

PROPOSAL 196

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

Restrict bear baiting within five miles of the Knik River Road in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

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

At Page 27 of the Regulation Book there is language stating that bear baiting is prohibited in the Glacier Creek drainage. This language should be added so that the Regulation Book would state as follows: "Bait may not be used and bait stations may not be registered. Unit 14 Remainder, the Glacier Creek drainage outside of Chugach State Park, and within five (5) miles of the Knik River Road."

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

Bait stations for both black and brown bear habituate some bears to human food and humans, and these bears pose a threat to people and property when bait stations are permitted near to populated areas. Bear baiting is currently authorized within a mile of the numerous cabins, home, and lodges along and near the Knik River Road; and a single mile separation is inadequate to provide for public safety. Furthermore, allowing bear bait near a populated area sends the wrong message contradicting the efforts of public authorities to persuade residents to handle their garbage responsibly.

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

I discussed this with the Anchorage Advisory Committee, but support was not unanimous and it was recommended that I submit it as an individual. I spoke with the area biologist about it and he referred me to Page 27 of the Regulation Book and suggested using the language concerning Glacier Creek drainage as a form.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-151)
