

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TRAINING

Fall 2024

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TRAINING OBJECTIVES

- Provide overview of delegated authority
- Demonstrate where and how to find information regarding delegated authority
- Outline Council and users' involvement in delegated authority



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY REGULATIONS

- Part of Federal subsistence management regulations

§100.10(d) Powers and Duties of the Board

* * * *

(6) The Board may delegate to agency field officials the authority to set harvest and possession limits, define harvest areas, specify methods or means of harvest, specify permit requirements, and open or close specific fish or wildlife harvest seasons within frameworks established by the Board.

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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

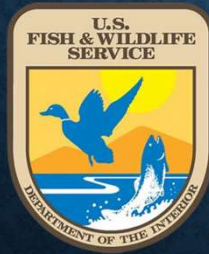
- **What:** Board transfers limited authority to manage a wildlife or fisheries resource to a local Federal manager



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- **WHO:** Federal managers (e.g., NPS superintendents, NWR or BLM field office managers, USFS district rangers)



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- **WHY:** Allows for timely management actions in response to changing conditions



Forecasted

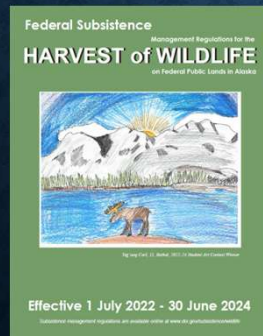


In-season

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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- **WHERE:** Unit-specific regulations (wildlife only) or delegation of authority letters (DALs)



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- **HOW:**
 - Board may delegate authority at any time (delegation letter)
 - Or may be put into regulation during a regulatory cycle
 - This option enables input from all interested parties through the public regulatory process



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UNIT SPECIFIC REGULATION EXAMPLE

HARVEST LIMITS	OPEN SEASONS
Unit 21E—1 moose; however, only bulls may be taken from Aug. 25 - Sept. 30. During the Feb. 15 - Mar. 15 season a Federal registration permit (FM2104 or FM2105) is required per household. The permit conditions and any needed closures for the winter season will be announced by the Innoko NWR manager after consultation with the ADF&G Area Biologist and the Chairs of the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and Grayling Anvik Shageluk Holy Cross Advisory Committees. Moose may not be taken within one-half mile of the Innoko or Yukon River during the winter season.	Aug. 25 - Sept. 30 Feb. 15 - Mar. 15

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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY LETTERS

- Authority is delegated through a letter only (not in regulations)
- In-season management actions are special actions
- Board may change or rescind as needed
 - Board e-mail vote or decision at work session
 - Public or Council may ask for a change via letter or during FSB meeting



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY LETTERS CONT.

- Much of the language is standard across all letters:
 - Consultation with other affected parties is required (Council Chairs, ADF&G, OSM, etc.)
 - Tribal consultations conducted, if practicable
 - Maintenance of record of special action request and decisions
 - May defer to Board if very controversial and if time allows



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DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY LETTERS CONT.

- 18 Fisheries DALs
 - Scope of delegation is broad and consistent across all letters
 - Cover all fish species
 - In Federal regulations booklet, delegated officials noted for each area
- ~60 Wildlife DALs
 - Cover specific hunts and specific management actions
 - Most actions are routine, annual actions (e.g, setting harvest quotas)
 - In Federal regulations booklet, DALs noted for each species/Unit by: Table in back of the Federal wildlife subsistence harvest regulations booklet.



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DELEGATED AUTHORITY COMPARISON

Unit-specific Regulations

- Regulatory Action
- Requires a proposal and the full regulatory process to change
- Narrow/specific in scope for routine, annual management actions
- Applies to wildlife regulations only

Delegation of Authority Letters

- Administrative Action
- Easier for Board to change/rescind as needed
- Special Actions
- Generally broader in scope and subject to more requirements
- Applies to Fisheries and Wildlife regulations

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DELEGATED AUTHORITY COMPARISON

Unit-specific Regulations

- Council's role
 - Submit proposals
 - Recommendations to the Board
 - Consult with Federal managers on actions



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DELEGATED AUTHORITY COMPARISON

Unit-specific Regulations

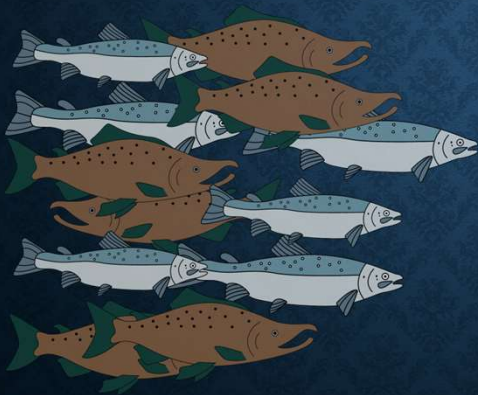
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DELEGATED AUTHORITY COMPARISON



Delegation of Authority Letters

- Council's role
 - Request changes through letters or Board meetings
 - Provide feedback to the Board
 - Consult with Federal managers on actions

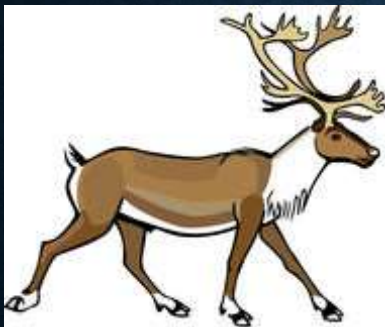
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TAKEAWAYS

- Allows for quick, in-season management actions (routine or special actions)
- Managers with delegated authority must consult with Council Chair, ADF&G, OSM, and others before taking action
- Council Chairs can bring in other Council members
- Contact OSM or your local in-season managers if you have questions



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Thank-you!

Any
Questions?

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PROPOSED CHANGES TO WILDLIFE DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- **Move authority in DALs to unit-specific regulations**
 - More appropriate for wildlife in-season management actions (routine, annual decisions)
 - Clear public process for changing delegated authority (regulatory proposal process)
 - Decreases burden on Federal managers (no public hearings, less administration)
- **Timeframe:**
 - March 2025: Submit proposal for the 2026-28 wildlife regulatory cycle
 - Fall 2025: Councils consider and make recommendations
 - April 2026: Board takes final action