

Proposal 92

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled Use Areas.

Remove the 40 HP restriction in Holitna–Hoholitna Controlled Use Area as follows:

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

Amend 5 AAC 92.540 (Controlled Use Areas) for the Holitna–Hoholitna Controlled Use Area as follows:

In the Holitna–Hoholitna Controlled Use Area, this area is closed to the use of aircraft for the purpose of taking big game, and during August 1 through November 1, a person may not use a motorized boat with an outboard motor greater than ~~40 horsepower~~ to take big game.

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

The Holitna–Hoholitna Controlled Use Area currently restricts the use of outboard motors greater than 40 horsepower for big game hunting. While intended to limit access and reduce hunting pressure, this restriction creates safety concerns and practical limitations for hunters navigating the Holitna and Hoholitna river systems.

River conditions in this area can include shallow water, strong currents, debris, and long travel distances. Limiting hunters to smaller motors can reduce maneuverability and reliability, particularly when boats are heavily loaded with gear or game meat. This may increase risk during travel and limit the ability to respond to changing river conditions.

Additionally, advances in boat and motor technology have made higher horsepower motors more common and, in many cases, necessary for safe and efficient operation. The current restriction does not reflect these changes and may place hunters using standard modern equipment at a disadvantage.

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

Family

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