

Proposal 47

5 AAC 92.20. Purchase and sale of game.

Allow the sale and/or barter of gall bladder of brown bear in Units 22A, B, D, and E as follows:

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

5 AAC 92.200, Purchase and sale of game, allow the sale and/or barter of gall bladder of brown bear in Units 22A, B, D, and E.

(a) In accordance with AS 16.05.920(a) and 16.05.930(e), the purchase, sale, or barter of game or any part of game is permitted except as provided in this section.

(b) Except as provided in 5 AAC 92.031, a person may not purchase, sell, advertise, or otherwise offer for sale:

(1) any part of a brown bear, except an article of handicraft made from the fur of a brown bear, and except skulls and hides with claws attached of brown bears harvested in areas where the bag limit is two bears per regulatory year by permit issued under 5 AAC 92.031;

a big game trophy, or a black bear trophy of any kind;

(3) a big game animal skull, except the skull of a black bear, wolf, or wolverine, or a horn or antler that is still attached to any part of the skull;

(4) the antler of a caribou taken in Unit 23, unless the antler is a naturally shed antler or has been made into an article of handicraft;

(5) unsealed marten taken in Units 1 - 7, and 15, or unsealed fisher taken in Units 1 - 5, except as provided in 5 AAC 92.170(a);

(6) unsealed beaver taken in Units 1 - 11 and Units 13 - 17;

(7) unsealed land otter, lynx, wolf, or wolverine;

(8) the meat of big game and small game, except hares and rabbits;

(9) the gallbladder of a bear, except in Units 22A, B, D, and E

(c) A person may not barter, advertise for barter, or otherwise offer for barter

(1) a big game trophy, or a black bear trophy of any kind;

(2) the antler of a caribou taken in Unit 23, unless the antler is a naturally shed antler or has been made into an article of handicraft;

(3) the gallbladder of a bear, except in Units 22A, B, D, and E

(d) Notwithstanding (b)(2) and (3) of this section, a licensed taxidermist, estate executor, divorced person, or bankruptcy referee, may sell a skin or trophy by permit issued under 5 AAC 92.031, and the state may sell a skin or trophy as excess property. A person may purchase and possess an animal skin

or trophy sold under this subsection. However, a person may not resell a skin or trophy purchased from a seller under this subsection.

- (e) the barter of subsistence-taken game meat is subject to the following:
 - (1) the following individuals and businesses are prohibited from engaging in the barter of game meat taken for subsistence uses:
 - (A) a person or business holding a license under AS 43.70 or AS 43.75, or its employee, to engage in the commercial sale of the food items or nonedible items provided by the barter exchange; and
 - (B) a person or business licensed under AS 43.70 or AS 43.75, or its employee, to engage in providing the services provided by the barter exchange;
 - (2) the terms of this subsection do not restrict barter of furs and furbearers, or barter of handicrafts;
 - (3) a person may not barter a big game animal horn or antler that is still attached to any part of the skull, or a big game animal skull, except the skull of a black bear, wolf, or wolverine;

in this subsection, "commercial" means for profit or disposal in commercial channels

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

The Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (SPRAC) requests the Board of Game allow the sale and/or barter of brown bear gall bladders in Units 22A, B, D, and E in an effort to help the local economy, and as a means to incentivize hunters to harvest their bag limit of brown bears. By allowing the sale and/or barter of brown bear gall bladder, hunters may be able to recover the cost of fuel. The SPRAC also believes that by allowing this change in regulation, it will help protect the declining Western Arctic Caribou Herd.

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

The proposal was developed at the March 2026 Council meeting at the request of a Council member from Golovin.

PROPOSED BY: Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisroy Council (OI-F26-050)
