

98-126-BOG

FINDING OF EMERGENCY

The Alaska Board of Game finds that an emergency exists and the attached regulations are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety or general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

Low salmon runs in the Yukon River have resulted in food shortages and imminent widespread threats to health and safety to individuals and communities throughout the disaster area. The board has received information that hunters in a portion of Units 25B and 25D, those areas described as "remainder of" the subunits in the codified regulatory language, need to begin hunting as quickly as possible in order to ensure affected villages of adequate supplies of meat given current shortages of fish and uncertain weather conditions. At this time the department is assessing the 1998 fall chum salmon run as very low in abundance and late in timing. All species of salmon arriving in the river have shown signs of stress, such as low weight, small size, parasites and fungus. Restrictions in subsistence fishing time were recently implemented in this area.

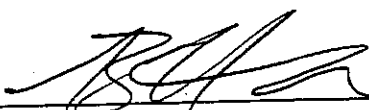
Providing traditional alternatives to local wild food scarcity is preferred in responding to the disaster emergency. Moose densities in Unit 25 are currently low, and many moose are inland away from major rivers. However, with a ratio of 40 bulls:100 cows, bull numbers are considered high enough to allow some additional harvest during this one-year liberalization without jeopardizing the health of the population. The department will continue to monitor the hunts in accordance with its sustained yield obligations.

ADOPTION ORDER

Under the authority of AS 16.05.255, AS 16.05.258, and under a delegation of authority from the Board of Game under AS 16.05.270, the attached regulations are therefore adopted as emergency regulations to take effect immediately as provided in AS 44.62.180 (3).

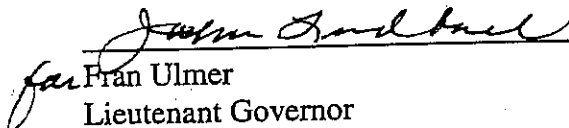
This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: 8.31.98  
Juneau, Alaska

  
Robert Bosworth, Deputy Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

FILING CERTIFICATION

John Lindback, for  
I, ^ Fran Ulmer, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on Aug 31, 1998, at 4:49 p.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.

  
Fran Ulmer  
Lieutenant Governor

Effective August 31, 1998  
Register 197, October 1998

Expires December 28, 1998  
unless made "permanent"  
by the adopting agency.