

I am writing to strongly oppose the State of AK Fish and Game plan to kill bears and wolves in order to grow the Mulchatna caribou herd. Science does not support this plan because the herd is suffering more from disease, lack of food source, and habitat changes related to climate warming. Killing their predators only allows weak and sick caribou to further damage the herd and further reduces already low food source. Bears and wolves are not competing with caribou for food, rather they are predators naturally placed in the ecosystem with caribou in order to balance the predator/prey ratio so both predator and prey numbers contribute to a healthy ecosystem. This is not rocket science yet Fish and Game seems impervious to the basics and instead seems set on murdering the very thing that represents Alaska, even our license plates: bears. How ironic and shameful that the state of AK would put bears on our license plates to represent our state while our Fish and Game department guns them down, including mothers and cubs, in order to interfere unsuccessfully in nature's cycle that has worked for thousands of years. Please step out of your irrational egos and into your rational, science-based minds. Thank you.