



10,000 years in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the Gulf of Alaska

Proponent:

The Native Village of Eyak
110 Nicholoff Way, Cordova, AK 99574-1388

Issue: The subsistence needs of federally qualified users from the Cordova community are unmet for Black Bear.

Existing Federal Regulations:

Unit 6 – Black Bear 1 bear. In unit 6D a state registration permit is required. Sept. 1 -Jun. 30

Unit 6A—Residents of Yakutat and Units 6C and 6D, except no Federal subsistence priority for residents of Whittier.

Unit 6 remainder—Residents of Units 6C and 6D, except no Federal subsistence priority for residents of Whittier

Proposed Federal Regulations:

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Federal public lands on Hawkins Island and Hinchinbrook Island in unit 6D are closed to Black Bear hunting except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.

Justification: The unmet subsistence needs of federally qualified subsistence users result from increased harvest pressure on the eastern side of Prince William Sound from non-qualified users expanding their hunting area in search of Black Bear. While no population estimates exist for Black Bear in Prince William Sound, harvest data suggest this population is under extreme hunting pressure and in decline.