

PROPOSAL 248

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions.

Prohibit the use of electronically enhanced night vision for taking furbearers 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?

5 AAC 92.080. The following methods of taking game are prohibited:

(7) with the aid of.....

(E) electronically enhanced night vision; except that electronically enhanced night vision can be used for taking furbearers **in Units 1-7 and 9-26**;

(F) any forward looking infrared device; except that forward looking infrared devices can be used for taking furbearers **in Units 1-7 and 9-26**;

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

The issue I'm seeking to address is that the statewide change to allow electronically enhanced night vision and forward looking infrared devices does not fit well with Kodiak's circumstances and is unnecessary. Kodiak does not coyote or wolf, and our daylight restrictions are less than northern parts of the state. Additionally, in Unit 8 allowing these devices creates an enforcement challenge because there is considerable overlap between the trapping season and the open season for big game animals, including brown bear and deer. This is very different from the interior region, where this regulation was originally adopted, where there is considerably less overlap between trapping seasons and open seasons for big game.

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

The Kodiak Advisory Committee discussed the statewide proposal to allow these devices in early 2025 and did not support its application to Kodiak/Unit 8. I did not have a chance to discuss this specific proposal with the AC because there wasn't another AC meeting between the Board of Game and the proposal submission deadline.

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