animal extinction…. DO NOT KILL wild animals. Bears, wolves, etc. they are here for a reason.

PC1311

Name: Starr, Rachel

Community of Residence: Boston, MA

Comment:

While I understand the effort to protect caribou in the region, eliminating another population does not in the end benefit the ecosystem. Humans create harm when they make changes to the environment just because we have that ability. This is not about each individual bear, but the future impact if we do not regulate horrific animal treatment and population management practices. With our knowledge and innovation, there are better and more humane ways to solve this problem- they just may take more resources. Please consider the power you have over these animals' lives, and use that power responsibly.

PC1312

Name: Staub, John

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

As a 50 plus year resident of Alaska, I strongly oppose Proposal # 1. I have lived mainly in SE Alaska, appreciating all animals in the wild. I have no problem with responsible, recreational hunting of wolves or bears, however, this predator controlled killing of black and brown bears is neither ethical, natural, or humane.

The Mulchatna bear control program, with no quantity limits, and extending over 40,000 square miles in area is senseless killing and utter nonsense on a grand scale. There is not adequate information on this bear kill program to prove that there are enough bears to sustain a wild bear population.

Brown bears are the most sought-after and valuable animals in the state—and here is the ADFG with a sanctioned killing program all of their own! As far as I know, all game animals are to be managed on a sustained yield basis, including these mothers, cubs, and adult bears.

The proposal here is to preserve the caribou of the area, but your solution of killing off all the bears in this huge area is not the answer. Until there is hard evidence on hand showing that bears are the primary killers of caribou, and that after a massive, unlimited, ADFG bear killing program, there will still be

enough bears remaining to sustain their number, I find the premise of Proposal # 1 very difficult to believe.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this unethical and misguided proposal.

PC1313

Name: Stauffer , Molly

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please don't kill our beloved bears! They are an important part of the ecosystem. Many love the bears in that area and would be very upset to lose them.

PC1314

Name: Steele , David

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Please don't shoot the bears. There has to be another humane way to solve this issue. Karma has a way of getting revenge. We send rockets into space but you can't resolve this issue. I will come up with a number of options if given the chance.

PC1315

Name: Steele, Hannah

Community of Residence: Milwaukee

Comment:

I oppose the proposed modification of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. Protecting and maintaining bear populations is incredibly important to the rest of the ecosystem's health, and allowing for increased killing of bears would negatively impact the health of the environment. Bear populations in Alaska are healthier than they are in most other places in the world, and there is no good reason to threaten that. Additionally, there is a chance that bears used to living within the protected bounds of national parks like Katmai could wander into the proposed expanded Caribou Herd Management Area and, after a life free of threat from humans with guns, get killed for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. This measure would be devastating for bear populations and should not be implemented. Additionally, it just seems extremely unfair to gun bears down from helicopters. It is the epitome of human overreach and meddling in the natural world in a way that we should not.

PC1316

Name: Steele, Kelly

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

I strongly oppose any bear hunting. Shooting bears from the air (or on the ground) goes against nature. These are healthy bear populations and are a healthy herd and should not be killed. In addition bears from national parks could wander in the area and end up getting killed, which would be devastating.

PC1317

Name: Steenburgh, Martha

Community of Residence: Haverhill, NH

Comment:

I oppose killing of Brown Bears and Wolves in Alaska. Bears are only a problem if people who moved into their habitat don't respect their needs. If you feed the birds year round you're inviting trouble. Poorly disposed of trash attracts bears, raccoons, rodents etc. You have to watch Brown Bears at Brooks Falls on Explore.Org. Brown Bears are to be respected and should be able to live their best lives.

PC1318

Name: Stef, Stef

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

Stop the killing please

Let Wild animals live

PC1319

Name: Steffey, Anna

Community of Residence: Wallingford Pennslvannia

Comment:

There is no reason to be slaughtering bears.

PC1320

Name: Steiger, Andrew

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

This is an insane assault on the ecological systems that have been at work for millennia. Shame on you. Do not continue with this program

---

PC1321

Name: Steiner, Abigail

Community of Residence: Pennsylvania

Comment:

I oppose this proposal on the grounds that there is no scientific evidence that slaughtering bears benefits caribou. Bears are a crucial part of the ecosystem and mass murdering them is and will continue to throw off the precious balance that exists. The fact that this is being done with no coverage, media, etc. proves that Alaska and the fish and game officers know that it's wrong, immoral, and unethical. These bears are being killed, essentially for sport, and the gene pools and lineage of these bears are being obliterated.

PC1322

Name: Stern, Kristine

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

Right now, ADFG is proposing to reinstate a taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears, including mothers with cubs.

In 2023 alone, 99 bears were killed from the air, and another 80 in 2024. There's no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover.

These bears are being killed just: 30 miles from Katmai National Park; 3 miles from Lake Clark National Park; and 50 miles from the famous Brooks Falls.

Bears don't know when they've crossed from safety into a kill zone.

Bears roam far. They raise cubs. And they're being wiped out.

There's no scientific evidence this helps caribou.

It's a waste of taxpayer money.

And it's ethically indefensible.

A judge ruled some of these killings illegal - but Alaska kept going, killing 11 more.

These could be the same bears we fly across the world to see.

And they're being erased.

This is a travesty - with no scientific backing. Please do not reinstate this unethical, wasteful practice.

PC1323

Name: Stevens, Tammy

Community of Residence: KY

Comment:

Dear Sir or Madam,

I watch the Katmai bears on Explore.org and I have come to learn their personalities, hardships and interconnected ness. I value the opportunity to watch the Katmai bears and find them to be educational as well as fun to watch. After the Katmai bears, I have now discovered the Yellowstone and Grand Teton bears as well.

I have learned that all wildlife, and particular, bears have hard lives due to the invasion of humans into their territory. Between the roads, vehicles and tourists, there is very little peace.

I plead with you not to cull the bears in Alaska as data indicates this strategy is inhumane and ineffective. Bears are sentient beings that can live rich lives if we leave them alone. Not to mention, the world watches the Alaskan bears and many we know by name or number. This would most certainly be a harsh reflection on the state of Alaska and the ADFG.

Thank you,

Tammy Stevens

PC1324

Name: Stewart, Verna

Community of Residence: 11 Draycott road

Comment:

Stop killing the bears! It's terrible and doesn't help you or the Caribou

The world is watching this

PC1325

Name: Sth, Safia

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

Save the bears

It's unacceptable to let that massacre happened

PC1326

Name: Stich, Maggie

Community of Residence: Wisconsin

Comment:

please save the bears :)

PC1327

Name: Stoeppelkamp, Sofie

Community of Residence: Germany

Comment:

Save the bears, they should not be slaughtered for our own sake. Go freaking vegan.

PC1328

Name: Stokes, Journey

Community of Residence: Boone, NC

Comment:

It has been proven that predator control, a.k.a gunning down bears and wolves from helicopters, does nothing in terms of helping the caribou population of this region. All this act does is destroy the natural balance of the ecosystem and its counterparts. If protecting caribou herds is the goal, then forests and streams should be protected instead. Caribou need places to migrate to so they can be more spread out and have more mating opprotunities. In turn, this will create a more even distribution of bears, wolves, and caribou.

PC1329

Name: Stoneman, Janet

Community of Residence: Southern CA

Comment:

I am opposed to the aerial killing of the brown bears for the purpose of saving the caribou herds. There is no scientific evidence to prove that killing bears and including mothers and cubs is effective. Please do not proceed with such a horrific action. Thank you! Janet Stoneman

---

PC1330

Name: Storck, Denise

Community of Residence: Chincoteague, Virginia

Comment:

I am very opposed to people interfering with natural wildlife behavior. Favoring one type of animal over another is not for people to decide. Let wildlife be free and allowed to live as they were meant to. Wildlife has always surprised us in how resilient they can be and find ways to survive. They don't need people to indiscriminately kill off their natural enemies. It is truly a crime to do so, especially when what's killed is not being used to feed people or help people in any way. These animals are just being animals, and they should be left alone and not killed by shots from high powered rifles from above, as they are clearly defenseless in that situation. It's shocking that in 2025, people still think it's ok to do this.

PC1331

Name: Stout, Keri **Affiliation**: Frontier Community Services

Community of Residence: Soldotna, AK

Comment:

Your first line of defense is always to start shooting ! No in depth studies, just a quick fix. But what always happens with quick fixes, is there are always frightening repercussions that follow. And by then the irreversible damage is done !

PC1332

Name: Stoyka Jones, Michelle

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

Do not shoot bears; no to aerial shooting. No to trapping animals too. Let nature manage the population not pseudo science justification of wildlife execution.

PC1333

Name: Strasser, Muna

Community of Residence: Rock island county

Comment:

Please record my opposition to the take of brown and black bears for caribou herd protection

---

PC1334

Name: Streeter, Heidi

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

I do not support this. No one should, it's common sense.

PC1335

Name: Strehl , Amanda

Community of Residence: Carrollton

Comment:

STOP SHOOTING PREDATORS. STOP KILLING PREDATORS.

PC1336

Name: Strength, Michele

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

Please allow these bears to live in dignity

PC1337

Name: Strömblad, Levi

Community of Residence: Tyresö

Comment:

We need to protect our wildlife. Any indiscriminat killing of bears should be outlawed

---

PC1338

Name: Stykalo , Kayla

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I support the change to stop harming bears. It does nothing beneficial for the environment and humans need to learn to coexist.

PC1339

Name: Summitt, Brandon

Community of Residence: Wasilla, AK

Comment:

I fully support the predator control around the Mulchatna Caribou herd. The bear and wolf population is not in any danger but the MCH population is dangerously low, which warrants predator management by the state. The decision to block the predator management was based on emotion, with no scientific data. Please move forward with responsible predator management that would benefit the MCH.

PC1340

Name: Sutcliffe, Daniella

Community of Residence: Switzerland

Comment:

Bears have as much write to live on this as us, if not more. We kill them mercilessly and for what? So that our children will never be able to see one in the wild? So that the whole ecosystem is disrupted? We have enough food, enough land and enough greed to last us centuries, why,I ask must we take more from this Earth ?

PC1341

Name: Svancara, Theresa

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

I OPPOSE the Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. I have lived in Alaska for 45 years, part of that time in Dillingham where I recreated and fished in the Wood-Tikchik State Park (near the Mulchatna area). I highly value the diverse and abundant wildlife there. I value the bears. They are part of the ecosystem, and must not be removed entirely in the Bear Predator Control Area (western calving area) as the Alaska Dept of Fish and Game proposes. Removing a predator entirely from an area will unbalance the natural world and is not a role humans should be doing. It is not responsible and is not a humane way to treat wildlife. I strongly encourage you to NOT approve this proposed management plan.

Respectfully, Theresa Svancara

PC1342

Name: Swati, Swati

Community of Residence: Germany

Comment:

I don’t want that any animal or those innocent bears will be killed. It’s inhumane and it should stop

---

PC1343

Name: Sweeney , Kelly

Community of Residence: Glencoe

Comment:

I am writing today to submit a public comment in opposition to the latest attempt by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) to skirt a series of court rulings to resume its predator control program (adopted in 2022 as Proposal 21.)

Recently Proposal 21 was ruled unlawful for a second time by the courts for insufficient science and the failure of ADFG to hold a public comment period on the Proposal as required by state law.

Now, ADFG is asking AGAIN for emergency permission to sidestep this legal ruling. As before, no proof of any emergency has been offered.

Despite claims of transparency, adherence to the Best Available Science and consideration of public opinion in matters involving public tax dollars, the ADFG has failed in all regards. The public has been excluded, and for good reason: the majority disapprove of such predator control programs, and don't approve of their tax dollars being spent on the egregious slaughter of wildlife. The court found that ADFG had insufficient understanding of bear population numbers, and failed to show evidence that bears negatively impacted caribou numbers. This was hardly the BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE.

As recently as 2023, ADFG released a statement saying what would really help caribou numbers rebound was a temporary ban on hunting them, for perhaps two or three seasons. Humans take more caribou than Alaska's bears do, according to ADFG's own statistics. But instead of inconveniencing people, the agency would rather slaughter hundreds of bears and wolves. This is unacceptable.

This Proposal, not based on science and slammed through without any input from the public, should never have been adopted in the first place.

ADFG should go back to the drawing board, do the science, present it to the public, and hold a public comment period.

I oppose this SECOND "emergency" request to bypass the previous TWO court rulings. The courts have ruled it unlawful. TWICE. The public does not support it.

I urge ADFG to find another solution to this problem, one that doesn't treat the state's wildlife with such callous disregard.

Sincerely,

Kelly R Sweeney

PC1344

Name: Sweitzer, Stasja

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

This is not just our home. It is the bears home too. We should look after the lives on this earth and learn to live in peace with one another. To kill them for simply existing the way they have for hundreds if not thousands of years is inhumane. I beg you to please find humanity, find love in your heart and please do not take any more innocent lives.

PC1345

Name: Swiernik, Meghan

Community of Residence: New Jersey

Comment:

Just stop murdering bears. This sounds like a lazy man's solution.

PC1346

Name: Sylvestre, Nicole

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Killing one species to help another, is a lazy approach. Please find a better solution.

PC1347

Name: Tabor, Deborah

Community of Residence: Fl

Comment:

I am appalled that this is allowed to happen. Alaska is one of the last places where people are coming to see natural wildlife in its element and you're gonna kill them off. How dare you. They were here before us .

Do we have to wait till every animal is almost extinct before we stop the nonsense? I'm appalled that such a beautiful is allowing this and your tourism depends on the animals there. What do you thinking? clearly you're not..

PC1348

Name: Tak, Jen

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

I'm against the cull is these beautiful animals. I come to this area as a tourist as do many others that I know & I see when I go there. We spend a lot of money to get there & when we are there contribute greatly to the area. I don't agree the cull will make any difference to the caribou herd & there must be other ways that can be introduced- like other countries have - for these wonderful creatures to live side by side.

I do hope you wonderful people can think of a way to keep the economics of the tourism of the bears going with the existence of the caribou & the bears. A difficult one but one that can be overcome. The tourist dollar must be huge - to lose that will be a hole in the local economy - what about a tax on the tourists - I would gladly pay.

PC1349

Name: Talbott, Clint

Community of Residence: Nederland, Colorado

Comment:

I oppose the Board of Game's proposal to kill brown bears and black bears. This BOG initiative purportedly is designed to support the health of the caribou herd. But there is no peer-reviewed, scientific evidence supporting such a move. The measure is clearly an effort to support sport hunters at the expense of ecological balance of natural predators and prey. Aerial gunning is also indiscriminate and cruel. Please reject this unscientific measure, which has been twice rejected by Alaska's judges. The BOG is on the wrong side of the law, ethics and science.

PC1350

Name: Tanalski, Adam

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Thanks for saving

PC1351

Name: Tarach, Gemma

Community of Residence: Earth

Comment:

Hello, and thank you for reading my comment. I am contacting you from the great state of Wisconsin. I have been a repeat visitor to the also-great state of Alaska, specifically to the area around King Salmon and Katmai National Park and Preserve. I implore you not to expand the Mulchatna CHMA and to end, once and for all, the pointless and cruel bear and wolf culling that is part of the management program. My request is based on science. Wildlife biologists have provided clear and compelling evidence that killing bears and wolves will not help to conserve the caribou, which are experiencing a population decline due to the climate crisis, which is changing the regional vegetation. This is scientific fact, not the emotional response of someone in the Lower 48. My request is also based on economics, specifically the economy of Alaska, for which tourism brings in about $6 billion per year, according to your state's travel association. If the Mulchatna CHMA area is expanded and the bear and wolf cull continues, tourists who come to Alaska to view its wildlife will take their money elsewhere. This plan is pointless, cruel, and essentially shooting yourselves in the foot. Don't do it. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

PC1352

Name: Taudel, Mary

Community of Residence: Astoria

Comment:

Opposition to random killing of bears in the wild.

Barbara L Taylor
[redacted]
Sun City West, AZ 85375

July 7, 2025

To the Alaska Board of Game via Electronic Submission

Dear Members of the Board,

I'm writing in **opposition** to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game reinstatement of the Mulchatna Predator Control program, and in particular, the increased killing of bears.

You may question why a resident of Arizona is concerned with this and so I will tell you. My husband and I, often with other friends, visit your great state of Alaska every summer. We love the rugged beauty and abundant wildlife and enjoy getting close to nature and taking photographs. As you're likely aware, Alaska's tourism industry generates an annual economic impact of close to $6 billion, including $4 billion in direct consumer spending and close to 50,000 jobs. This summer our plans include a multi-day trip on the Alaska Railroad and a trip out to Kodiak Island. In prior years, we've spent time in Anchorage, Seward, King Salmon and more. We truly love what Alaska offers, especially the bears and other wildlife we're able to view and photograph. The killing of so many bears in such a large area, especially in the reckless manner that the Mulchatna Predator Control program is done, is not needed and repulsive.

ADFG continues to support the idea that killing all the bears and wolves within this particular area will have the effect of increasing the Caribou herd. However, it has been shown that these predators are not the reason behind the dwindling Caribou population, and instead there are numerous other causes, including habitat decline. Further, the State has not assessed how the program would impact the population of bears.

I respectfully urge the Board to cancel their proposal to expand the Predator Control Program in the Mulchatna region. In addition, I strongly suggest that ADFG undertake further studies to learn alternative methods to increase the Caribou herd.

Sincerely,

Barbara L Taylor

PC1354

Name: Taylor, Diane

Community of Residence: Clam Gulch

Comment:

As a resident of Alaska for 45+ years, I am completely AGAINST the Mulchatna Bear culling program! These bears are constitutionally protected, and an important resource here in Alaska. The gunning down of these bears, from helicopters no less (!) has already been ruled illegal by two judges! Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this very important regulation!

PC1355

Name: Taylor, Jane

Community of Residence: US resident (Maryland)

Comment:

I strongly oppose the slaughter of bears in Alaska. Well, wildlife management is important and a priority, it should be done in a way that is not destructive to the ecosystem, into the population of bears. The current slaughter is inhumane.

LAW OFFICE OF KNEELAND TAYLOR, P.C.
[redacted]
Anchorage, AK 99517
[redacted]

June 18, 2025

Alaska Board of Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Submitted online at www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov

Subject matter: Comments for consideration at the Board of Game Meeting to be held July 14, 2025

Dear Members of the Board of Game:

I am submitting these comments as an individual, and not the representative of any organization. I have lived in Alaska for 50 years and testified before the Board on numerous occasions. I am a member of the Alaska Bar Association, and currently licensed to practice law in the State of Alaska. I am a member of the Anchorage Advisory Committee, and participate as a member of the Game Subcommittee.

I wish to comment on the Department's proposal regarding intensive management of the Muchatna Caribou Herd.

To begin: **I oppose the proposal. The specifics are set forth below.**

1. As you the Members of the Board know, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance obtained orders from the Superior Court holding that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd intensive management plan was unlawfully adopted, and directing the Department to cease and desist from continuing the aerial shooting of predators in the on herd's calving grounds. It is for that reason that the Department submitted a new proposal which you the members of the Board will consider at your meeting on July 14, 2025.

I want to begin my comments with an analysis of the exact status of matters; since it is my impression that the Department's focus is too narrow, and that the Department is overlooking important things. And so, I start with the critical express language of Superior Court Judge Andrew Guidi's "Decision and Order" dated March 14, 2025: wherein, he held the Board's decision to authorize aerial control of bears unlawful.

In the final paragraph of Judge Andrew Guidi's ten page Decision and Order, he held, and ruled as follows:

> "....the Court hereby Declares that the Proposal 21 , as adopted as 5AAC 92.111(c), by the Alaska BOG on January 24 was unlawfully adopted and , therefore, void and without legal effect."

My point is that Judge Guidi ruled that the regulation, codified as 5AAC 92.111 (c), was **VOID AND WITHOUT LEGAL EFFECT**. That regulation concerned control of predation not only by bears, but also wolves.

5AAC 92.111(c) provided for same day airborne shooting of wolves (or aerial wolf control) in multiple GMU's in western Alaska.[1] But since Judge Guidi declared 5AAC 92.111(c) void and without legal effect, there is no current regulation authorizing aerial shooting wolves; and **AS 16.05.783(a) mandates that there be a regulation authorizing aerial gunning of wolves if any same day aerial shooting is to be conducted, in the multiple GMUs specified in the regulation, by anyone; including Department employees and permittees.**

To put it another way, if there is to be aerial control of wolves, the enactment of a new regulation is required: and the enactment of a new regulation must comply with the applicable statutory and constitutional provisions concerning not only bears but also wolves.

The statutory and constitutional provisions for bears and wolves are not identical: wolves and bears are different species, and wolves have heightened

---

[1] Those Units are specified in the void regulation at 5AAC 92.111(c) as 9B, 17A, 17B, 17c, 18, 19A and 19B.

protection from aerial gunners due to the enactment of A.S. 16.05.783(a) by citizen ballot initiative in 1996. That statute has only been marginally modified since it was enacted by a majority vote of Alaskans; and it continues to prohibit the aerial shooting of wolves unless specified conditions are met and a regulation enacted.

In other words, if any same day (or aerial) shooting of wolves is to be authorized in GMUs 9(B), 17(A), 17(B), 17(C), 18, 19(A) and 19(B), by anyone, it must be authorized in a new regulation adopted in accordance with the mandatory provisions of AS 16.05.783(a).

2. If the Department's new proposal is enacted as written, the new regulation would violate applicable statutory and constitutional provisions applicable to wolves.

(a) A.S. 16.05.783(a) prohibits the adoption of regulations providing for aerial wolf control unless findings are made, by the Board of Game[2], based on evidence provided by Department biologists, that aerial control is likely to be successful.

A.S. 16.05.783(a) provides in relevant part that the Board must find based on information provided by the Department, that

> "...objectives set by the board for the population [of the prey species] have not been met and that predation [by wolves] is an important cause for the failure to achieve the objectives set by the board, **and that a reduction of predation by wolves can reasonably be expected to aid in the achievement of the objectives..."**

The Department's materials provided in support of its proposal for a new regulation indicate that aerial wolf control has been authorized since 2011 in

[2] While the Board may delegate some of its authority to the Commissioner, nevertheless, if the same day airborne shooting of wolves is to be authorized, it is the Board (and not the Commissioner) that must make the findings mandated by AS 16.05.783(a). See AS 16.05.270.

numerous GMU's[3] in an attempt stop the decline in the population of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. And yet the population of the Muchatna Caribou has continued to decline through 2022, until the spring of 2023 when the Department shot and killed approximately one hundred bears on the caribou calving grounds. **In other words, the use of aerial wolf control for 11 years failed to halt the decline in the population of the Muchatna Caribou Herd: that fact is convincing evidence that continued use of aerial wolf control is NOT likely to be successful in achieving the Board's population objectives for the Mulchatna Caribou herd.**

But the Department may argue that things have changed, since the end of 2022, and that now there is a greater likelihood that continued aerial wolf control will prove to be a successful method of management in achieving the Board's population goal for the Mulchatna Caribou herd. The change the undersigned is referring to is the (alleged?) fact that it was not until the spring of 2023, that the Department put its employees in aircraft with directions to shoot and kill all the wolves they can locate. The use of Department employees and use of Department owned or Department-chartered aircraft is apparently a change from what was done for the preceding eleven (11) years when aerial wolf control was conducted by members of the public.

That change MIGHT BE RELIED UPON BY THE BOARD to conclude that future aerial control of wolves is likely to be successful. But to rely on the use of Department employees and Department aircraft as providing the grounds for the Board to find a likelihood of success, **WOULD BE A MISTAKE.**

Testimony and materials provided by the Department recently, and at the Board's March 2025 Meeting, and in materials provided to the Superior Court, establishes some success in increasing caribou calf survival since the spring of 2023 when the Department first put its employees in aircraft with instructions to kill as many wolves as they could locate. But the figures provided by the Department

---

[3] Those Units are specified in the void regulation at 5AAC 92.111(c) as 9B, 17A, 17B, 17c, 18, 19A and 19B.

indicate that the number of wolves shot and killed from aircraft by Department employees has been a tiny fraction of the number of bears killed from aircraft in 2023 and 2024: apparently significantly less than one tenth (1/10th)[4].

Less than 10% is not much. The success of the Department's intensive management program so far, if any, is not the result of killing wolves. The figures of predators killed in 2023, 2024, and 2025, make it clear that the limited success achieved, if any, is the result of the killing of more than 200 bears.

In other words, after 14 years of aerial shooting of wolves, it is clear that killing wolves from aircraft has been demonstrated to NOT have been a management tool benefitting the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

And yet, the Department's proposal for a new aerial wolf control regulation provides for aerial gunning of wolves through the year 2028.

To be blunt, and to use the vernacular, the Department has thrown wolves into its IM plan for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd for no good reason. Instead, the Department's rationale appears to be that as long as the Department is paying its employees to kill all the bears they can find on the Mulchatna herd's calving grounds, those employees might as well shoot all the wolves they can find, as well.

Or in legalese, the enactment of a regulation authorizing the aerial shooting of wolves simply because the Board has authorized the aerial killing of bears, **violates the statutory scheme benefitting wolves**, and the **constitutional mandate** that the BOG must engage in **reasoned decision making** when enacting regulations affecting wildlife.

(b) Predation by wolves on members of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, benefits the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

---

[4] The undersigned does not have the exact figures at hand, but recalls something like 12 wolves compared with 190 bears killed. Or 6 percent.

The Department's biologists have identified brucellosis as playing a major role in the multi-year decline of the population of the Mulchatna Caribou herd. **Removal of caribou infected with brucellosis will reduce the spread of the disease through the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.**

Wolves prey on the sick, and physically impaired members of prey populations: and they do that year round. It is common knowledge that wolves have coexisted with prey populations, from time immemorial, and that they play a beneficial role in removing the sick and unhealthy from prey populations.

This common knowledge has been backed up by recent research conducted by Department Biologist Tom McDonough's study of wolf predation on moose on the Kenai Peninsula. He compared road-killed moose with wolf-killed moose and found that road-killed moose include healthy and unhealthy moose of all ages: in other words road-killed moose represent a random sample of moose in the affected area. Unlike moose killed on highways by collisions with motor vehicles, moose killed by wolves are removed from the population selectively. Wolves select their prey, primarily killing unhealthy moose with problems such as osteoarthritis and severe tooth morphology. The Department has Mr. McDonough's materials, and Board members should give consideration to his research. If the Department won't make this research available, I can provide copies.

A responsible program to increase the population of the Muchatna Caribou herd includes recognizing the role of disease (brucellosis primarily) which is limiting the herd's recovery. Removal of infected caribou from the herd will help. That's what wolves do. Rather than removing wolves, the Board and Deparatment should cease persecuting wolves.

Removal of infected caribou by wolves will not only help the herd by containing the spread of Brucellosis, but it will also reduce competition between caribou for the dwindling supplies of lichen and other vegetation preferred by caribou. Those food sources are being replaced by shrubby plants due to climate warming. The Board can't do anything about climate change, but the Board can do something about infected caribou competing with healthy caribou for food. Let the wolves remove the unhealthy so that the healthy can have more of the food they prefer, and which sustains them.

3. More Information Should be Collected Before Aerial Killing of Bears is Continued.

Ryan Scott at the March, 2023 Board of Game Meeting estimated that the Department would kill 12-30 bears in its intensive management program, and yet more than 100 bears were killed that spring: with more than another 100 taken since then.

Since the March 2023 Board meeting, I have listened to much of the testimony and argument provided by Department representatives at Board meetings and Court hearings. I have heard Department representatives say that it is difficult if not impossible to provide figures on the population of brown and black bears which are preying on caribou in the calving grounds because the bears travel from a large area to the calving grounds each spring.

With all due respect, I do not believe that the Department is unable to provide estimates on where the bears are migrating from, and unable to provide population estimates for the GMU's from which the bears are migrating. But if the Department's representations are true, there is no reason why the aerial killing of bears in the calving areas and affected GMU's should be authorized for multiple years, through 2028, as the Department's proposal provides. If the Department doesn't know answers to these critical questions, then the Department should proceed cautiously. "Cautiously" should include restricting bear removal to only the 2026 caribou calving season, and only to the caribou calving grounds. Cautiously should include a restriction on the number of bear to be taken in 2026; and perhaps a restriction limiting removal to the more prevalent of black and brown bears.

Large numbers of bears should not be removed until and unless the Department is able to provide population figures that make it clear that bear removal on the calving ground will enable bear populations throughout all the affected GMU's to be sustainable.

4. Bear Viewing.

Bear viewing is big business and enjoyed by thousands of Alaskans and

visitors throughout some of the GMU's from which the bears are migrating into the caribou calving grounds. The Department must provide information and the Board must consider the impact of its program on bear viewing.

Wildlife viewing is an important and recognized use of wildlife, and if the Board is to engage in reasoned decision making, as mandated by Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution, it must give attention to, and consideration of, the impact of the proposed regulation on bear viewing in the areas from which the bears are migrating. So far, I have not heard s whisper of concern by Department representatives and biologists on the impact of bear removal on bear viewing. There needs to be some attention directed to this.

5. Conclusion. The Department's new regulation should not be approved. If a new regulation is approved:

(a) Aerial shooting of wolves should not be authorized.

(b) If the aerial shooting of bears is authorized, it should be **only**:
- (i) for the 2026 calving season,
- (ii) on the Mulchatna caribou calving grounds;
- (iii) for a limited number of bears;
- (iv) if bear populations in GMUs from which the bears migrate are found to be sustainable; and
- (v) if bear viewing is not substantially negatively impacted.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Kneeland Taylor

To the Members of the Board of Game:

I have previously submitted comments opposing Proposal #1 to be considered at your meeting to be held commencing on July 14, 2025. See my letter dated June 18, 2025 which I filed on the same day. I am now supplementing those comments because additional information has come to my attention.

I oppose the Proposal.

The current Hunting regulations regulations for Wolves in Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C 18, 19A and 19B provide for seasons running from August 10-June 30, or August 10-April 30, a daily bag limit of 10, and no limit for the season. See 5AAC 85.056. The current trapping regulations for Wolves in Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C 18, 19A and 19B provide for no bag limit, and seasons running from October 1 or November 1 through April 30. See 5AAC 84.270.

Furthermore, same day aerial shooting of Wolves has been authorized in these same Units since 2011, as a tool for controlling their predation on the Mulchatna caribou herd. See 5AAC 111(c)

The Sustained Yield clause of the Alaska Constitution, in Article VIII, Section 4, provides for the utilization, development and utilization of Wolves, subject to preferences among beneficial uses, on a Sustained Yield basis. See *West v. State of Alaska,* 248 P.3d 689 (Alaska 2010). As noted in my previous comments, which I am now supplementing, Judge Guidi in his Decision and Order dated March 14, 2025 declared 5AAC 92.111(c) "void and without legal effect". That included the provisions of 5AAC 92.111(c) providing for aerial shooting of not only Bears but also Wolves.

Judge Guidi in his Decision and Order held that one reason for declaring 5AAC 111(c) void and without legal effect was the fact that the Department "failed to consider all the factors that are important and relevant to assure sustainability of the bear population." Citing several decisions by the Alaska Supreme Court, Judge Guidi found that it was apparent that a "deliberative discussion and consideration of important, material factors related to bear sustainability was not undertaken."

In all the materials provided on the Department's website concerning the Department's Proposal #1, there is absolutely nothing concerning the populations of Wolves, in Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A or 19B: or the sustainability of

healthy Wolf populations in these Units. These Units consist of vast areas of Western Alaska.[1]

It is clear that in regard to Wolves, the Department casually expects the Board to repeat at least one of the errors it made in 2022: when the Board added Bear control to 5AAC 92.111(c). That error, as held by Judge Guidi, was to fail to consider and take "a hard look" at scientifically based data regarding Bear populations and sustainability in the affected area.

It is clear that in regard to Wolves, the same error is likely to be made because no scientifically based data is likely to be provided by Department biologists regarding the populations and sustainability of Wolves in the affected Units, namely Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A or 19B.

To put it another way: the Department expects the Board to treat Wolves as if they were vermin, unprotected by AS 16.05.783(a) and Article VIII, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution. But Wolves are not vermin.

To summarize: AS 16.05.783(a) and Article VIII, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution require that before same day aerial Wolf control may be authorized throughout Units 9B, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A or 19B, scientifically based data provided by Department biologists must be considered and evaluated by the Board. Thus far in the process leading up to the July 14 meeting, it seems obvious that the Department expects the Board to treat Wolves as vermin, which should be removed to the maximum extent possible.

That's wrong for the legal reasons discussed above and in my previous comments. And it is also wrong, because it is likely that predation by Wolves benefits the recovery of the Mulchatna Caribou herd because Wolves remove those members of the Herd infected with Brucellosis, and in so doing reduce competition among healthy member of the Mulchatna Caribou herd for the limited vegetation Caribou prefer.

Respectfully submitted, Kneeland Taylor

---

[1] There is also insufficient material regarding Bear populations, and the sustainability of Bears in the affected areas: but the purpose of these supplemental comments is to focus on Wolves.

PC1357

Name: Taylor, Natalie

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

These bears should NOT be hunted and shot!

PC1358

Name: Taylor, Robin

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

I am writing to oppose aerial bear gunning program. Please do not gun down bears from helicopters! This is only 50 miles from Brook Falls where the world watches the fishing bears every year! I enjoy seeing the bears and watching them grow and live a good life! Please let the bears live! We are taking their land with development and they have less area to roam and live! Please give them a chance to live!

PC1359

Name: Tegtmeyer, Tim

Community of Residence: Yellowstone

Comment:

Where is any scientific e that this is good for the environment? Wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone and the ecosystem thrives. Bears are good for population control. Their presence improves their ecosystem. Let nature take it course, we don't need to interfere.

PC1360

Name: Teirstein , Zoya

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please consider the role climate change and disease driven in large part by environmental changes may play in reducing food resources for the caribou herd and affecting the caribou themselves. A balanced approach is necessary and killing an unknown number of bears can't be the answer here. https://alaskapublic.org/news/2022-12-30/climate-change-seen-as-suspected-factor-in-western-arctic-caribou-herd-decline

---

PC1361

Name: Temporary, Amy

Community of Residence: Toronto

Comment:

Please save the bears

Thank you

PC1362

Name: Terry, Ann

Community of Residence: Illinois

Comment:

I am against the aerial shooting of bears, and wolves as well. Evidence shows that killing bears will not achieve the desired outcome. Killing apex predators destroys ecosystems. The fact that an agency kills hundreds of apex predators is disturbing and could ruin the bear population -

Please DO NOT approve the aerial shooting of bears (or wolves)

Thank you

PC1363

Name: Tesoriero, kylie

Community of Residence: new york

Comment:

this is absolutely absurd to do to animals who are just existing in their habitat naturally who have no idea what is happening to them. Absolutely unacceptable.

PC1364

Name: Teuscher, Sofia

Community of Residence: 60 reservoir

Comment:

Please protect the bears. I do not want my tax dollars to go to the killing of any animals. This is cruelty and unnecessary.

PC1365

Name: Thomas, Derek

Community of Residence: Kelowna

Comment:

Stop killing our bears. Thats so inhumane.

PC1366

Name: Thomas, Diane

Community of Residence: United Kingdom

Comment:

Hi, I'm a am a lover of wildlife in any country and am rather shocked and disappointed that it should be deemed necessary to cull these bears, particularly in the rather brutal way from a helicopter. Culling I believe is something that should be resorted to only when absolutely necessary and I personally don't believe, in this instance it is absolutely necessary. Think about the consequences of getting rid of a preditor that keeps the population of elk/moose whatever in check. Yellowstone park got rid of wolves until it was realised that the large number of deer were wrecking the land, and wolves have now been reinstated. If the deer are getting less in numbers could it be from human mismanagement of the land

---

PC1367

Name: Thompson , Belinda

Community of Residence: Fort Worth, Texas

Comment:

I am begging you please do not hunt and aerial kill bears. This is cruel and inhumane and there has to be another way to help the caribou without killing bears. GOD created wildlife to manage themselves. Your actions have been ruled illegal at least twice. I love to come to Alaska to see the wildlife but if you kill them until there are no more I won't be back. Wildlife is Alaska's biggest tourist industry so I don't know why you would want to eliminate the wildlife. Please, for all that is holy, stop killing wildlife.

PC1368

Name: Thompson , Leanna

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

This is absolutely horrific. Grizzly Bears are on the endangered list in Canada and they need to be protected!! To kill mama bears with cubs too is animal cruelty!! I have no words how horrible this is. It needs to stop!!! Alaska should be ashamed!!

PC1369

Name: Thompson Davis, Gwendolyn

Community of Residence: WA

Comment:

I am opposed to the intensive management via aerial predatory killing of wolves and bears. The decline of the caribou populations have been demonstrated to arise from disease and lack of food, both probably the result of climate change. The destruction of the predator population will not address the primary reasons for the caribou decline. It seems that the management should be both more nuanced and more human than gunning down sentient animals from aircraft. This is not effective and definitely not ethical wildlife management.

Thank you.

PC1370

Name: Thomson, Victoria

Community of Residence: illinois

Comment:

SAVE THE FREAKING BEARS!!!!!!!!! HUMANS HAVE NO RIGHT TO SLAUGHTER GODS CREATURES IN THIS FORMAT. THIS IS MOTHER EARTH AND WE MUST SHARE OUR LAND WITH THOSE WHO ALSO LIVE HERE. FIND A WAY TO COHABITATE AND QUIT BEING [redacted]

PC1371

Name: Thorley, Georgia

Community of Residence: Savannah

Comment:

Strongly object the unjust and merciless killing of bear cubs in the name of sport.

This is 2025, do better.

PC1372

Name: Thornton, Amy

Community of Residence: Lousiana

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

There is no credible scientific evidence to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food, not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1373

Name: Throop, Rachel

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

I do not support any aerial shooting of any animals. It is inhumane. Please stop this bill from passing.

PC1374

Name: Tiddei, Stephanie

Community of Residence: A concerned bear lover from Connecticut

Comment:

I completely oppose this cruel method slaughter of the Alaskan Brown Bears! Please stop this senseless act and leave the bears alone to exist the way they deserve to!

PC1375

Name: Tipton, Riley

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I do not support this action. Its ethically indefensible.

PC1376

Name: Tobin-Shubin, Madelyn

Community of Residence: MT

Comment:

This is not for the "benefit of the herd", this is for lazy hunting fun. If it was really about helping the herd then stop all hunting of the herd, restore their ecosystem, and ensure long term protections of their range. You are the problem, not the bears.

PC1377

Name: Todd, Leslie

Community of Residence: Dawson Springs KY

Comment:

I lived in Alaska in 1985. In Dillingham ak. I loved the natural beauty in your wonderful state. I just wondered why is this taking place?

PC1378

Name: Todordoff, Sharon

Community of Residence: MN

Comment:

Why does our government feel like they have to keep killing all wildlife? Let them be. If a bear becomes dangerous then they should be removed. The government is rounding up all mustangs, killing bears, big cats , riounding up buffalo, etc. What or who wants this to happen and why? What big corporations want this? I think you should take it to a vote. These wild animals belong to the citizens of this country. Let us decide what should be done.

PC1379

Name: Tolbert, Mallory **Affiliation**: True North Travel Co

Community of Residence: Minnesota

Comment:

We strongly disagree with this proposal. It is inhumane and unacceptable. We will no longer send our tourism dollars to the state of Alaska if this is passed. We simply cannot stand by and watch this happen and if you think there won't bring any backlash or repercussions, you are greatly mistaken. We will certainly pull Alaska from our portfolio and be very vocal to our 400 agencies that they need to do the same.

PC1380

Name: Torre, Natalie

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Save the bears 🐻 gunning them down in a helicopter is not hunting. Its pathetic. Grow up and have some respect for life.

PC1381

Name: Torres, Megan

Community of Residence: Greenville

Comment:

It is fundamentally wrong to shoot innocent wildlife from helicopters for any reason. Shame.

PC1382

Name: Tosh, Nafisa

Community of Residence: No 1 Back Hill

Comment:

Stop killing the bears. This is barbaric.

PC1383

Name: Townsend, Lee

Community of Residence: Honolulu

Comment:

Leave the bears alone!

PC1384

Name: Townsend, Lisa

Community of Residence: Hudson, WI

Comment:

I am writing to firmly oppose the proposed predator control measures in Alaska, especially those that involve aerial shooting of wolves and bears. These practices—which sometimes include the killing of mother bears and their cubs in their dens—are both cruel and morally indefensible. Beyond the ethical concerns, such actions risk upsetting the natural balance of Alaska's ecosystems.

These control efforts are frequently justified as a way to boost moose and caribou numbers, but manipulating predator populations in this way can create more problems than it solves. It may lead to overbrowsing, damage to native habitats, and significant changes in wildlife behavior. These consequences not only harm the environment but also threaten Alaska's standing as a leader in responsible wildlife management.

I respectfully urge the Board of Game to support policies that protect ecological integrity, uphold ethical wildlife practices, and ensure the long-term health of Alaska's wild species. I advocate for a shift away from lethal methods and toward scientifically grounded, non-lethal strategies for managing predator populations.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this perspective.

PC1385

Name: Townsend, Sabrina

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

As a concerned citizen, I support efforts to protect and restore Alaska's caribou populations—but I strongly believe this must not come at the expense of the state's bears.

Bears, including grizzlies and black bears, are a vital part of Alaska's ecosystem. Targeting them under the justification of helping caribou threatens to upset the natural balance, especially when science has shown that predator control is often a short-term solution with long-term ecological consequences.

True conservation should focus on protecting habitat, reducing industrial disturbances, and addressing climate-related impacts that affect both caribou and bears. Removing one species to benefit another undermines the complexity of nature and can lead to greater ecological harm.

I urge wildlife managers and policymakers to adopt solutions that support both species, rooted in science, ethics, and respect for Alaska's wild heritage. We can—and must—protect caribou without sacrificing the bears that also call this land home.

PC1386

Name: Tracey, Robert

Community of Residence: Nondalton, Alaska

Comment:

Robert tracey

registered guide license # 1296

owner Tazimina air

I am opposed to the intensive management plan 5 aac 92.111 shooting brown and black bear with a helicopter.

since this plan has been carried out 2023, 2024 and for 10 days in 2025 I've seen significant reduction in brown bear in the control area. I'm a guide and run a air taxi out of nondalton. I'm out in that area every spring and fall with my own clients and servicing other outfitters for 50 years. Camps in the stuyahok valley koktuli, old man, mosquito are seeing very few bears. a couple camps were out for a month didn't see one bear fall of 2024.

spring of 2025 my camps were contending with Robinson helicopter and super cub flying low over my camps low many times to the point where they wanted to get faa involved. they didn't get any bear. so this activity has affected my business.

there are numerous reasons for mulchatna caribou decline : everyone wants a big bull they got shot off. there was same day airborne caribou got hammered in the winter ate all the lichen hills turned to mud hoof disease.

finally fish and game by their own admission doesn't know how many bears are even in the area. not every bear is a caribou calf killer. some bears are raised to fish eat berries scavenge others are raised to kill caribou calves how does fish and game know the difference it's indiscriminate and not well thought out Robert Tracey nondalton Alaska

---

PC1387

Name: Trask, Ron **Affiliation**: Myself

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

This is absolutely not sound game management

It's absolutely absurd & destructive

PC1388

Name: Trichilo, Gabriella

Community of Residence: Toronto, Canada

Comment:

I have read and under the proposal and strongly disagree with the plans or suggestions. Please cancel this horrible suggestion for the allowance to the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd. This is not a benefit. This is a hindrance to life as it is meant to be.

PC1389

Name: Tristan, Patricia

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

For the past five years I have traveled to Katmai National Park for bear viewing once or twice per season spending 10,000-20,000 tourist dollars per year. Typically numerous friends accompany me. I've spent countless hours reading and researching the reasons given by the governor appointed Alaska Board of Fish and Game for the culling of bears (brown and black) and wolves- specifically the Mulchatna bear control program. I discovered that there has not been any science-based (or any legitimate) research on the caribou-calf killings by brown bears - which is suspect to me considering this explanation has been used since before 1994 to justify the culling numbers. I strongly oppose the Mulchatna bear control program and any culling/killing of wildlife and endangered species by helicopter. Protecting endangered species and their habitat also protects humans and the planet against the ravages of rapid climate change (which, unlike the caribou calve killing by bears "theory", this is supported by science based research and evidence). Bears live incredibly harsh lives without our interference and many will not survive beyond 4 1/2 years. Killing adult boars and sows will take generations to recover. The board of Fish and Game could increase the flow of tourist dollars into Alaska by investing greater protections for Alaskan wildlife. I believe, in a relatively short time, wildlife viewing tourist dollars would quickly rival or surpass the revenue brought in from brown bear hunting and wolf trapping.

PC1390

Name: Triyanto, Nidia Khairunnisa

Community of Residence: Indonesia

Comment:

Save the bears for the sake of our ecosystem & for not playing god

---

PC1391

Name: Truesdale, Kim

Community of Residence: Plainfield Acres

Comment:

I oppose the aerial gunning of the Alaskan Bears. This is cruel behavior to these beautiful animals. Please do not continue this cruel aerial assault on these animals and babies.

PC1392

Name: Tsering, Sam

Community of Residence: House Ward No - 14

Comment:

Stop this madness,let nature decide

PC1393

Name: Tufenkdjian , James

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I do not support anything that potentially hurts the brown and black bears in this area. They should not be hunted for any means. This amendment should end.

PC1394

Name: Tully, Leda

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Who wouldn't want to visit Alaska to see those amazing creatures. The fact that so many were killed in secret shows how wrong it is. Please hire competent people to address environmental and human concerns in a way that protects the Katmai and Southwest AK Bears.

PC1395

Name: Tuovinen , Angela

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Please do not harm these majestic beings at this time when so much has been destroyed on this earth. Please, it makes no sense, stop this useless slaughter and interference in nature, this is an old a outdated paradigm and does not serve the higher good. It is cruel and inhumane.

PC1396

Name: Twardy, Bernard

Community of Residence: Fortaleza/Brazil

Comment:

Spare the bears life!!!

Stop the killing!

Provide changes without killing!

PC1397

Name: Ulianchenko, Anastasia

Community of Residence: Netherlands

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!

PC1398

Name: UndenDunn, Nicole

Community of Residence: Escondido, Ca

Comment:

The bears were there first before any people. They deserve to live without human interference. Humans don't need access to every waterfall or lake.

PC1399

Name: Underwood, Kerry

Community of Residence: Cornwall UK

Comment:

OPPOSED

I am totally against the aerial shooting of bears. From research it appears you don't even know the efficacy of this practice. It is barbaric and ill thought out. How does killing female bears with cubs help?

A disproportionate percentage of bears killed were mothers with cubs or females. How does the species continue if you reduce their ability to breed?

The largest cause for decline of the caribou is stated as disease, nutrition and severe winters. This has nothing to do with the bears!

Perhaps supplemental feeding would facilitate an increase in caribou survival rates.

The helicopters would be better utilised for food drops not killing sprees.

I beg you to reconsider and abolish this barbaric practice.

PC1400

Name: Upah, Tom

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Trophy hunting for grizzly bears in Alaska is when rich, bored, blood lust hunters seek to claim the heads and hides of Alaska's most magnificent creatures. While trophy hunting disregards the intrinsic value of these animals and perpetuates a culture of exploitation and dominance over nature, this sad symbol of conquest and status is big business in the Last frontier. So let's get into it!

PC1401

Name: V, Melissa

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Please protect the brown bears at all costs!

PC1402

Name: Vahl, Per

Community of Residence: Greenland

Comment:

There is no reason for killing bears. Apex predators are self regulating their own populations, and there is no proof of them affecting prey species populations, on the contrary they often maintain a healthy balance in the ecosystem. killing the bears is pointless for the caribou populations.

I do not support the killing of bears.

PC1403

Name: Valencia , Michelle

Community of Residence: Austin Texas

Comment:

Please stop the senseless killing of bears and cubs - there is no evidence that killing them is helping the caribou population.

Please let nature run its course on its own without interference.

PC1404

Name: Valencia , Victoria

Community of Residence: Mexico

Comment:

THIS IS AWFUL!

PC1405

Name: Vallejo Loera, Aydee

Community of Residence: México

Comment:

Opposing Unjustifiable Bear Hunting Practices in Alaska.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to certain bear hunting practices currently permitted in Alaska, with particular concern for aerial hunting. While I acknowledge the complex nature of wildlife management and the importance of hunting for subsistence in some communities, the practice of hunting bears from aircraft is unacceptable and without logical justification.

My primary concerns focus on this method due to its inherent cruelty and lack of "fair chase":

* Aerial hunting is profoundly inhumane.

Chasing and shooting bears from aircraft offers the animal no chance of escape. It inflicts extreme, prolonged stress and exhaustion before death, far removed from any ethical standard of hunting. This practice is seen by many as cowardly and morally indefensible.

* Its ecological justification is highly debatable.

While often framed as a tool for "predator control" to boost populations of other game species like moose or caribou, the scientific evidence supporting its long-term effectiveness is weak. Many experts argue that factors like habitat quality, climate change, and disease have a far greater impact on prey populations than predator numbers alone. Relying on such a brutal method to address complex ecological issues is a simplistic and often ineffective approach.

* It severely damages Alaska's reputation.

The image of bears being harassed and killed from the air is widely condemned by the public and conservation groups, undermining the perception of Alaska as a leader in responsible wildlife stewardship.

Instead of relying on such controversial and often ineffective methods, I urge you to consider and implement more ethical and scientifically sound approaches to wildlife management:

* Prioritize robust, independent scientific studies.

Invest in long-term research to truly understand bear population dynamics, the factors affecting prey populations, and the overall health of the ecosystem. Management decisions must be based on solid evidence, not assumptions.

* Focus on comprehensive habitat conservation.

A healthy, abundant habitat is the foundation for thriving wildlife populations. Protecting and restoring natural ecosystems is a more effective long-term strategy for all species than simply removing predators.

* Invest in non-lethal human-bear coexistence strategies.

As human populations expand, it's crucial to develop methods that allow people and bears to coexist safely, such as public education, effective waste management, and the use of non-lethal deterrents.

* Promote sustainable, regulated subsistence hunting where appropriate, recognizing its cultural and nutritional importance, while moving away from broad-scale predator control programs.

* Support and expand wildlife viewing tourism.

This sector generates significant revenue by valuing bears alive in their natural environment, providing a powerful economic incentive for their conservation rather than their elimination.

By abandoning cruel practices like aerial hunting and embracing these progressive, evidence-based alternatives, Alaska can uphold its commitment to ethical wildlife management and ensure a thriving future for its iconic bear populations.

Sincerely,

Aydeé Vallejo.

PC1406

Name: Vallejo Loera, Samantha

Community of Residence: méxico

Comment:

Today, I rise to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves — for the grizzly bears and the wolves, magnificent beings who are being hunted, controlled, and exterminated under the guise of management.

I do not agree with the killing of these animals. Not now. Not ever.

Too often, governments and special interest groups justify the slaughter of predators by claiming it is necessary to “protect their prey” — deer, elk, livestock. But this argument is not only scientifically weak — it is deeply flawed in principle.

Predators are not villains. They are not threats to be eliminated. They are essential parts of the ecosystem, playing a vital role in maintaining balance and health in the wild. Wolves control overgrazing. Grizzly bears disperse seeds and regulate prey populations. Their presence shapes the landscape in ways we cannot replicate or fully understand.

To say we must kill wolves to save deer is to misunderstand the very meaning of nature. That balance — predator and prey — is not a problem to fix, but a system to respect. It is the circle of life, not a hierarchy of human convenience.

Let's be honest — the real reasons behind the killing of these animals are fear, economic pressure, and the desire to dominate nature. But our fear does not give us the right to erase a species. Our discomfort with the wild does not give us control over who deserves to live or die.

Respecting wildlife is not just an ethical stance. It is a moral responsibility. These creatures were here long before us. They belong to the earth just as much as we do — perhaps even more, because they take only what they need. We take everything.

If we continue to justify violence with false conservation arguments, we will not only lose the wolves and the bears — we will lose ourselves, our humility, and our connection to something far greater than us.

So I say this clearly: We must protect grizzlies. We must protect wolves. Not because they serve us — but because they don't. Because they remind us that not all life exists to be tamed or controlled.

They remind us of wildness, of freedom, and of the raw, sacred balance of life on Earth.

Thank you.

PC1407

Name: Valotto, Giovanni

Community of Residence: Italia

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably.

There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then it is critical to ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people decide.

PC1408

Name: Valusia , Le

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Nature always has and always will work its own self out without human interference, the way it did for millions of years. Human interference is what causes disturbances and imbalances in populations. If you want other wild animals to flourish perhaps stop developing land and building roads or other barriers that make it difficult for wild animals to migrate. Leave nature alone - humans are the ones that ruin things - not the innocent bears. Not one single bear better be killed. Mind your own business.

PC1409

Name: Van baar, Roos

Community of Residence: Netherlands

Comment:

Stop killing bears! It is not an affective way of solving a problem!

There is no good reason for allowing the killing!

PC1410

Name: Van den Hurk, Monique

Community of Residence: Kamuela Hawaii

Comment:

Please do your research. When wolves were reintroduced into Yellowstone the areas thrived. The forest regenerated. Let nature do

It's thing. Please stop interfering

Name: Van Der Maelen, Marieke
Community of Residence: Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA

July 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in OPPOSITION to the State's RC009.

On May 7, 2025, Judge Rankin of the Alaska Superior Court ruled in favor of the Alaska Wildlife Alliance (AWA). Judge Rankin found that the state, by pushing the 2025 spring Mulchatna bear control through an emergency petition, was not in compliance with a prior Superior Court order (issued March 14, 2025 by Judge Guidi's order). This previous order ruled that the Mulchatna bear control program was "unlawfully adopted and, therefore, void and without legal effect" because it violated due process and the sustained yield requirements set by the Alaska Constitution.

Also, nothing has changed since the initial ruling that the program is unlawful. The State needs to adhere to and respect its own constitutional process in order to maintain the trust of the public and to maintain and sustainably preserve wildlife habitat and resources. The impact this culling program has on the bear population and ecosystem would be devastating and affects an area the size of Kentucky state. This area is only 30 miles from the borders of Katmai National Park and just 3 miles from Lake Clark National Preserve. The impact of this unethical practice, long term and in the broader ecosystem, could be irreparable. Bears play an integral role in maintaining the health and stability of Alaska's ecosystems. As apex predators, bears help to regulate populations of other species and prevent overgrazing that negatively affects vegetation. The removal of bears from the landscape could very possibly lead to negative and unintended ecological consequences which could, in turn, come back to harm the very moose populations it intended to protect. In additional to the damage to the natural ecosystem, bear watching at Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, AK alone (according to a 2018 National Park Service Report), brought in 37,818 visitors to in 2017 and those tourists spent $58,068,200 in communities near the park. That spending supported 756 jobs in the region and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of $84,646,600. The tourist industry continues to grow as the Bears of Brooks Falls gain more followers each year.

Bears have enormous territories and travel well beyond the Katmai National Park and Lake Clark National Preserve limits. Bears do not adhere to man-made boundaries. As of 2020, The report shows $**20.2 billion** of direct spending by more than 318 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of an Alaskan national park.

Please consider these long-term effects on wildlife and their natural habitats that could result from such drastic and unnatural action.

In conclusion, in addition to the negative ecological impact this would have on Alaska's environment, there has been lack of public notice given for this process. This proposal for emergency regulations was not available at the start of this meeting, and became available as it was announced verbally. My position on this matter has not changed since the initial ruling. The public has the right to know that our beloved bears and wild ecosystems will be protected for

generations to come. It is imperative that the recent ruling that Mulchatna bear predator control is illegal and that the May 7th ruling by Judge Rankin be upheld. If the Board can rewrite their own interpretation of this order, draft their own proposal and pass off their proposal as an "emergency order" in spite of a court ruling, then that would set a terrifying precedent for anyone who cares about ethical hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing in the state of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marieke Van Der Maelen

PC1412

Name: Van Liempt, Axel

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to the gunning down of wolves and bears in Alaska. The courts already have ruled twice against this barbaric slaughter, how can this be brought up again? These Bears contribute to the wellbeing of of the whole ecosystem, and are not harming anybody. They are omnivores and eat a vegetarian / Salmon diet most of the time. This is trophy hunting in its worst form, and I am absolutely disgusted by it - some rich, selfish, entitled A@@##$$%% want to gun down bears that are contributing to the tourism industry (see how many people fly to Katmai annually to photograph and view them and all the $$$ they are bringing to the state). Predators are needed to keep the ecosystem in balance. I have masters degree in biology, and know the importance of a top predator for the health of the whole ecosystem. Stop this barbaric killing!

I am absolutely opposed to the senseless killing of Grizzly Bears and strongly oppose this barbaric attempt to circumvent already previous court rulings with this renewed attempt. I spent every year a good 30K vacationing in Alaska, because of the opportunity to see and photograph grizzly bears and there are hundrets or thousands of people travelling to Alaska every year to see these majestic animals.

Grizzlies are an important part of the Alaska Eco System, amd while most of their diet consists of plant materials, they help maintain healthy Caribou hers by eating deceased animals or sick individuals, therefore helping these herds to stay healthy and thrive.

I have a master's degree in Biology and fully understand the benefit the Grizzlies provide,- this continued effort to kill Grizzlies seems to be motivated by Trophy hunting and just individual hatred of bears by a few people in the Alaska F&W office who do not understand the benefit these bears provide to both the eco system and also the economical benefit they represent brining in tourist dollars. Thank you for protecting the bears!!

PC1413

Name: Van Overbeke, Julie

Community of Residence: Belgium

Comment:

I do not agree with the killing of bears in an ill attempt to save the caribou, find another way!

PC1414

Name: VanBrunt, Angela

Community of Residence: Philadelphia Pennsylvania

Comment:

I am against any kind of hunting especially because people are so greedy what are they want the bears out of the way so they could build more crap I would 100% sign any paper that would try to harm an animal there's something seriously wrong with this country thank you Angela VanBrunt

---

PC1415

Name: VanDyk, Bev

Community of Residence: B.C. Canada

Comment:

No one has the right to kill bears or any animal.

PC1416

Name: Vargas, Eduardo

Community of Residence: Mesquite Texas

Comment:

I oppose the slaughter of bears and wolve, I Believe more research should be put forward before the indiscriminate slaughter of beautiful iconic animals like bears and their cubs, and others like wolves. its sad since this and other animals are also part of an eco system that perhaps have been altered and thats why the caribou herds are suffering, maybe its time humanity takes an step back and observe using science not prejudice. also the earth is ever evolving maybe there is also changes at a deeper level.

PC1417

Name: Varrell, Maggie

Community of Residence: anchorage alaska

Comment:

save the bears-stop tourism

PC1418

Name: Vasquez, Yessenia

Community of Residence: San Pedro California

Comment:

I oppose to this bill slaughtering bears for being in their own habitat is evil! Leave the bears alone!!

PC1419

Name: Veety, Yvonne

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

The practice of killing Alaskan bears is unnecessary and quite frankly, disgusting. I'm against this. It has already been ruled against by a court of law. Stop!

PC1420

Name: Vega, Mia Amor

Community of Residence: Bay Area

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed regulation outlined for consideration at the July 14, 2025 Board of Game meeting.

This proposal is not only deeply disturbing, but it also reflects a dangerous departure from ethical, science-based wildlife stewardship. The suggested changes are harmful, inhumane, and completely at odds with the values of conservation and respect for the natural world.

I am horrified that this is even being considered. If passed, it will have devastating consequences for Alaska's wildlife populations and ecosystems. Furthermore, proposals like this erode public trust in the state's ability to manage natural resources responsibly. This decision should be guided by ecological science, public interest, and a fundamental respect for life—not by politics or special interests.

Please do not move forward with this proposal. I urge the Board to reject it entirely and instead prioritize policies that reflect compassion, sustainability, and sound ecological practices.

Respectfully,

Mia Amor Vega

C1421

Name: Velarde Velarde, Michelle

Community of Residence: Anaheim

Comment:

We need the bears for the ecosystem and there is no scientific evidence proving this helps the caribou. President Teddy Roosevelt would be ashamed.

PC1422

Name: Verdugo, Alana

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

There's no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou population recover. There is no need to kill these innocent bears.

PC1423

Name: Vestal, John

Community of Residence: UNIT 1513

Comment:

This is appalling. Please consider alternatives. Bears deserve an equal chance at survival without human interference

---

PC1424

Name: Vina, Maria Valentina

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Killing brown bears in Alaska is not only unnecessary. It's harmful to the environment and deeply irresponsible. Brown bears play a critical role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. They help control prey populations and disperse seeds through their diet, contributing to forest growth. When we remove them, we disrupt this natural balance.

Moreover, Alaska's brown bears are iconic wildlife species that attract visitors from all over the world. Trophy hunting and large-scale killings damage Alaska's reputation and economy by threatening tourism and wildlife photography industries.

Ethically, killing these intelligent, sentient animals, often for sport or to reduce predator numbers, raises serious concerns. Studies have shown that killing bears doesn't meaningfully increase ungulate populations, despite what some argue. Instead, it causes stress to the surviving animals and weakens their gene pool.

Protecting brown bears means protecting Alaska's wild legacy, for future generations, for the health of the land, and for the bears themselves.

PC1425

Name: Viveros Watty, Luly

Community of Residence: Banff - national park

Comment:

I am opposed to approve. Humans should not blame just blame bears and for sure no mama bears with cubs. What would happened if the bear population gets in risk??

PC1426

Name: Vogel, Julie

Community of Residence: Los Angeles, California

Comment:

For the past 19 years I have traveled to Katmai National park for Brown Bear viewing once or twice each year. My husband and I and my mother. We spend $10,000-20,000$ each per summer. We have cousins who live in anchorage, they have visited Brooks with us a few of those years We love the bears! We have spent hours reading and researching why the governor appointed the Alaska board of fish and game for the culling of brown and black bears, wolves this is suspect to myself and my family! There is no science based evidence on caribou calf killing by brown bears! This has not been done since 1994. We strongly oppose the Mulchatna bear control program and any culling/killing of wildlife and endangered species by helicopter. Protecting endangered species also protects humans and the planet against the ravages of rapid climate change which is supported by science. The board of fish and game could increase tourist dollars into Alaska by investing greater protections for Alaskan wildlife. I believe, in a relatively short time, wildlife viewing tourists dollars would quickly rival or surpass the revenue brought in by brown bear hunting and wolf trapping.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my experience and views! I love Alaska and its wildlife especially the bears and wolfs.

Sincerely Julie Vogel

PC1427

Name: Vogt, Susan

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

This is clearly unethical, unnecessary and solely cruel!! You idiots should be fired! Your slaughtering of those bears last year are rehensible!!!!!

PC1428

Name: Vuceljic, Angela

Community of Residence: NEW YORK

Comment:

It is inhumane to kill her harm any living creature. Stop killing the bears.

PC1429

Name: Vuceljic, Stephanie

Community of Residence: Yonkers

Comment:

Stop killing bears

PC1430

Name: Vuotto, Angela

Community of Residence: Tabernacle NJ

Comment:

Please stop the killing - it is cruel beyond words, humans must stop being killing machines , and we don't realize we are killing ourselves. We are creating pain and destruction- we can do better - we must do better- they live here with us , among us, please please stop- be gentle and share this beautiful world… we must stop the violence.

PC1431

Name: W, Sara

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

My husband is a regular visitor at Brooks Falls and his industry (wildlife photography) brings tens of thousands of visitors and tourist dollars to your state every year. Aside from this being an absolutely barbaric and low-effort system of "managing" wildlife, if you start killing off the Brooks falls, Lake Clark etc bears, that is going to severely impact tourism and revenue to local people up there. We stopped bringing business to Wyoming for the same reason. Do better folks.

PC1432

Name: Wagner, Roxy

Community of Residence: Netherlands

Comment:

I don't get why we got the right to kill Innocent animals without them being a problem to any other being. I also believe we already kill zo many beings, and it has to stop. If we did the samen thing to humans it would be inhumane. But just because there animals who can't speak for them selfs, doesn't mean they don't deserve to life.

PC1433

Name: Walker , Anthony **Affiliation**: Kids wildlife research center

Community of Residence: Sacramento

Comment:

I am supporting to stop shooting/slaughtering the bears it's very concerning to me and other that you just wake up one day and decide there's to many bears in an area in which they should be protected and free to roam an eat as much caribou they want who are you to diminish a population without the right research just wiping out a % of a beautiful bear species if your in there home killing for fun

---

PC1434

Name: Walker, Vic

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes in the management of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd to include the killing of brown and black bears by state employees. I believe there is no justification for extreme predator control methods, which includes shooting these animals from aircraft. Thank you.

PC1435

Name: Walker, Victoria

Community of Residence: New Zealand

Comment:

Hello, I am a tourist to Alaska from New Zealand. I have visited twice in the last 5 years, and will make another trip in September 2025. What brings me to your state is your wildlife, and specifically your bears. I do not support any action that permits killing of bears for recreational or for presumed herd management purposes. I cannot understand why you would even consider such a proposition. It detracts from the international reputation of Alaska and would not be viewed favourably by international contributors to your economy such as myself. I oppose these proposed modifications to the regulations.

Regards, Victoria Walker

Auckland, New Zealand

PC1436

Name: Wallin, Brinn

Community of Residence: Sacramento

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS!!!

PC1437

Name: Walser, Bianca

Community of Residence: Achberg

Comment:

Introduction:

In Alaska, debates have emerged around predator control as a way to support declining caribou populations. At the Clark River, some propose killing bears to reduce predation on caribou calves. However, such an intervention is not only ecologically questionable but also ethically problematic and scientifically unsound.

Main Argument:

1. Disrupting natural ecosystems is risky and often counterproductive

Bears are an essential part of the natural ecosystem in Alaska. As apex predators, they help maintain ecological balance by preying on weak or sick animals, including caribou. Removing bears disrupts this balance and may lead to unforeseen negative consequences in the long term, affecting many species—not just caribou.

2. Caribou population changes have complex causes

Caribou numbers fluctuate due to a variety of natural and human-related factors: climate change, habitat loss, disease, parasites, and human disturbances (such as road construction and mining). Bear predation is just one of many influences and not necessarily the main reason for population declines. Focusing only on predators oversimplifies a much more complex problem.

3. Scientific evidence shows predator control rarely works long-term

Research from Alaska and Canada shows that killing predators like bears rarely leads to sustained increases in caribou numbers. In many cases, caribou herds do not recover because underlying issues—such as habitat degradation—remain unresolved. Moreover, reducing one predator population can cause another to increase, further destabilizing the system.

4. Ethical responsibility to protect wildlife

Bears are intelligent, ecologically vital animals that deserve respect and protection. Targeting them without strong, science-based justification violates ethical wildlife management principles. Killing one species to benefit another, without fully understanding the consequences, is a dangerous precedent.

5. Alternative solutions exist

Instead of killing bears, more sustainable strategies should be explored—such as protecting critical calving areas, restoring habitats, minimizing human disturbances, and improving monitoring and data collection. These actions support caribou populations without harming other species.

Conclusion:

Killing bears at the Clark River is a short-sighted response to a complex ecological issue. Rather than seeking quick fixes, we must embrace long-term, science-based solutions that respect the integrity of Alaska's ecosystems. True wildlife conservation means protecting all species—not sacrificing one for another.

PC1438

Name: Walsh, George

Community of Residence: Gilbert, AZ

Comment:

Leave the bears alone. Wild and free as they should be. No hunting of bears.

Name: Walsh, Patrick
Community of Residence: Soldotna

5 July 2025

To: The Alaska Board of Game
From: Patrick Walsh
Soldotna, Alaska
Subj: Comments on Proposal 1.

I am a retired US Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist, having worked at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (GMU 17 and 18) for 23 years conducting research and management on caribou, wolves, and bears.

I oppose Proposal 1. I find that this proposed change reiterates findings that have been demonstrated to be incorrect in wolf control, and repeats the same findings in the context of bear control. I recommend that as the BOG considers this proposal, it seriously considers the entire proposal, including the wolf recommendations, and not simply the additions to include bears.

My specific comments address the findings below (in italics) from Proposal 1:

(3) findings concerning populations and human use are as follows:
(A) the population and harvest objectives for the MCH are below the IM objectives throughout the herd's range;
The population and harvest objectives are the problem that underlies this issue. The objectives are not realistic, but are based on ecological conditions that occurred 25 years ago and have since changed. By establishing realistic objectives such as have been recommended to the BOG during its January meeting and previous meetings, predator control can end and human harvest can re-commence.

(B) wolves are a major predator of caribou in the range of the MCH and are an important factor in failing to achieve these objectives;
This is incorrect. Over the past 13 years, ADFG's research staff has demonstrated that wolf predation is not an important factor in failing to achieve the population and harvest objectives.

(C) a reduction of wolf predation can reasonably be expected to aid in achieving the objectives;
Again, ADFG's work for the past 13 years has demonstrated this to be incorrect.

(D) reducing wolf predation is likely to be effective and feasible using recognized and prudent active management techniques and based on scientific information;
Again, ADFG's work for the past 13 years has demonstrated this to be incorrect. Why continue an action year after year when it has consistently failed? Secondly, not only has reducing wolf predation proven ineffective, but the assertion that it follows "recognized and prudent active management techniques" and is "based on scientific information" appears incorrect and contrary to accepted methods of adaptive management. I recommend that the BOG encourage ADFG to seek external expert review of this program to determine whether or not it is based on science.

(E) reducing wolf predation is likely to be effective given land ownership patterns;
Again, ADFG's work for the past 13 years has demonstrated this to be incorrect.

(F) reducing wolf predation is in the best interests of subsistence users;
Focusing on unrealistic population objectives and attempting to address the issue through wolf control has not only failed, but has resulted in closing the harvest to subsistence users, rather than permitting a sustained harvest at a lower level. Thus, it is not wolf predation that works against the interest of the subsistence users—it is the management focus.

(G) bears are a major predator of caribou in the range of the MCH and are an important factor in failing to achieve caribou population and harvest objectives;
This has not been demonstrated. ADFG's work has shown that bears eat caribou, but this is an uninteresting observation. They do so wherever both species occur, including populations of caribou that demonstrate strong demographic performance in the absence of predator control. More specifically on this point, in a 13 May 2025 press release, ADFG Commissioner Lang stated that the bear control program had "turned the herd around" based on a single year of data (2024) in which the population estimate was found to be 16% higher than the previous year. However, the geographically adjacent Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd showed a 22% increase in the same year, even though it has never been subject to predator control. I find it more likely that environmental conditions affecting the habitat of both herds is the controlling force for the populations, and that predation is not a primary population driver for either herd.

(H) a reduction of bear predation in certain areas like calving areas can reasonably be expected to aid in achieving the objectives;
ADFG has not performed a habitat assessment to determine whether the range of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd can sustain 50,000 caribou. Until this is done, focusing on predator management is a guess. Further, the failure of 13 years of wolf control to achieve the objectives provides a strong suggestion that adding bear control to the effort is a continuation of this ineffective effort.

(I) reducing bear predation is likely to be effective and feasible using recognized and prudent active management techniques and based on scientific information;
As stated above under the wolf findings, an external technical review of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd intensive management program would demonstrate its strengths and weaknesses.

(J) reducing bear predation is likely to be effective given land ownership patterns; and
Same comments as above.

(K) reducing bear predation is in the best interests of subsistence users.
The subsistence user interest is best served by re-opening the harvest of caribou at a sustainable level rather than continuing the current program.

PC1440

Name: Walter, Eliza

Community of Residence: Aistralia

Comment:

I strongly oppose the regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff. There is no evidence that it benefits the herd. Let nature be and stop interfering.

PC1441

Name: Walters, Harley

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Killing wolves hasn't slowed caribou decline; scientists suggest renewed emphasis on securing habitat.

As above, reduction in bear numbers won't have a positive effect. It's more harmful to the ecosystem and environment not to mention increasing poaching numbers when you introduce culling like this.

It's an all around fail and cruel end to many beautiful bears and wolves.

Please don't bring this back. It simply doesn't work. All it does is stroke the ego of gun slinging dorks in choppers.

PC1442

Name: Walters, Riva

Community of Residence: Iowa

Comment:

Save the bears

PC1443

Name: Warn, Nicholas

Community of Residence: I'll

Comment:

Madness in my eyes nature will

Balance itself

PC1444

Name: Warrilow, Jenni

Community of Residence: Aintree

Comment:

This behaviour is barbaric, slaughtering innocent animals to protect another. It's unethical - let Mother Nature take course and allow these beautiful brown bears to roam freely like they are meant to. Killing mothers and their cubs just shows how disgusting humans are, these poor animals are meant to roam and enjoy this planet just as much as we are and caribou. Theres no scientific evidence to support there is any reason or benefit to doing this it's only slaughter and killing.

PC1445

Name: Waters, Wendie

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

I am writing to urge you to reject the latest plan from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game which would authorize aerial gunning down of wolves, brown bears, and black bears across a 40,000 square mile area!! This area is bordered by the purposeful YUKON DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TOGIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PRESERVE!!

This operation is inhumane and unethical, causing unnecessary suffering to the bears... AND represents a troubling approach to wildlife management. In addition, AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, it lacks a scientific foundation as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor determining the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. ADFG is sidestepping the fact that such action will disrupt ecosystems for the obvious purpose of sport killing vs scientific foundations.

The practice is not only seen as unethical and inhumane but seen as damaging Alaska's reputation as a responsible steward of its natural resources and will most certainly if enacted, filter down to boycotting Alaska's economy because of this obvious uneducated attack on apex predators.

In addition, you would also know in your position, that the killing of older, experienced bears can lead to the loss of vital survival knowledge for younger bears. If you proceed with this egregious act, it is a stamp of approval that your commission does not care about the viability of the targeted species.

A similar Alaskan predator control operation in 2023 killed approximately 100 brown bears (including cubs) and black bears, far more than the original planners estimated. This suggests that the Department cannot control the true mortality levels during these exercises.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management which we the people expect of those placed in vital positions such as yours.

These animals are critical to a healthy ecosystem and planet, one that we would like future generations to be able to enjoy.

Concerned Environmental Advocate,

Wendie K. Waters

PC1446

Name: Watkins, Bill

Community of Residence: Denali Park

Comment:

I would like to comment on ADF&G's proposed regulation changes that would allow ADF&G to kill grizzly (brown) bears over a 40,000 square mile area in western Alaska.

I urge the BOG to reject these proposed regulation changes.

Due to the proximity of Lake Clark National Preserve, Katmai National Park, near the borders of Togiak and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuges, such a program is guaranteed to kill these bears once they leave these protected lands.

It is time to stop the madness of squandering limited state funds on a killing spree that does nothing to address the underlying causes of habitat change (loss of lichens and mosses) due to climate change.

Nor does this proposed killing spree address the issue of infected caribou with brucellosis.

Due to the low reproductive rate of grizzly bears, their populations are fragile and are susceptible to human caused population declines, especially when females are killed. Females are the foundation of any grizzly bear population.

Based on the state's previous targeting of females, females with cubs, subadults and males this insures a ursine killing field of over 40,000 square miles.

As of this time, ADF&G has not conducted any population studies or knows the population dynamics (ratio of males, females, subadults and cubs), natural mortality or whether the population is increasing, decreasing or stable.

Furthermore, ADF&G has claimed that there is a "high" bear population within this area due to anecdotal opinions from hunters. Yet, they do not specify by numbers what a high population is for this area.

Naturally occurring bear populations vary dependent on food availability, types of food, calorie content, habitats and ecosystems and onset of winter weather.

In general, bears south of the Alaska Range who have access to salmon and other rich food sources will be able to support more bears. Bears north of Alaska Range who do not have access to these rich food sources will be fewer in number.

Comparing the bears in Denali (north of the Alaska Range) versus the bears at Katmai (south of the Alaska Range) illustrate this difference perfectly.

Katmai supports more bears, they are larger, yet this larger population reflects what the habitat/ecosystem can support.

More bears in a naturally regulating ecosystem does't suggest a "high" bear population; it is a natural reflection of the habitat that can support that population.

ADF&G uses the term "high" in a pejorative manner, yet they do not define it nor do they have any current population studies to support it.

Additionally, the only way one could have a “high” bear population is if it was artificially fed by humans whether directly or indirectly through garbage, improper food storage, bait sites, or through intentional feeding.

I have not read anywhere where ADF&G makes this claim. Consequently, there is no “high” bear population.

Due to the lack of ADF&G’s bear population studies, they have yet to determine what a sustainable grizzly bear population is within this area. This is why knowing the population dynamics and natural mortality rates in this area is so important.

Furthermore, ADF&G fails to consider other forms of the Mulchatna caribou herd decline that makes predator control irrelevant.

Habitat/ecosystem/vegetation change is occurring throughout Alaska and is leading to declines in other caribou herds. Caribou must have the types of vegetation that can support their populations.

If there isn’t enough of the critical vegetation types, then the populations decline. Caribou are dependent on lichens and mosses which are being crowded out by willows, dwarf birch and alder.

While the expansion of specific willow types will benefit moose, they are of no benefit to caribou during the winter months.

Additionally, with Alaska having more heavy snowfall/icy type winters, this blocks caribou from reaching their food sources.

These factors are attributed to global climate change, yet I have yet to hear ADF&G discourage oil development or the burning of fossil fuels to maintain caribou herds and habitat.

Combine the above with a highly contagious disease such as brucellosis and it should be expected that the Mulchatna caribou herd would decline.

Both wolves and to a much lesser degree grizzlies, can limit the expansion of contagious diseases such as brucellosis. Predator control encourages the expansion of such diseases as the removal of predators encourages more intense spread of disease outbreaks.

In the Lower 48, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming refuse to acknowledge this fact through their anti-predator policies and consequently, chronic wasting disease is spreading throughout ungulate herds in these states and the west.

Also, I am not aware of ADF&G conducting vegetation studies to determine current quality of caribou habitat within the Mulchatna area nor of the rate of plant succession.

This is critical in determining the rate of decline of the habitat to determine what caribou numbers the habitat will support.

Quite simply, ADF&G hasn’t done any comprehensive studies to justify these regulation changes and I urge you to reject them.

PC1447

Name: Wavrin, Martha

Community of Residence: Henderson, MN

Comment:

Concerning the Mulchatna Predator Control Program and aerial hunting of black and brown bears, I am OPPOSED to this cruel and unscientific hunt. There is NO science that backs the implementation of this hunt! Until the science shows a clear link between the lower population numbers of the caribou, versus the population and behavior of the bears, there is no way to validate such a hunt, and certainly not a hunt carried out by the mechanical nightmare that a helicopter or plane creates for those animals living in a natural and native habitat.

Although I am currently not a resident of Alaska, I have lived in the state, have family in the state, and have traveled many miles in it, largely by foot and bike. Alaska is the last place left in the United States where we can actually let many ecosystems run as they were meant to run, without the "management" of humans, or at least a minimal impact. That allows Alaska to actually be able to study the true science of ecosystems!!! What a gift to science and mankind, but instead we are going to ignore science and continue down the road that the lower 48 has already gone, wasting and destroying as it goes.

PC1448

Name: Wedel, Dana

Community of Residence: Rancho Cucamonga,California

Comment:

We flew to Alaska in our plane with a group of pilots. Brooks Falls was a highlight of our trip. I wear my Bear education pin all the time. Do not kill the bears. We need the predators when we killed wolves our environment changed for the worse. We need all of the animals.

PC1449

Name: Weicman, Sharon

Community of Residence: Norwalk, CT

Comment:

Alaska Board of Game

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Bear and Wolf Hunts Near Key Protected Areas

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express strong opposition to any proposals that would authorize the hunting of bears and wolves in areas bordering Lake Clark National Park, Katmai National Park, the McNeil River State Game

Sanctuary and Refuge, Brooks Falls, the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

These regions are internationally renowned for their spectacular concentrations of brown bears and healthy wolf populations. Each year, they attract tens of thousands of wildlife enthusiasts, photographers, filmmakers, and ecotourists—generating significant economic revenue for nearby rural communities and businesses. Visitors come from around the world to witness the iconic bear activity at places like Brooks Falls, Lake Clarke National Park, and Katmai National Park to explore the rich biodiversity of these wild landscapes. Wildlife-based tourism in these areas provides long-term, renewable economic benefits that far outweigh the short-term gains of a bear or wolf hunt.

Beyond the economics, these animals are integral to Alaska's cultural heritage and ecological identity. For Indigenous communities and many residents, bears and wolves hold spiritual and cultural significance, representing ancestral connections to the land, traditional knowledge systems, and deep respect for nature. They are also vital to ecosystem health, playing crucial roles in nutrient cycling and population regulation.

Permitting predator hunts along the borders of these protected areas—especially where bears and wolves are habituated to human presence—jeopardizes the very wildlife experiences that draw people to these locations. The McNeil River, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge bears, for instance, are globally celebrated for their unique, non-aggressive behavior developed over decades of protected status. Allowing nearby hunting not only undermines this rare dynamic, but also threatens the credibility of Alaska's wildlife management practices.

I urge the Board to take a forward-looking approach and protect the economic and cultural value of these apex predators by rejecting any expansion of hunting near these key conservation areas. These landscapes—and the magnificent creatures they support—deserve policies rooted in stewardship, science, and sustainability.

Thank you for considering this request. I respectfully ask you to preserve what makes Alaska extraordinary for future generations.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sharon Weicman

https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19F7dtGpBk/?mibextid=wwXIfr

PC1450

Name: Weiss, Cal

Community of Residence: Monterey

Comment:

I'm highly disgusted with this inhumane action of slaughtering poor bears they haven't done anything wrong

---

PC1451

Name: Wells, Heather

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

Date: 07.07.2025

To: The Alaska Board of Game

Subject: Opposition to Proposal 1

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

Today I write to you to express my strong opposition to Proposal 1, which seeks to add black and brown bears to the Mulchatna Predator Control Plan.

I am deeply concerned that this program, which permits the aerial shooting of bears and the killing of cubs and sows, undermines the ethical standards and scientific principles that should guide wildlife management. Predator control of this magnitude, especially with limited supporting data and uncertain outcomes, risks damaging the integrity of Alaska's ecosystems and reputation as a leader in conservation-based tourism.

In Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) Proposed Regulatory Changes accompanying this proposal, the Department states that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area encompasses approximately 39,683 square miles, and that multiple predator control areas may be utilized within the management area. This ~40,000 square mile control area is:

50 miles from McNeil River State Game Sanctuary

30 miles from Katmai National Park

3 miles from Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

While brown bear home ranges can be quite large, the average is between 50 and 150 square miles. Thus, the iconic bears that are marketed for viewing around the world at McNeil and Brooks Falls very feasibly travel into this proposed Control Area and would be subject to aerial gunning. My grandchildren are beside themselves, worried the bears they know and have studied in school that live in all the proposed areas could be gunned down and killed. Leaving nothing to show they even exisited but a hide for the trappers to auction off. I worry about the youth and future generations of Alaskans. Will slaughtering animals cruelly en masse become the norm of society? What kind of message does this unscientific, unsupported, barbaric plan send to the public? How can completely wiping out multiple generations of bear familes be allowed or justified? How will we save our incredible, diversified, pristine ecosystem from collapse without the support of our Apex predators?

According to a study by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, bear tourism in Southcentral Alaska generated $34.5 million in 2017 alone and contributed $10 million in direct wages and benefits to the region, supporting 680 jobs. The study focused on four areas: Katmai National Park & Preserve, McNeil River State Game Sanctuary, Lake Clark National Park & Preserve, and the Cook Inlet Region. These areas attract thousands of visitors to witness the bears fishing for salmon, playing with their cubs and interacting with each other. The study estimated that each bear in Southcentral Alaska is worth $1.3 million over its lifetime, based on the tourism revenue it generates. At a time when State and Federal

budgets are being slashed, we should be protecting the wildlife assets in our state, not spending hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to gun them down. Many Alaskans have built their businesses catering to visitors who want to see bears and wolves in the Alaskan wilderness. What happens to their livelihood? How will they continue to support their families?

The assumption that bear predation is the primary driver of the Mulchatna caribou herd's decline is not conclusively supported by the available research. Singularly targeting predators may yield short-term gains at the cost of long-term ecological and reputational harm.

Furthermore, I feel this process lacks good faith and transparency. Holding this meeting in the middle of the busy summer season when most Alaskans are unavailable to comment does not solicit meaningful public engagement. Further, there is an unsettling lack of transparency around where aerial gunning would take place within the control area and how many bears would be killed under this plan. It is my understanding that, if this proposal passes, ADF&G could create a bear culling program anywhere within the 40,000 square mile control area until 2028 without any further public input.

I urge the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to reconsider this policy and to pursue alternatives rooted in sound science, stakeholder collaboration, and respect for the diverse economic and cultural values Alaskans and our visitors hold for wildlife.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Heather Wells

PC1452

Name: Welsh, Jennifer

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

I am greatly opposed to the hunting of the Brown Bears. Please keep them as a protected species. They are valuable to the ecosystem and amazing animals. I have watched them on webcams for years and hope to travel to Alaska someday to see.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Welsh

PC1453

Name: Wemyss-Dunn, Charlie **Affiliation**: Preservation of At-risk Wildlife (PAW) foundation

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

Dear Board of Game,

I strongly stand against this proposal to cull brown and black bears in Mulchatna. I believe this proposal will have a very detrimental impact on the bears of Katmai and Lake Clark national parks and that the policy is without proper scientific backing. These areas draw in a very large number of Americans each year to view bears, contributing a large amount of dollars to the Alaskan economy, and this policy risks hindering or damaging that critical revenue stream. In the face of overwhelming public opposition, please do not move forward with this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Wemyss-Dunn

PC1454

Name: Wenneson , Jill

Community of Residence: Cottonwood Heights

Comment:

I OPPOSE legalized game hunting of bears (or any game) from helicopters. This method of hunting is inhumane, unnecessary, and poses significant ethical and ecological problems.

Concerns about helicopter-assisted bear hunting include:

Inhumane Treatment of Animals: Hunting bears from helicopters is inherently cruel and causes unnecessary suffering. It often results in prolonged chases and injuries, leading to a slow and painful death for the animal.

Disruption of Ecosystems: The mass killing of predators like bears, especially with the potential to reduce populations significantly, can disrupt the natural balance of the ecosystem. Studies indicate this practice may not effectively increase populations of prey animals like moose and caribou and can have unintended consequences for the overall environment.

PC1455

Name: Wereta, Danette

Community of Residence: New Zealand

Comment:

I strongly oppose the practice of shooting bears from the air. This method of killing is cruel, indiscriminate, and lacks scientific evidence to support its effectiveness in achieving any meaningful conservation or population management outcomes.

Bears do not understand or adhere to human-imposed boundaries. They move freely across landscapes, meaning any attempt to control populations by aerial slaughter is not only ineffective but risks wiping out entire local groups, including cubs, without addressing the root causes of human-wildlife conflict.

This practice prioritizes convenience over ethics and ignores non-lethal alternatives that respect the lives of these intelligent, sentient beings. We must move toward evidence-based, humane approaches to coexistence with wildlife—not fall back on outdated and brutal tactics.

I urge you to reject aerial bear shooting and instead invest in long-term, science-driven solutions that protect both people and animals.

This would stop me being a tourist.

PC1456

Name: Werezak, Bonnie

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

PLEASE do not cull any of these beautiful bears.

PC1457

Name: Westhoff, Gen

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

This type of animal control is cruel, basically murder, unnecessary, & behind in the times. These bears deserve to be left alone and people need to be more aware of their existence. Mother Nature takes care of herself. Helicopters have no place in nature for this purpose, period! The individuals shooting these animals need therapy.

PC1458

Name: Wetzel, Stephanie

Community of Residence: Berlin, Germany

Comment:

Dear Sirs, there is no scientific evidence, that decimating bears helps the caribou. Any severe interference with nature should be avoided if there's no scientific proof that it is for the better.

Thank you, kind regards Stephanie Wetzel

PC1459

Name: Wheeler, Roger

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

Please don't destroy our wildlife. Save them for our children and grandchildren. It's not to late

---

PC1460

Name: Wheeler, Vickie

Community of Residence: Knoxville Tennessee

Comment:

This is the craziest thing I've ever heard. Why Why Why. Please don't do this.

PC1461

Name: White, Lauren

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

As someone who has travelled to Alaska specifically to see its natural beauty (landscape and wildlife - including bears) I find this so disheartening.

Where is the science, the evidence? Please rethink.

PC1462

Name: White, Tyler

Community of Residence: South Jordan, UT

Comment:

Please trust and invest in science instead of aimlessly killing bears in hopes that it will strengthen the caribou population.

If after scientific research it is necessary to eliminate some of the bears then it would be lucrative to have more hunts which can ensure the right bears are taken, not sows with cubs, etc. plus that would offer more income for the state.

PC1463

Name: Whitley, Bella

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Please stop the unjust slaughter of bears, which is enacted with no scientific basis for benefiting wildlife. These animals are vital to the ecosystem and intelligent, meaningful creatures who are completely innocent. Killing them is achieving nothing but suffering, so I urge those responsible to please stop this cruelty immediately!

PC1464

Name: Whitmire, Elizabeth

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Stop killing all the bears without evidence of

Benefit, without tracking, and without any type of preservation in mind. Slot

Especially miles from reservations or wilderness they're allowed. They don't know the difference

---

PC1465

Name: Whittaker, Heather

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

I am opposed to this. There is no evidence that this would help the herd. And it is clear that it will devastate the beauty of the bears. We must use our minds and find another solution.

PC1466

Name: Whitten, Kenneth

Community of Residence: Fairbanks

Comment:

My name is Ken Whitten, and I have lived in Fairbanks AK since 1971. I am representing myself. My email address is kwhitten89@gmail.com.

I received a Master's degree from UAF in 1975 and worked for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game from 1975 to 2000. During most of my career with Fish and Game I was a Caribou research biologist working on the Central Arctic and Porcupine Caribou Herds. I also spent brief periods working on the Fortymile Herd and as acting Area Management Biologist for GMUs 26B and C. In my last few years with Fish and Game I was the Research Coordinator for Region III. I helped with the 1999 Mulchatna

Herd photocensus and wrote a chapter on Caribou for the book Bristol Bay Alaska—Natural Resources of the Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems. I have hunted Mulchatna Caribou.

I am opposed to reauthorizing the current IM program for Mulchatna Caribou. The Courts have already found that the current program was adopted without adequate public notification and did not meet constitutional standards for insuring sustained yield of bears. There is no new data on bears in any of the documents referenced in the online notice for the July 2025 Board Meeting. If the Department presents new data at the meeting, the public will have had no opportunity to review it. Based on misstatements and unsupported conclusions by the Department in previous Board meetings, the inability for the public to review or comment on new information is a serious flaw in the Board process.

Most of the supposed urgency for addressing an "emergency" situation regarding the Mulchatna Herd stems from IM population and harvest goals that are not being met. The current goals are unrealistic and should be revised before any further predator reductions are considered, let alone reauthorized. Even the Department's 2024 Mulchatna Caribou Herd Photo Survey memorandum states that "It may be appropriate to consider revising the current population objective of 30,000-80,000 given historic and recent population trends." This memorandum was available before the March 2025 Board meeting, yet revising the IM goals was not addressed in Department testimony.

Also at the March 2025 Board meeting, department biologists testified that Mulchatna Caribou are in good shape nutritionally and the habitat should be able to support more caribou. Yet the 2024 MCH Spring Intensive Management Activities memorandum (also available but not discussed at the March 2025 meeting) found extensive evidence of stillbirths, malnutrition, dehydration, mineral deficiencies, and "failure to thrive."

I submit that the Board should delay any decision to reauthorize predator reductions and should instead schedule another meeting to discuss revising the IM goals.

In addition, the Department's justification for predator reductions, particularly for bears, is faulty on many levels and Department officials have misinterpreted data and reached conclusions not supported by their own data. For example, Figures 20-22 in the Mulchatna Caribou herd presentation - March 2025 (one of the documents made available in the announcement for this Board meeting) show calf mortality data for East and West herd segments combined. Combining the data while promoting a critical need for reducing bear predation in the Westen herd segment is misleading. Figures 4 and 5 in the Operational Plan for Intensive Management of Caribou (Rangifer tarandus) in Game Management Units 9b, 17, 18, And 19b During Regulatory Years 2018–2024, show that presenting data for each herd segment separately presents a very different picture. Collared calf survival to 2 weeks in the West was about the same or higher than in the East in 6 of 7 years between 2011 and 2022. Mean 2-week survival in the West was 71% versus 56% in the East. The percent of collared calves killed by bears was lower in the West in 5 of 7 years. The Operational Plan also reported that survival of collared calves to 4 months ranged from 38 to 91% in the West versus 25-78% in the East. Thus, 2-week survival (when bears might potentially be a factor) as well as survival to fall were actually higher and bear predation was lower in the West than in the East. Therefore, consistently lower fall calf:cow ratios in the West compared to the East cannot be attributed to bear predation on the calving grounds. The decision to remove bears on the Western calving grounds was in fact contraindicated by available data.

Nevertheless, the Department removed bears (and wolves) in 2023 and 2024. Collared calf survival in the West was high in 2024, and calf:cow ratios in the West increased in 2023 and 2024, leading the Department to conclude that bear removals benefitted caribou. However, correlation does not prove causation. Early calf survival in the West was comparably high in several years before bear removal

without leading to high fall ratios. The apparent correlation thus disappears when viewed over a longer time period, suggesting instead that something other than predation on the Western calving grounds caused low fall calf:cow ratios prior to 2023

The Department has also attributed apparent Mulchatna Herd population growth to bear removals in the West. However, the 2024 Mulchatna Caribou Herd Photo Survey memorandum states that higher counts in 2024 were likely due at least in part to better counting conditions. When broken down by herd segment, the 2024 population estimate for the Western segment was not statistically different from the 2023 estimate. The 2024 estimate in the East was significantly higher than in 2023 but, again, might have been due to better count conditions. The data strongly suggest that if any caribou population growth occurred in 2024, it was in the East and cannot have been due to bear removals in the West.

I would also argue that the Proposed Regulatory Changes to 5 AAC 92.111 by ADF&G are unacceptable. Population goals for bears and wolves are non-quantitative and essentially say that wolves and bears would be killed annually until the expected result of improvement in caribou population dynamics is achieved. That's hardly a scientific or objective statement.

Conditions for the Commissioner to review, modify, or suspend program activities are ludicrous. Conditions A and F are impossible to meet within the time frame of the regulation. B and G make no sense—the population goals for wolves and bears are to keep killing them until a hoped-for response in caribou occurs.

Condition C doesn't consider that the caribou population could increase in the portion of the herd not subject to bear removals. There could be no response in the bear removal area, as in 2024, but an increase in the other herd segment. Growth in the East cannot justify further bear removal in the West.

There is already evidence of significant nutritional stress in Caribou (Condition E).

Condition D does not recognize that factors other than predation could affect fall calf:cow ratios.

In conclusion, the Board needs to postpone any decision to reauthorize the Mulchatna IM program. Instead, IM population and harvest goals should be reconsidered. The Board or Department should solicit an outside peer review of Mulchatna area caribou and predator data and management plans. The Department needs to do a better job of informing the Board and the Public, rather than selectively presenting findings that support what seems to be a predetermined decision. Spending large sums of money in a controversial effort to reduce predation is ill advised if the need for the reduction can't be fully and unequivocally justified and especially if other factors are what's really driving herd dynamics. There should be more effort in determining what those other factors might be.

PC1467

Name: Whittington, Jane

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I am making this simple. PLEASE do not allow bears to be shot from the air. I do not even understand why this is happening anywhere on the planet.

PC1468

Name: Wieslander, Janice

Community of Residence: Iowa

Comment:

This is disgraceful!

PC1469

Name: Wiis, Janni

Community of Residence: Denmark

Comment:

As long as there's no scientific, biological and genetic benefits of this regulation in the bear population in Alaska. I Janni Wiis, formally conclude with my zookeeper and biodiversity manager degrees, that this is a senseless homicide on bears within breeding/cub season, and should be stopped immediately!

Feel free to contact me anytime if you need someone to speak further on the matter!

Kind regards

Janni Wiis

[redacted]

[redacted]

PC1470

Name: Wilcox, Danielle

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

This comment is clearly going to be in opposition of this aerial program, as I'm not sure how anyone in their right mind would support this. These are innocent animals that we're talking about, so I can't believe this is even up for discussion… considering that the slaughtering of these animals does nothing for Caribou populations. So what is this for? A psychotic obsession with killing? Shooting these gorgeous animals from a helicopter…. How very Donald Trump of you Alaska. In a time when so much beauty in the world is in question, quite literally in danger, of being stripped from us, you want to shoot mass amounts of bears? An animal that is such a symbol of your state. A symbol of the natural beauty it possesses. I strongly urge anyone with a conscience to vote this down. Anyone with children whose future we are heavily influencing. Anyone who gives a damn. Vote this down.

PC1471

Name: Wiles, Seth

Community of Residence: Boone

Comment:

These bears represent the beauty and majesty of Alaska's wildlife, and killing them in this abhorrent and widespread manner should be illegal. Every animal has its part in an ecosystem, and these animals are essential to maintaining the Alaskan biosphere. Stop this unjust and destructive killing.

PC1472

Name: Wilkerson, James

Community of Residence: Wasilla AK

Comment:

I support reduction when needed to many bears will cause the calf's of moose and injure or kill more people when over populated bears compete for the food

---

PC1473

Name: Wilkie, Lindsay

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS. Please consider other ways to support one animal population without targeting and killing another.

PC1474

Name: Wilkinson, Keith

Community of Residence: Bryn Mawr

Comment:

I am in opposition of this regulation. Eliminating a capstone species is not sound management. As someone who has experienced the beauty and power of Alaska's bears firsthand, they not only keep the balance of the local ecology in check, but they bring millions of dollars of revenue from the state of Alaska from tourists visiting solely for the experience of seeing bears in the wild. Historically, eliminating key predatory species leads to overpopulation and worse health overall for other species in their food chain due to greater competition for resources. Balance means healthy and abundant prey & predator alike.

PC1475

Name: Willems, Reen

Community of Residence: Alberta

Comment:

My answer will not be a long , who is their right mind would destroy these creatures !!! They have every right to be living on this land , people are the intruders!!! 💯 % do not support harming these bears , don't you darn touch a hair on them!!

PC1476

Name: Williams , Karen

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I understand the concern about the decline of the caribou herd however, this is all nature and wildlife survival. I would think that the hunting by locals is part of the cause as well not just bears and wolves. There's plenty of other food sources without the killing of all of these animals. How about putting limits on the killing of caribou by locals. Just leave bears and wolves alone, they are being wild animals. Who are we to kill them because they are doing what they need to survive. I'm sorry the caribou are decling but look at who else is killing them and stop it.

PC1477

Name: Williams , Laura

Community of Residence: Davenport Iowa

Comment:

Please save the bears! My grandchildren and there children should be able to see nature! Government is trying to remove every type of nature. From wild horses,donkeys, bears, wolf's. God created everything leave it alone.

PC1478

Name: Williams , Lorene

Community of Residence: Bandon Oregon

Comment:

Please save the bears. This is an abomination. We are losing wildlife at an alarming rate. Alaska should be a safe place.

PC1479

Name: Willoughby, Andrea

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

Even though I live in Los Angeles, California, I strongly oppose the proposed regulation by the Alaska Board of Game to allow department staff to kill brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. This kind of large-scale predator control is a short-sighted and inhumane approach that ignores the complex ecological relationships between species. Bears play a vital role in maintaining ecosystem balance, and targeting them as scapegoats for caribou declines overlooks more significant factors like habitat degradation and overharvesting. Slaughtering native predators to artificially boost game populations sets a dangerous precedent and undermines science-based wildlife management.

PC1480

Name: Wilson , Sandy

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Please stop & do some studies to see the consequences from past killing. We can't have an ecosystem that's more screwed up from humans.

PC1481

Name: Wilson Austin , Nicola

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

The Katmai bears bring such joy to people across the world and it is through them and the bear cameras that I have been researching Alaska and plan to visit, not just for the bears but to see what else Alaska has to offer. I don't pretend to understand how difficult it is to live alongside animals that pose a risk to human life so I won't pretend that I do however if there are other ways I ask that they are explored. The bears are worth so much to the great state of Alaska and rightly or wrongly people have named them and love them, they settle Alaska into people's hearts whoever never set foot there but hope one day to do so. I implore you to consider other options if possible. I trust that the right decision will be made for the people and the bears. Thank you.

PC1482

Name: Wilson McPhail, Emily

Community of Residence: Obetz

Comment:

This is inhumane and unnecessary.

PC1483

Name: Wilson, Morgan

Community of Residence: Salt lake Utah

Comment:

It's a disgrace what humans are doing to the world and wild life. Breaks my heart for these amazing animals.

PC1484

Name: Wines, Ashley
Community of Residence: Whatcom

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!

PC1485

Name: Wood, Allison

Community of Residence: Elgin, Texas

Comment:

reintroduction of wolves, has proven how important each animal is to the ecosystem

Bears travel large distances and may exit lKatmai to travel to / from denning. It's important to maintain the areas ecosystem. Allowing hunting that close to Katmai could disrupt the park's ecosystem. The park brings in large amount of tourist money to the area. People come to see specific bears

Important to protect natural resources in the area for future generations

---

PC1486

Name: Wood, Maureen Benedict Ange Wood

Community of Residence: Vancouver

Comment:

ALL HUMANS SHOULD AND HAVE TO PROTECT ALL ANIMALS [redacted] HUMANS AGAINST HUMANS IS ON THE BREAK OF WAR

PC1487

Name: Woodbury, Michelle

Community of Residence: Sacramento, CA

Comment:

I, like many others who support evidence based policies, strongly oppose the unnecessary and despicable proposed regulation. This is not only an incredibly unproven method, but would also be futile as this is far from a 1:1 predator/prey scenario. Quit meddling in things with such a lackluster understanding of them, especially when it could potentially result in the murder of innocent, beloved, needed beings.

PC1488

Name: Woods, April

Community of Residence: Anchorage, Alaska

Comment:

I have zero expectations that our horrible "Board of Game" will make a good decision about the bears in Mulchatna. Why? Because they always fail to protect nature and wildlife. For decades now I've tried to get the board of game to make decisions for life and they have failed, over and over again. I've had to conclude, they are all hunters who have no heart or brain to care for the living creatures of Alaska, all they see is a target to kill and/or money to be made selling a hunting license to the next killer in line. No wonder all of Alaska's wildlife numbers continue to decrease. The good old days of seeing moose every where in Alaska are over cuz the Board of Shame did wrong by them and all other living creatures. The Board of Game is the problem, always has been and meanwhile our wildlife numbers will continue to decrease and go into extinction and they can care a less but I do, so I write PLEASE STOP KILLING ALL ANIMALS with four legs.

PC1489

Name: Woods, Breanna

Community of Residence: Las Vegas

Comment:

ave the bears 🐻 💔

My heart aches knowing that innocent bears — including mothers and their cubs — are being gunned down from helicopters. These are living, breathing beings who roam freely, raise families, and play a vital role in nature.

They don’t know borders. They don’t know they’ve stepped into a kill zone. And now, they’re being wiped out — erased — for no proven benefit.

This isn’t conservation. It’s cruelty.

These bears are not just wildlife — they are part of Alaska’s soul, and a wonder the world flies across the globe to witness.

We cannot stay silent. Please stop this senseless killing. 🐻 🙏

#SaveTheBears #LetThemLive #EndAerialHunting

PC1490

Name: Wooster, Susan

Community of Residence: Albany, NY

Comment:

Killing wildlife should be illegal!

PC1491

Name: Worzalla, Kaitlin

Community of Residence: Annapolis, MD

Comment:

I oppose the inhumane hunting of bears and wolves and urge the voting members to ensure this program does not continue. Bears and wolves are the iconic megafauna of Alaska that were at the heart of my time in the state. As an environmental science major, I understand the complex ecosystem and food chain interactions. I want the caribou to be able to thrive too, but I don't see the statistics and scientific evidence that truly prove this method is successfully restoring the caribou population. Furthermore, the locations of these hunts needs to be reevaluated for proximity to protected habitats and impacts therein. Bears and wolves don't understand where the safe space starts or ends. Killing one that is single digits of miles outside the boundary is unfair, unethical, and immoral. We need to have better methods of deciding which bear to kill if we're going to kill them. A mother bear with cubs? Seriously? That is unacceptable. Finally, I understand that the regions of predator control are remote and it would be inefficient to use other methods. However, hunting from a helicopter is unethical, traumatizing, and inconsiderate to all animals that call this space home. Find a different way. We are better than this!

PC1492

Name: Wylie , Greg

Community of Residence: Sioux Falls

Comment:

Bears are in their environment, we've invaded their space.

PC1493

Name: Xhaferri, Marildo

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

DO NOT KILL THE BEARS.

PC1494

Name: Yacyshyn, Max

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

It is not human's rights to kill species when they are not invasive. Nature will take care of itself. There is no need or point in us pretending to play god.

PC1495

Name: Yap, Chada

Community of Residence: Singapore

Comment:

Please stop the killing of the bears in Alaska. Please find a better way to manage their population, not just an easy way out. Thank you for your kind consideration.

PC1496

Name: Yarnell, Katherine

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

Opposition to Proposal 1 – Predator Control in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Area

I strongly oppose Proposal 1, which seeks to reinstate the Department of Fish and Game's authority to lethally remove brown and black bears as part of the Intensive Management (IM) plan for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH).

This proposal is deeply flawed in its assumptions, unscientific in its long-term outlook, and ecologically damaging in its execution.

1. Killing Bears to Benefit Caribou Is Scientifically Questionable and Ethically Problematic

Numerous peer-reviewed studies have cast serious doubt on the long-term effectiveness of predator control programs that involve the lethal removal of bears. While calf survival may increase temporarily, there is little evidence that these actions lead to sustained herd recovery without addressing broader ecological issues such as habitat degradation, climate change, and disease—all of which also impact caribou populations.

Moreover, indiscriminately killing bears, which are slow-reproducing, long-lived animals, undermines the ecological balance and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic species.

2. The Court Vacated This Portion of the Program for a Reason

In March 2025, the Alaska Superior Court vacated the bear-killing portion of this program. Attempting to circumvent this ruling by reintroducing the same policy is not only disrespectful to the legal process, it

risks undermining public trust in wildlife governance. The Court found the program unjustified—why should the Board now approve the same flawed plan under a new wrapper?

3. This Is Not True "Intensive Management"—It's Predator Blaming

Proposal 1 focuses heavily on predator removal while downplaying or ignoring the complex, multi-factor causes of caribou decline. This includes overhunting in earlier years, habitat fragmentation, changing migration patterns, and climate-driven food shortages.

Alaska's Intensive Management law mandates that the state sustain populations for human harvest—but this should not be used as a blank check to eliminate natural predators without sound justification. True management must consider long-term sustainability and healthy ecosystem function, not just maximizing one species for human use.

4. The Ecosystem Cannot Be "Micro-Managed" Without Consequences

Targeting a small percentage of the herd's range (1.8%) for intensive predator killing may sound reasonable, but wildlife do not operate in fixed zones. Bears and wolves roam across vast landscapes and killing them in one area disrupts social structures and movement patterns far beyond that boundary.

Furthermore, department-led predator control sets a dangerous precedent. If the state begins routinely eliminating bears to inflate game populations, it threatens the integrity of Alaska's entire wildlife management philosophy and endangers the long-term viability of apex predator populations.

5. Public Values Are Changing—So Should Management

Alaskans value their bears—not only as part of healthy ecosystems but as cultural and economic assets, especially in tourism and wildlife photography. Slaughtering them for the sake of marginal caribou gains does not reflect modern public values and alienates residents and visitors who cherish Alaska's wild character.

In Conclusion

Proposal 1 is not a solution—it's a short-sighted, reactionary measure that favors outdated predator-control ideology over science-based conservation. Instead of targeting bears and wolves, the state should invest in rigorous habitat monitoring, non-lethal wildlife management tools, and broader ecosystem health strategies that address all the factors behind caribou decline.

I urge the Board to reject this proposal and uphold responsible, ethical, and ecologically informed wildlife stewardship.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Yarnell

Human. Not above nature—part of it.

PC1497

Name: Yates, Ann

Community of Residence: Anchorage AK

Comment:

I am writing to oppose the Mulchatna Bear Control Program consisting of shooting healthy bears from the air to mass kill and/or wound them and leave them to die in the name of protecting the Mulchatna caribou herd. Yet science does not show it's the predators like the bears that are the main threat to the caribou (and let's not forget that bears and caribou have been living together and effectively managing their populations without man's help for many years). The man threat is climate change which has reduced the main food of the caribou which is lichen and growing in its place are shrubs that do not sustain caribou. In addition, the caribou herd is weakened by disease and would actually benefit from having the sick and dying caribou removed by the bears.

Why would we kill a healthy animal that is iconic to Alaska, that actually represents the big, beautiful wildness of our state? How does that possibly help the bears, the caribou, residents of Alaska or tourism? It doesn't. It's a lose-lose for all involved and is a very sad and ugly presentation of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

I hope you'll listen to science and logic and the heart of Alaska. Ann Yates

---

PC1498

Name: Yates, Honey

Community of Residence: France

Comment:

No animal should be killed from a helicopter

PC1499

Name: Yazhi, Sal **Affiliation**: RAICES.UCLA (ROOTS)

Community of Residence: UCLA

Comment:

Asan indigenous man of the Diné tribe we honor all life and right to live. We are all related with all elements, nature and all living beings human or not .

PC1500

Name: Yokoyama, Jane

Community of Residence: Asheville

Comment:

As an Alaska resident of 35 years, I was shocked to hear about the indiscriminate killing of bears. As a former science teacher in Alaska I taught my students to value nature and understand the delicate balance in our environment. As a recent visitor to Katmai I appreciate the beauty of bears and know we can live safely in their midst as long as we understand how to interact. There is no science to justify this policy.

Needless to say I oppose the policy of killing brown and black bears when one does not even know how this will impact the caribou herd.

Thank you.

PC1501

Name: Yumanova , Alexandra

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

Please save these precious animals. They are vital to nature

PC1502

Name: Zaidi, Aliya

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

This is animal cruelty and not acceptable

PC1503

Name: Zeigler , Michelle

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

Killing bears or any species is outrageous and it must not happen again.

PC1504

Name: Zendejas, Kassandra

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Please do more research before killing innocent animals who are only hunting in their home. Bears are an important part of the food chain. Nature takes care of itself it doesn't need help from humans. Please don't try to play GOD

PC1505

Name: Zink, Spencer

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I oppose the take of brown and black bears because there is no scientific evidence that killing predators helps caribou herds Additionally, as a Non-Alaskan, I understand that Alaska is known for its pristine natural environments and scenes. Bears in other areas of North America are not doing as well as bears in Alaska. This provides an industry of eco-tourism as well as a basis of naturalism to maintain. Areas in other states have already been developed and medeled with enough that their pristine natural environments no longer exist. Even if you do not care for naturalism, bears, such as those that inhabit Brooks Falls, bring tourists from all over the world. This boosts the economy, provides tourism jobs, and helps businesses in the area. If these environments are changed, the economy will hurt, the environment will hurt, and the beauty of the area will hurt. I oppose the take of brown and black bears.

PC1506

Name: Zuluaga, Valentina

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

Bears are a very important part of the ecosystem, there is no scientific data that backs up the claim that culling bears helps Caribou. This is extremely inhumane to just be killing bears for sport, they are an integral part of the ecosystem, and human intrusion into it disturbs and disrupts the food chain and the regular interaction between animals and their environment.

Name: Terry Cummings
Community of Residence: Anchorage

PC1507
1 of 2

June 23, 2025

To: Board of Game (Meeting 7-14-2025)
RE: 5AAC 92.11 - Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area

NAME: Terry Cummings, [redacted]
Resident of Anchorage (since 1963), 99504
I am submitting comments on behalf of Myself.
Email - [redacted]

Comments:

I am in opposition to 5AAC 92.11 - Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area.

Bears are not responsible for the decline of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Disease, Food availability, climate change, over hunting, natural fluctuations, too liberal hunting regulations, are the major causes, as scientifically established. ADF&G doesn't even know how many bears are in the area and state that killing all the bears "likely" would be effective.

Bears are the slowest reproducing mammals

(outside of Musk Ox) in North America. Sustainability of the population is not being considered. Killing the bears is actually bringing other bears into the area from miles away, to feed on the dead ones. That is illegal bear baiting. It is scientifically proven that killing predators to increase moose and caribou numbers does not work. Chasing bears with helicopters & motorized vehicles is inhumane. Killing females (and cubs) leaves no sustainability. Females do not breed every year (usually 3 to 4 years) and have only a couple of cubs, of which only 50% survive. They are very slow at reproducing.

Predators are essential for a healthy caribou herd. Eradicating all grizzlies is not good management. ADF&G doesn't even know how many bears are in the management area. They don't know how many die of disease, food availability, how deviate change affects them, etc. They assume a lot. "Likely" is just guessing.

The people of Alaska do not want these bears killed.

- Going to see these bears was on my bucket list - - Won't be able to go now - I am strongly opposed to this Proposal - Jerry Cummings 6/23/25