

PROPOSAL 100

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Adjust the Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C to exclude the south side of Kachmak Bay. Additionally, clarify the types of roads motorized vehicles are allowed to be utilized during the moose season; restrict the use of motorized vehicles for all big game hunting; and restrict the use of aircraft to spot game as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

...

(4) Unit 15

...

(B) The lower Kenai Controlled Use Area

(i) the area consists of Unit 15(C) **north of Kachemak Bay, Kachemak Creek, Bradley River, and Bradley Lake;**

(ii) the area is closed to the use of any motorized vehicle except a boat for **big game** hunting, including the transportation of hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of **big game** from September 16 through September 19 and September 22 through September 25; **an aircraft may not be used to spot game in this area during the period,** however this provision does not apply to the use of a motorized vehicle on **platted and improved (graveled, asphalted, or paved) borough, state, or municipal roads.**

(iii) during the periods specified in (ii) of this subparagraph, a **big game** hunter who travels off that highway system in that motorized vehicle may not hunt, including transporting hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of **big game**, or in any other manner initiate or participate in **big game** hunting activities, until after the hunter returns the motorized vehicle to the Unit 15(C) highway system; upon returning the motorized vehicle to that highway system, the hunter may initiate or participate in legal **big game** hunting activities so long as the hunter leaves the motorized vehicle on the Unit 15(C) highway system.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current regulations for the non motorized dates of moose hunting in Unit 15C of September 16-19 and September 22-25 has several areas that are being exploited. Hunters are utilizing the excuse of bear hunting during these periods to travel in this area during the non motorized period. I believe restricting the use of motorized vehicles for all big game hunting during this period would make it easier for the enforcement of the regulation. Another aspect of this period is the use of aircraft to spot moose during the closure. On several occasions I have had aircraft circle over an area I was hunting during this period. The language to include no aircraft may be used to spot or locate big game in the lower Kenai Controlled Use Area during this period would help truly make it a non motorized hunt that the regulation intends to achieve. The new language proposed by the

Homer AC defining roads and removing the south side of Kachemak Bay are also a great improvement to this regulation.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and members of the communities of Homer and Seldovia. Two public meetings focused on this topic were held in Homer and one in Seldovia to receive input from the local communities. The Homer Advisory Committee did not fully support this proposal, instead they adopted a version only better defining the roads and removing the restrictions from the south side of Kachemak Bay.

PROPOSED BY: Dan Miotke

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