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Homer AK [REDACTED]

RE: RC009

To: Board of Game Members

Having read about the court ruling against the last aerial bear killings in the Mulchatna area, I am strongly opposed to a repeat of this senseless killing of bears.

ADF&G keeps trying to go around the public notification process for comment periods by declaring emergencies that do not exist.

The court found there was not a proper public comment period for the last aerial shootings, nor was there an assessment of how these killings would affect the bear population.

I think before any sort of predator control program is moved forward, 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. Did it really help the overall caribou population or are other factors causing the decline?

It is not in the public's best interest to move forward on another hastily introduced aerial killing of bears program. This notice was not even known about before the meeting started, and it was apparently announced verbally at the meeting. How does that constitute adequate public notice? This is not an emergency that had to have this abrupt announcement in a way that very few people will even know about it. People do care deeply about the bears. Please do not let this regulation pass.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust