

PROPOSAL 241

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Open a year-round season for trapping mink in Unit 8 as follows:

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

5AAC 84.270 (7) Mink and Weasel

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Units 7, 8, and 14-16 Nov.10 - Jan.31 No Limit

Except in Unit 8, mink may be taken year-round.

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

Remove the season dates for mink in Unit 8 to allow trapping for mink year round in Unit 8. Allowing both increased flexibility for fur trapping and for trapping of nuisance mink.

The mink population has grown alot on the northern part of Kodiak Island and several other islands since their arrival about 10 years ago. The mink trapping season, however, coincides with the worst weather and shortest days of the year. Since most travel to remote areas of the island is via boat, access is much more difficult during November to January than the better weather and longer days from February through April such as already an option during the beaver season. Additionally, a year round season would allow trapping of nuisance mink to protect livestock and hatchery operations without a depredation permit from ADF&G.

Kodiak has a fairly constant year round climate and fur quality in the spring is not an issue with other species such as beaver and not likely to be for mink either.

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

I worked with the Kodiak Area wildlife biologist and assistant area biologist to get recommendations for proposal language and with other Kodiak trappers to gauge interest. There is a general desire to allow more species to be trapped in the spring on Kodiak given the difficulties of trapping during the fall and winter with weather and daylight. And given fur quality for species that are trapped in the spring is typically not an issue on Kodiak.

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(OI-F25-011)
