

Delegated Authority 2026 Wildlife Proposal

Submitter

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Issue

This proposal requests moving authority to manage Federal hunts currently delegated to Federal in-season managers through Delegation of Authority Letters (DALs) into unit-specific regulations for many hunts across Alaska and rescinding the associated DALs. Specific proposed regulations are grouped by region. While OSM transferred most authority verbatim from the DALs into the unit-specific regulations, some modifications were necessary for clarity or accuracy. These modifications are noted in the region-specific regulations below.

The land management units (i.e. National Wildlife Refuges or National Parks and Preserves) required for coordination of management actions are specified, but not the specific position at each unit. Also, Federal managers administering a Federal permit have authority to set permit conditions, such as reporting periods. Therefore, specific authority to set permit conditions in a DAL was not transferred into unit-specific regulations. Permit conditions must be approved by OSM and in accordance with the current OMB information collection.

Additionally, every DAL contains boiler plate language permitting in-season Federal managers “to close and reopen Federal public lands to nonsubsistence hunting”. This authority was not transferred into the unit specific regulations as it is more appropriately retained by the Federal Subsistence Board (Board).

Finally, Federal regulations for delegated authority (§____.10(d)(6)) specify the Board may delegate authority “within frameworks established by the Board.” To clarify this in the unit-specific regulations, the phrase “within the regulatory parameters set by the Board” was added.

Discussion

Currently, many Federal in-season managers are delegated authority by the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) to manage hunts through Delegation of Authority Letters (DALs). DALs are administrative and can be delegated by the Board at any time. However, any action taken by Federal managers through a DAL is a special action, and therefore subject to associated regulatory requirements such as holding a public hearing for any management action longer than 60 days (§100.19).

Special actions are temporary, in-cycle regulation changes that are intended for emergency or unforeseen situations; whereas many in-season management actions currently occurring through wildlife DALs are routine, annual management actions such as closing seasons when harvest quotas are met.

Having the delegated authority for these routine decisions in unit-specific regulations is more appropriate and efficient than issuing special actions year after year. This also provides a clear public process for changing delegated authority through regulatory proposals and decreases the administrative burden on Federal managers by eliminating all the regulatory requirements associated with special actions and the DALs. This proposal will improve government efficiency by streamlining in-season management actions, making them more consistent across the State, and enhancing engagement and coordination with the State of Alaska.

The current situation reflects operational inefficiencies. Currently, in-season managers are required to hold public hearings for actions lasting longer than 60 days. Conducting public hearings for straightforward, routine actions such as closing a season when a harvest quota is met takes staff time to coordinate, advertise, and conduct the hearings, which are often poorly attended. The DALs also require Tribal consultations to the extent practicable. Conducting Tribal consultations for routine matters is rarely practicable as they require staff time and effort to coordinate. The DALs require Council recommendations on management actions, if time permits without incurring undue delay. Seeking Council recommendations can delay implementation and consume staff as well as Council time for straightforward, routine management decisions. The DALs contain confusing language and guidance about “notifying proponents” because these annual management actions must be considered special actions when administratively delegated through letters. All these requirements are difficult to follow consistently and enforce with high staff turnover. As these letters have proliferated over the last 15 years, there has not been consistent implementation by in-season managers or guidance provided by OSM.

Moving these delegations of authority to existing regulations would create several efficiencies for the government, as well as improve coordination with the State of Alaska. Moving the delegated authority into unit-specific regulations condenses four pages of requirements into a single paragraph. The time, effort, and administration needed to implement in-season management actions will be substantially reduced as public hearings, Tribal consultations, RAC recommendations, and proponent notification will no longer be required. The extensive public process this proposal will undergo will also improve consistency in implementation of in-season management actions across Alaska by highlighting to in-season managers, Councils, as well as the State of Alaska the requirements for coordinating in-season management actions, who to coordinate with, and how actions should be communicated to rural subsistence users. It also reduces the administrative burden on OSM of maintaining 60+ letters, which can quickly become outdated if hunt areas or other parameters change.

Southeast

Proposed Federal Regulations

Unit-specific regulations

Note: The Southeast Region has several DALs that convey broad authority to manage moose, deer and mountain goat hunts across the region by ranger district; not specific, routine, annual actions by hunt area. Therefore, this delegated authority was put into the regulations for the entire unit, rather than for specific hunt areas. However, this broad authority for wildlife is unique to USFS lands within the Tongass National Forest, and the Board may want to consider whether they are still necessary.

These broad DALs also include the authority to “close Federal public lands to the take of these species by all users.” Similar to the boiler plate authority for closure to nonsubsistence users, OSM did not transfer the authority for closure to all users into the unit-specific regulations.

§ __.26(n) Unit regulations

(1) Unit 1

(viii) Unit-specific regulations:

(E) The USFS District Rangers after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) are authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, and adjust harvest and possession limits for deer, moose, and mountain goats.

(2) Unit 2

(i) Unit-specific regulations:

(E) The USFS District Rangers after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) are authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, and adjust harvest and possession limits for deer.

(3) Unit 3

(iii) Unit-specific regulations:

(E) The USFS District Rangers after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) are authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, and adjust harvest and possession limits for deer and moose.

(4) Unit 4

(iii) Unit-specific regulations:

(E) The USFS District Rangers after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) are authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the

Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, and adjust harvest and possession limits for deer.

(5) Unit 5

(iii) Unit-specific regulations:

(F) The USFS District Rangers after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) are authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, and adjust harvest and possession limits for deer in Unit 5A.

Goat

Note: Goat hunts in Unit 4 are closely managed through annual, routine management actions. Therefore, the authority for the Unit 4 goat hunt was transferred into the specific hunt area, rather than as part of the broad authority for the entire unit (see section above).

The existing DAL for Unit 4 goats does not delegate authority to define harvest zones. However, goat hunts in Unit 4 are currently managed by zones, which have specific quotas and closures. OSM added “define harvest zones” to the unit-specific delegated authority to reflect how goat hunts are actually managed.

Unit 4—Goat	
<i>Unit 4—1 goat by State registration permit only</i> <i>The USFS District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, define harvest zones, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i>	<i>Aug. 1-Dec. 31</i>

Note: Goat hunts in Unit 5 are closely managed through annual, routine management actions. Therefore, the authority for the Unit 5 goat hunt was transferred into the specific hunt area, rather than as part of the broad authority for the entire unit (see section above).

The existing DAL for Unit 5 goat specifies the authority is “within the Yakutat Ranger District of the Tongass National Forest.” However, National Park Service lands within Glacier Bay National Preserve (GLBA) also occur within Unit 5A. Therefore, OSM removed the limitation of the Yakutat Ranger District, so the entire hunt area is covered, and added GLBA to the list of entities for coordination.

Unit 5A—Goat	
<i>Unit 5A—that area between the Hubbard Glacier and the West Nunatak Glacier on the north and east sides of Nunatak Fjord</i>	<i>No open season</i>
<i>Unit 5A, remainder—1 goat by Federal registration permit only</i> <i>The Yakutat District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Glacier Bay National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i>	<i>Aug. 1-Jan. 31</i>

Moose

Note: Moose hunts in Unit 5 are closely managed through annual, routine management actions. Therefore, the authority for the Unit 5 moose hunt was transferred into the specific hunt area, rather than as part of the broad authority for the entire unit (see section above).

The existing DAL for Unit 5A moose specifies the authority is “within the Yakutat Ranger District of the Tongass National Forest.” However, National Park Service lands within Glacier Bay National Preserve (GLBA) also occur within Unit 5. Therefore, OSM removed the limitation of the Yakutat Ranger District, so the authority applies to entire hunt areas, and added GLBA to the list of entities for coordination in Unit 5A, except Nunatak Bench, east of the Dangerous River.

Unit 5B moose has authority already listed in unit-specific regulations as well as in an associated DAL. OSM combined the two as both are not necessary. Since the harvest quota and management action (closing the season when the quota is met) are specified in regulation, OSM did not see a reason to require coordination of this delegated management authority with other entities (i.e. ADF&G, OSM, Council Chairs).

Unit 5—Moose	
<i>Unit 5A, Nunatak Bench—1 moose by State registration permit only. The season will be closed when 5 moose have been taken from the Nunatak Bench</i> <i>The Yakutat District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i>	<i>Nov. 15-Feb. 15</i>

<p><i>Unit 5A, except Nunatak Bench, west of the Dangerous River—1 bull by joint State/Federal registration permit only. From Oct. 8-21, public lands will be closed to taking of moose, except by residents of Unit 5A hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Yakutat District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i></p>	Oct. 8-Nov. 15
<p><i>Unit 5A, except Nunatak Bench, east of the Dangerous River—1 bull by joint State/Federal registration permit only. From Sep. 16-30, public lands will be closed to taking of moose, except by residents of Unit 5A hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Yakutat District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Glacier Bay National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i></p>	Sep. 16-Nov. 15
<p><i>Unit 5B—1 bull by State registration permit only. The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve superintendent will close the season will be closed when 25 bulls have been taken from the entirety of Unit 5B.</i></p>	Sep. 1-Dec. 15

Wolf

Note: The existing DALs are to the Craig District Ranger and the Thorne Bay District Ranger within their respective ranger districts. However, since the DALs were issued, the USFS management structure has changed. Now, the Prince of Wales District Ranger manages all of Unit 2. OSM updated the authority to reflect this change, and also removed the unnecessary stipulations on ranger districts to simplify the regulatory language.

Unit 2—Wolf Hunting	
<p><i>Unit 2—No limit. All wolves taken will be sequentially numbered, marked with the date and location recorded by the hunter for each wolf, and all hides must be sealed within 15 days of take.</i></p>	Sep. 1-Mar. 31

<i>The Prince of Wales District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close/reopen/adjust seasons.</i>	
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Unit 2—Wolf Trapping	
<p><i>Unit 2—No limit. All wolves taken will be sequentially numbered, marked with the date and location recorded by the trapper for each wolf, and all hides must be sealed within 15 days of take.</i></p> <p><i>The Prince of Wales District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close/reopen/adjust seasons.</i></p>	<i>Nov. 15-Mar. 31</i>

Southcentral

Proposed Federal Regulations

Caribou

Note: OSM added the authority to “set the number of permits issued” to reflect how the hunt are currently being managed and because unlimited permits are not appropriate for draw hunts.

OSM also combined the Unit 15B and 15C hunt areas to simplify regulations and added the authority to “define harvest areas” to reflect how the hunt is currently being managed to address conservation concerns.

Unit 15—Caribou	
<i>Unit 15B, within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Area, and Unit 15C, north of the Fox River and east of Windy Lake—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit</i> <i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, define harvest areas, and set harvest quotas, sex restrictions, and the number of permits issued.</i>	<i>Aug. 10-Sep. 20</i>
<i>Unit 15C, north of the Fox River and east of Windy Lake—1 caribou by Federal drawing permit</i>	<i>Aug. 10-Sep. 20</i>
<i>Unit 15, remainder</i>	<i>No open season</i>

Deer

Note: The DAL for Unit 6 deer specifies coordination with the BLM Anchorage Field Office Manager. OSM corrected this to the BLM Glenallen Field Office manager to accurately reflect BLM districts.

Also, the Unit 6 DAL for moose and deer is combined. Some of the authority was not appropriate for both species. Therefore, OSM only transferred the relevant authority from the DAL into the unit-specific regulations for deer.

Unit 6—Deer	
<i>Unit 6—5 deer; however, antlerless deer may be taken only from Oct. 1-Jan. 31. Only 1 of the 5-deer harvest limit may be taken between Jan. 1-31</i>	<i>Aug. 1-Jan. 31</i>

<p><i>The Cordova District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, BLM Glennallen Field Office (for BLM affected lands), Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve (for NPS affected lands), and the Chair of affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to adjust harvest and possession limits, including sex restrictions.</i></p>	
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Goat

Note: OSM added Kenai NWR to the entities for coordination since Kenai NWR lands occur in Unit 7. OSM also added the authority to “define harvest zones” to reflect how the hunt is currently being managed.

Unit 7—Goat	
<p><i>Unit 7—1 goat by Federal drawing permit. Nannies accompanied by kids may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The Seward District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Kenai NWR and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, and set harvest quotas, number of permits issued, and sex restrictions, and define harvest zones.</i></p>	<i>Aug. 10-Nov 14.</i>

Note: OSM added the authorities to “define harvest zones” and to “set the number of permits issued” to reflect how the hunt is currently being managed and because unlimited permits are not appropriate for draw hunts.

Unit 15—Goat	
<p><i>Unit 15—1 goat by Federal drawing permit. Kids or nannies accompanied by kids may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, and set harvest quotas, number of permits issued, and sex restrictions, and define harvest zones.</i></p>	<i>Aug. 10-Nov. 14</i>

Moose

Note: OSM reformatted the Unit 6C moose regulation for clarity and simplicity. OSM also deleted repetitive, unnecessary delegated authority language. These are administrative, housekeeping change.

Also, the Unit 6 DAL for moose and deer is combined. The DAL required coordination with BLM and NPS, neither of which have lands in Unit 6C. Therefore, OSM did not specify coordination with either BLM or NPS in the unit-specific regulations below.

Unit 6—Moose	
<i>Unit 6C—1 antlerless moose by Federal drawing permit only</i> <i>Permits for the portion of the antlerless moose quota not harvested in the Sep. 1-Oct. 31 hunt may be available for redistribution for a Nov. 1-Dec. 31 hunt</i> OR	<i>Sep. 1-Oct. 31</i>
<i>1 bull by Federal drawing permit only</i> <i>In Unit 6C, only one moose permit may be issued per household. A household receiving a State permit for Unit 6C moose may not receive a Federal permit. The annual harvest quota will be announced by the U.S. Forest Service, Cordova Office, in consultation with ADF&G. The Federal harvest allocation will be 100% of the antlerless moose permits and 75% of the bull permits</i> <i>The Cordova District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close/reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits, including sex restrictions, and close Federal public lands to all users.</i>	<i>Sep. 1-Dec. 31</i>
<i>Unit 6, remainder</i>	<i>No open season</i>

Note: The Unit 7 moose DAL is only for the “Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest”. OSM applied the delegated authority to the entire hunt area, which includes portions of Kenai NWR and the Glacier Ranger District and added the other affected land managers to the entities for coordination.

The Unit 7 moose DAL also includes the authority to “close Federal public lands to all users.” OSM did not transfer this authority into the unit-specific regulations as it has not been used by the Federal in-season manager and is no longer necessary.

Unit 7—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 7, remainder—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit only</i></p> <p><i>The Seward District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Kenai NWR, the USFS Glacier Ranger District, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set a harvest quota and season dates, reopen/adjust seasons, adjust harvest and possession limits.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 20-Sep. 25</i></p>

Note: OSM added Chugach National Forest to the list of entities required for coordination. Chugach National Forest was not specified in the Unit 11 DAL, but this hunt area includes USFS lands within the Chugach National Forest.

Unit 11—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 11, that portion south and east of a line running along the north bank of the Chitina River, the north and west banks of the Nizina River, and the west bank of West Fork of the Nizina River, continuing along the western edge of the West Fork Glacier to the summit of Regal Mountain—1 bull by Federal registration permit. However, during the period Aug. 20-Sep. 20, only an antlered bull may be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Chugach National Forest, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas and season dates for the winter season.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 20-Sep. 20.</i></p> <p><i>Nov. 20-Jan. 20.</i></p>

Note: The Unit 15 moose DAL includes the authority to “adjust harvest and possession limits, including antler restrictions.” OSM did not transfer this authority into the unit-specific regulations for the Unit 15C cow hunt given the current, one cow harvest limit in regulation, which renders that authority null and void.

The Unit 15 moose DAL also includes the authority to “close Federal public lands to all users”. OSM did not transfer this authority into the unit-specific regulations as it has not been used by the Federal in-season manager and is no longer necessary.

Unit 15—Moose	
<i>Unit 15A—Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area</i>	<i>No open season</i>
<p><i>Units 15A remainder, 15B, and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit only</i></p> <p><i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, adjust harvest and possession limits, including antler restrictions, and close/reopen/adjust seasons.</i></p>	<i>Aug. 20-Sep. 25</i>
<p><i>Units 15B and 15C—1 antlered bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or with 3 or more brow tines on either antler, by Federal registration permit only. The Kenai NWR Refuge Manager is authorized to close the October-November season based on conservation concerns, in consultation with ADF&G and the Chair of the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council</i></p> <p><i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, adjust harvest and possession limits, including antler restrictions, and close/reopen/adjust seasons.</i></p>	<i>Oct. 20-Nov. 10</i>
<p><i>Unit 15C—1 cow by Federal registration permit only</i></p> <p><i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas and close/reopen/adjust seasons.</i></p>	<i>Aug. 20-Sep. 25</i>

Sheep

Note: The Unit 7 sheep DAL does not specify coordination with Kenai NWR, which OSM added to the authority delegated in the unit-specific regulation. OSM also added the authority to “define harvest zones” to reflect how the hunt is currently managed.

Unit 7—Sheep	
<i>Unit 7—1 ram with full curl horn or larger by Federal drawing permit</i> <i>The Seward District Ranger after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Kenai NWR and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, set the harvest quota, number of permits issued, and define harvest zones.</i>	<i>Aug. 10-Sep. 20</i>

Note: The Unit 15 sheep DAL does not specify coordination with the USFS Seward Ranger District, which OSM added to the authority delegated in the unit-specific regulation OSM added the authorities to “define harvest zones” and to “set the number of permits issued” to reflect how the hunt is currently being managed and because unlimited permits are not appropriate for draw hunts.

Unit 15—Sheep	
<i>Unit 15—1 ram with 3/4 curl horn or larger by Federal drawing permit</i> <i>The Kenai NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, USFS Seward Ranger District and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, set harvest quotas, number of permits issued, and define harvest zones.</i>	<i>Aug 10-Sep. 20</i>

Lynx

Note: The Southcentral Region has a DAL that authorizes, “The OSM director after coordination with ADF&G and the Chair of the affected Council(s) to close/open/adjust seasons and set harvest and possession limits for lynx in Units 7, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16.” While, the rationale and origination of this DAL is uncertain, this authority has not been used for at least 10 years. OSM does not consider transferring this authority from the existing DAL into unit-specific regulations necessary or appropriate but does support rescinding this DAL.

Kodiak/Aleutians

Proposed Federal Regulations

Caribou

Note: The DAL for caribou in Unit 9D included the authority for “any needed closures.” OSM did not transfer this authority into regulation as it is very vague and the exact intention is uncertain (i.e. closure of Federal lands or seasons; closure to all users or nonsubsistence users).

Unit 9D—Caribou	
<i>Unit 9D—1-4 caribou by Federal registration permit only</i>	<i>Aug. 1-Sep. 30</i>
<i>The Izembek NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, and harvest limits, including sex restrictions.</i>	<i>Nov. 15-Mar. 31.</i>

Unit 10—Caribou	
<i>Unit 10, Unimak Island only—1 bull by Federal registration permit</i>	<i>Aug. 1-Sep. 30.</i>
<i>The Izembek NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set the harvest quota, close the season, and open/close Federal public lands to non-federally qualified users annually based on the current population status of the Unimak caribou herd.</i>	

Moose

Note: Unit 9D moose has authority already listed in unit-specific regulations as well as in an associated DAL. Since the harvest quota and management action (closing the season when the quota is met) are specified in regulation, OSM did not see a reason to require coordination of this delegated management authority with other entities (i.e. ADF&G, OSM, Council Chairs). The authority in the DAL is to close the season, which leaves Federal lands open under State regulations. The authority in unit-specific regulations is to close Federal lands, which also closes hunting under State regulations. OSM is not proposing any changes to this regulation but supports rescinding the associated DAL as both are not necessary and are confusing.

Unit 9D—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 9D—1 bull by Federal registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands will be closed by announcement of the Izembek Refuge Manager to the harvest of moose when a total of 10 bulls have been harvested between State and Federal hunts.</i></p>	<i>Dec. 15-Jan. 20</i>

Bristol Bay

Proposed Regulations

Caribou

Notes: OSM collapsed Unit 9A and Unit 9C, that portion within the Alagnak River drainage excluding Katmai National Preserve into one hunt area to simplify regulations as the regulations are exactly the same. OSM considers this a housekeeping, administrative change.

The DAL for Unit 9 caribou covers the entire range of the Mulchatna caribou herd and requires coordination with the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee (Committee). As this Committee is focused on Nushagak Peninsula Caribou, not Mulchatna Caribou, OSM did not include it in entities required for coordination. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Mulchatna caribou, which explains why the Togiak NWR manager is delegated authority to manage these caribou hunts. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Mulchatna caribou herd across its entire range.

Unit 9C, that portion draining into the Naknek River from the north, and Graveyard Creek and Coffee Creek had two DALs associated with it; one to the BLM Anchorage Field Office manager and one to the Togiak NWR manager as part of the Mulchatna Caribou DAL. Delegating authority to two different Federal managers for the same hunt is not appropriate and very confusing. Therefore, OSM supports rescinding both DALs, but only transferred the authority for the Mulchatna herd into the unit-specific regulations.

OSM added the authority to determine “the number of permits available by community” to the Unit 9C, that portion within Katmai National Preserve caribou hunt. This authority was not included in the existing DAL, but is necessary for how the hunt is currently being managed.

The delegated authority for Unit 9C remainder and Unit 9E caribou are combined in one letter and requires coordination with BLM and the NPS, but does not specify the specific land management units. OSM added the specific units for coordination into the unit-specific regulations below. However, there are no BLM lands in Unit 9E, so OSM removed requiring coordination with BLM for the Unit 9E caribou hunt.

Unit 9—Caribou	
<i>Units 9A, and Unit 9C, that portion within the Alagnak River drainage excluding Katmai National Preserve —up to 2 caribou by State registration permit</i>	<i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i>
<i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory</i>	

<p><i>parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i></p>	
<p><i>Unit 9B—up to 2 caribou by State registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Mar. 31.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 9C, that portion within Katmai National Preserve—I caribou by Federal registration permit. Federal public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by residents of Igiugig and Kokhanok hunting under these regulations</i></p> <p><i>The Katmai National Park and Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce the annual harvest quota, announce and open/close a season, determine the number of permits issued annually and the number of permits available by community, and set sex restrictions.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Sep. 30 or Nov. 1-Mar. 31.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 9C, that portion draining into the Naknek River from the north, and Graveyard Creek and Coffee Creek—up to 2 caribou by State registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 9C, remainder—I bull by Federal registration permit or State permit.</i></p>	<p><i>May be announced</i></p>

<p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by residents of Unit 9C and Egegik</i></p> <p><i>The Alaska Peninsula/Becharof NWR Manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, BLM Anchorage Field Office, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and the Chair of affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close the season, and set harvest quotas.</i></p>	
<p><i>Unit 9E—1 bull by Federal registration permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by residents of Unit 9C, Unit 9E, Nelson Lagoon, and Sand Point</i></p> <p><i>The Alaska Peninsula/Becharof NWR Manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Aniakchak National Preserve and Monument, and the Chairs of affected Councils is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close the season, and set harvest quotas.</i></p>	<i>May be announced</i>

Notes: OSM collapsed Units 17A, all drainages west of Right Hand Point; 17A, remainder and 17C, remainder; and Units 17B and 17C, that portion of 17C east of the Wood River and Wood River Lakes into one hunt area to simplify regulations as the regulations are exactly the same. OSM considers this a housekeeping, administrative change.

The DAL for Unit 17 caribou covers the entire range of the Mulchatna caribou herd and requires coordination with the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee (Committee). As this Committee is focused on Nushagak Peninsula Caribou, not Mulchatna Caribou, OSM did not include it in entities required for coordination. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Mulchatna caribou, which explains why the Togiak NWR manager is required to coordinate with the other land management units specified. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Mulchatna caribou herd across its entire range.

Unit 17—Caribou	
<p><i>Units 17A and 17C, that portion of 17A east of the Ungalikthluk River and South of Buchia Ridge, and within the lower Kulukak River drainage south of Buchia Ridge and within the Kanik River drainage downstream of the Tithe Creek, that portion of 17C south of the Igushik River and</i></p>	<i>Aug. 1-Mar. 31</i>

<p><i>south of and including the Tuklung River drainage—up to 5 caribou by Federal registration permit</i></p> <p><i>Public lands are closed to the taking of caribou except by federally qualified users unless the Nushagak Peninsula caribou population estimate exceeds 900 caribou</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, BLM, the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning committee, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to determine the harvest quota, set the harvest limit, close the season, set the harvest areas, and determine the number of permits issued and the number of permits available by community.</i></p>	
<p><i>Units 17A, remainder; 17B; and 17C, remainder—up to 2 caribou by State registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1 and Mar. 31.</i></p>

Moose

Unit 17—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 17A—1 bull by State registration permit; or</i></p> <p><i>1 antlerless moose by State registration permit; or</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 25-Sep. 25.</i></p> <p><i>Aug. 25-Sep. 25.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 17A—up to 2 moose; one antlered bull by State registration permit, one antlerless moose by State registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the</i></p>	<p><i>Up to a 31-day season may be announced between Dec. 1 and the last day of Feb.</i></p>

<p><i>regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close a winter season of up to 31 days and set the harvest limit for the winter season.</i></p>	
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Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Proposed Regulations

Caribou

Notes: OSM collapsed Unit 18, that portion to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River and Unit 18, remainder into one hunt area to simplify regulations as the regulations are exactly the same. OSM considers this a housekeeping, administrative change.

The DAL for Unit 18 caribou covers the entire range of the Mulchatna caribou herd and requires coordination with the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee (Committee). As this Committee is focused on Nushagak Peninsula Caribou, not Mulchatna Caribou, OSM did not include it in the entities required for coordination. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Mulchatna caribou, which explains why the Togiak NWR manager is delegated authority to manage these caribou hunts. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Mulchatna caribou herd across its entire range.

Unit 18—Caribou	
<i>Unit 18 —up to 2 caribou by State registration permit</i> <i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i>	<i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i>

Moose

Note: The DAL for moose in the Kuskokwim River hunt area does not require coordination with the BLM Anchorage Field Office. OSM added the BLM Anchorage Field Office to the entities required for coordination since some BLM lands occur in this hunt area.

The DAL for moose in Unit 18 that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of Carter Bay drainage reads, “Unit 18, Goodnews river drainage south to the Unit 18 boundary” because the hunt area changed in regulation but was not updated in the associated DAL.

Unit 18—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 18, that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line 1/2 mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage—I antlered bull by State registration permit during the fall season</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p><i>Up to 1 moose by Federal permit during a may-be-announced winter season</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of moose except by residents of Akiachak, Akiak, Atmautlauk, Bethel, Eek, Kalskag, Kasigluk, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwethluk, Kwigillingok, Lower Kalskag, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, Quinhagak, Tuluksak, and Tuntutuliak.</i></p> <p><i>The Yukon Delta NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to determine annual harvest quotas, close the fall season, open/close a winter season, announce sex and antler restrictions for the winter hunt, and determine the permit allocation system on an annual basis, including the number of permits issued through a limited registration or random drawing hunt.</i></p>	<p><i>Sep. 1-Oct. 15.</i></p> <p><i>May be announced between Dec. 1-Jan. 31.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 18, that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of Carter Bay drainage—I antlered bull by State registration permit</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p><i>1 moose by State registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close the fall season, and open/close a winter season.</i></p>	<p><i>Sep. 1-30</i></p> <p><i>A season may be announced between Dec. 1 and the last day of Feb.</i></p>

Western Interior

Proposed Federal Regulations

Caribou

Note: The DAL for Unit 19 caribou covers the entire range of the Mulchatna caribou herd and requires coordination with the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee (Committee). As this Committee is focused on Nushagak Peninsula Caribou, not Mulchatna Caribou, OSM did not include it in the entities required for coordination. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Mulchatna caribou, which explains why the Togiak NWR manager is delegated authority to manage these caribou hunts. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Mulchatna caribou herd across its entire range.

Unit 19—Caribou	
<p><i>Units 19A, 19B, and 19E (excluding rural Alaska residents of Lime Village)—up to 2 caribou by State registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced between Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i></p>

Note: OSM changed the season from “to be announced” to “may be announced” as this season has not been announced for years. OSM considers this an administrative, housekeeping change.

Unit 21D—Caribou	
<p><i>Unit 21D, north of the Yukon River and east of the Koyukuk River—caribou may be taken during a winter season to be announced.</i></p> <p><i>The Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest limits and announce season dates.</i></p>	<p><i>Winter season may be announced.</i></p>

Moose

Note: The existing DAL is for moose in Unit 19A, remainder. However, Unit 19A was split into two subunits: Unit 19A and Unit 19E in 2024. However, this change was not reflected in the existing DAL. Therefore, the authority now applies to Unit 19A (instead of Unit 19A, remainder).

The existing Unit 19A moose DAL also just specifies coordination with BLM. OSM clarified coordination should be with the BLM Anchorage Field Office.

Unit 19A—Moose	
<i>Unit 19A—1 antlered bull by Federal drawing permit or a State permit. Federal public lands are closed to the taking of moose except by residents of Tuluksak, Lower Kalskag, Upper Kalskag, Aniak, Chuathbaluk, and Crooked Creek hunting under these regulations.</i>	<i>Sep. 1-20</i>
<i>The Yukon Delta NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set annual harvest quotas and the number of permits issued, and to close the hunt early if the quota is reached.</i>	

Note: OSM combined the fall and winter hunts for Unit 21B, that portion within the Nowitna NWR downstream from and including the Little Mud River to simplify regulations and reduce confusion since these hunts are in the same hunt area. OSM also changed the winter season in Unit 21B from “to be announced” to “may be announced” as this season is not announced every year. OSM considers these administrative, housekeeping changes.

Similarly, for all the Unit 21D moose regulations, OSM reformatted the regulations for clarity, and changed the “to be announced” seasons to “may be announced” seasons as they are not announced every year. OSM considers these administrative, housekeeping changes. The Unit 21D moose regulations also have authority already listed in the unit-specific regulations as well as in the associated DAL. Having duplicate delegated authority is not appropriate, so OSM removed the duplication when transferring the DAL authority into the unit-specific regulations. Finally, the Unit 21D moose DALs only specified coordination is required with the BLM. OSM clarified coordination should be with the BLM Central Yukon Field Office. In Unit 21D, remainder, OSM also removed some unnecessary, repetitive regulatory language regarding permit requirements to simplify regulations.

Unit 21—Moose	
<i>Unit 21B, that portion within the Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge downstream from and including the Little Mud River drainage—1 bull. A State</i>	<i>Sep. 5-Oct. 1</i>

<p>registration permit is required Sep. 5-25. A Federal registration permit is required Sep. 26-Oct. 1</p> <p>OR</p> <p>1 antlered bull. A Federal registration permit is required during the 5-day season and will be limited to one per household.</p> <p>The Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set season dates.</p>	<p>Five-day season may be announced between Dec. 1 and Mar. 31</p>
<p>Unit 21D, Koyukuk Controlled Use Area—1 bull by State registration permit</p> <p>OR</p> <p>1 antlerless moose by Federal permit if authorized by announcement by the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager. Harvest of cow moose accompanied by calves is prohibited. A harvestable surplus of cows will be determined for a quota.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>1 antlered bull by Federal permit, if there is no Mar. 1-5 season and if authorized by announcement by the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager and BLM Central Yukon field office manager.</p> <p>The Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Central Yukon Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates, harvest quotas and sex restrictions.</p>	<p>Sep. 1-25.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Mar. 1-5 season may be announced</p> <p>Apr. 10-15 season may be announced.</p>
<p>Unit 21D, that portion south of the south bank of the Yukon River, downstream of the up-river entrance of Kala Slough and west of Kala Creek—1 moose by State registration permit. Antlerless moose may be taken only during Sep. 21-25 season if authorized jointly by the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR Manager and the BLM Central Yukon Field Office Manager. Antlerless moose may be harvested during the winter season. Harvest of cow moose accompanied by calves is prohibited.</p> <p>The Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Central Yukon Field Office, and the Chair of the</p>	<p>Aug. 22-31.</p> <p>Sep. 5-25.</p> <p>Mar. 1-31 season may be announced.</p>

<i>affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates, harvest quotas and sex restrictions.</i>	
<p><i>Unit 21D, remainder—I moose by State registration permit. Antlerless moose may be taken only during Sep. 21-25 and the Mar. 1-5 season if authorized if authorized jointly by the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR Manager and the BLM Central Yukon Field Office Manager. Harvest of cow moose accompanied by calves is prohibited. During the Aug. 22-31 and Sep. 5-25 seasons, a State registration permit is required. During the Mar. 1-5 season, a Federal registration permit is required.</i></p> <p><i>The Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Central Yukon Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates, harvest quotas and sex restrictions.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 22-31.</i></p> <p><i>Sep. 5-25.</i></p> <p><i>Mar. 1-5 season may be announced</i></p>

Sheep

The Unit 19C sheep regulations have authority delegated in the unit-specific regulations as well as in an associated DAL. Having duplicate delegated authority is not appropriate, so OSM removed the duplication when transferring the DAL authority into the unit-specific regulations.

Unit 19C—Sheep	
<p><i>Unit 19C, (residents of Nikolai only) that portion within the Denali National Park and Preserve—Community harvest quota set annually by the Denali National Park and Preserve Superintendent; rams or ewes without lambs only.</i></p> <p><i>The Denali National Park and Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the Chair of the Denali Subsistence Resource Commission, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close the season and set harvest quotas.</i></p>	<i>Oct. 1-Mar. 30</i>

Seward Peninsula

Proposed Federal Regulations

Caribou

Unit 22—Caribou	
<p><i>Units 22A, that portion north of the Golsovia River drainage, 22B remainder, that portion of Unit 22D in the Kuzitrin River drainage (excluding the Pilgrim River drainage), and the Agiapuk River drainages, including the tributaries, and Unit 22E, that portion east of and including the Tin Creek drainage—15 caribou, only 1 may be a cow by State registration permit. Calves may not be taken.</i></p>	<p><i>July 1-June 30</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 22A, remainder—15 caribou, only 1 may be a cow by State registration permit. Calves may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates.</i></p>	<p><i>July 1-June 30, season may be announced.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 22B, that portion west of Golovnin Bay and west of a line along the west bank of the Fish and Niukluk Rivers to the mouth of the Libby River and excluding all portions of the Niukluk River drainage upstream from and including the Libby River drainage—15 caribou, only 1 may be a cow by State registration permit. Calves may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce a season between May 1 and Sept. 30.</i></p>	<p><i>Oct. 1-Apr. 30.</i></p> <p><i>May 1-Sep. 30, season may be announced.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 22D, that portion in the Pilgrim River drainage—15 caribou, only 1 may be a cow by State registration permit. Calves may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce a season between May 1 and Sept. 30.</i></p>	<p><i>Oct. 1-Apr. 30.</i></p> <p><i>May 1-Sep. 30, season may be announced.</i></p>

<p><i>Units 22C, 22D remainder, 22E remainder—15 caribou, only 1 may be a cow by State registration permit. Calves may not be taken.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates.</i></p>	<p><i>July 1-June 30, season may be announced.</i></p>
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Moose

Note: OSM reformatted the Unit 22D, remainder moose regulations for clarity and simplicity. This is a housekeeping, administrative change.

Unit 22—Moose	
<p><i>Unit 22D, remainder—1 bull by State registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>OR</i></p> <p><i>1 antlered bull by State registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of moose except by federally qualified subsistence users.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close the fall season if the quota is met, and open a season between Dec. 1 and Jan. 31.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 10-Sep. 14</i></p> <p><i>Dec. 1-Jan. 31, season may be announced.</i></p>

Musk ox

Unit 22—Musk ox	
<p><i>Unit 22B—1 bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of musk ox except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>

<p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	
<p><i>Unit 22D, that portion west of the Tisuk River drainage and Canyon Creek—I bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of musk ox except by residents of Nome and Teller hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	<p><i>Sep. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 22D, that portion within the Kuzitrin River drainages—I bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of musk ox except for residents of Council, Golovin, White Mountain, Nome, Teller, and Brevig Mission hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Bering Land Bridge National Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 22D, remainder—I bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of musk ox except by residents of Elim, White Mountain, Nome, Teller, and Brevig Mission hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>

<p><i>affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	
<p><i>Unit 22E—1 bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of musk ox except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Bering Land Bridge National Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>

Northwest Arctic

Proposed Regulations

Muskox

Note: The scope of delegated authority for all of the Unit 22 and 23 muskox hunts was standardized via Proposal WP24-27. However, the authority to determine “the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits” is not necessary for Unit 23, Cape Krusenstern National Monument (CAKR) since National Monuments are closed to anyone hunting under State regulations. Therefore, OSM did not transfer that authority into the unit specific regulations.

OSM also removed the requirement to coordinate with the NPS Regional office for Unit 23, CAKR and Unit 23, north and west of the Kobuk River drainage. OSM added the BLM Arctic District Office to the entities for coordination for the muskox hunt in Unit 23, north and west of the Kobuk River drainage since BLM has lands in the northwestern corner of Unit 23.

Unit 23—Muskox	
<p><i>Unit 23, south of Kotzebue Sound and west of and including the Buckland River drainage—1 bull by Federal drawing permit or State permit.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Anchorage Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 23, Cape Krusenstern National Monument—1 bull by Federal drawing permit.</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas and the number of permits to be issued.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15.</i></p>
<p><i>Unit 23, that portion north and west of the Kobuk River drainage—1 bull by State permit or Federal drawing permit.</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Arctic District Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i></p>

<i>the Board, to close the season, determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits to be issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i>	
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Sheep

Note: The DAL for sheep in Unit 23 specifies setting harvest limits. However, as the harvest limit for all Unit 23 sheep hunts is “one sheep”, OSM clarified this authority includes setting sex and horn-curl restrictions.

Also, the Unit 23 sheep DAL only specifies coordination with BLM. OSM clarified coordination should be with the BLM Anchorage Field Office.

Unit 23—Sheep	
<p><i>Unit 23, south of Rabbit Creek, Kiyak Creek, and the Noatak River, and west of the Cutler and Redstone Rivers (Baird Mountains)—1 sheep by Federal registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of sheep except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set season dates and set or adjust annual harvest quotas and harvest limits, including sex and horn-curl restrictions.</i></p>	<i>May be announced.</i>
<p><i>Unit 23, north of Rabbit Creek, Kiyak Creek, and the Noatak River, and west of the Aniuk River (DeLong Mountains)—1 sheep by Federal registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set season dates and set or adjust annual harvest quotas and harvest limits, including sex and horn-curl restrictions.</i></p>	<i>May be announced.</i>

<p><i>Unit 23, remainder (Schwotka Mountains) except for that portion within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve—1 sheep by Federal registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, BLM Anchorage Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set season dates and set or adjust annual harvest quotas and harvest limits, including sex and horn-curl restrictions.</i></p>	<p><i>May be announced.</i></p>
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Eastern Interior

Proposed Regulations

Caribou

Unit 12—Caribou	
<p><i>Unit 12, that portion east of the Nabesna River and the Nabesna Glacier and south of the Winter Trail running southeast from Pickerel Lake to the Canadian border—1 bull by Federal registration permit only</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of caribou except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.</i></p> <p><i>The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Tetlin NWR, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set or open/close the season, announce the harvest quota, the number of permits, and the reporting period.</i></p>	<p><i>Aug. 10-Sep. 30</i></p>

Note: The DAL for Fortymile caribou just specified coordination with USFWS and NPS. OSM clarified that coordination should be with Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve and Yukon Flats NWR. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Fortymile caribou, which explains why the BLM Eastern Interior Field Office manager is required to coordinate with the other land management units specified. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Fortymile caribou herd across its entire range.

The DAL for Fortymile caribou just specified Unit 20F. However, given the current regulations and recent in-season management actions, the delegated authority should NOT apply to Unit 20F, north of the Yukon River. This DAL also delegated authority to modify or restrict methods and means. OSM is not aware of this authority ever being used and therefore did not transfer it into the unit specific regulations.

Unit 20—Caribou	
<p><i>Unit 20E—up to 3 caribou, to be announced, by a joint State/Federal registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Eastern Interior Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Yukon Flats NWR, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is</i></p>	<p><i>Fall season between Aug. 1 and Sep. 30, to be announced.</i></p> <p><i>Winter season between Oct. 21 and Mar. 31, to be</i></p>

<i>authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to modify or restrict harvest limits, including sex restrictions, and season dates for Fortymile caribou.</i>	<i>announced.</i>
<i>Unit 20F, north of the Yukon River—1 caribou</i>	<i>Aug. 10-Mar. 31</i>
<p><i>Unit 20F, east of the Dalton Highway and south of the Yukon River—up to 3 caribou, to be announced, by a joint State/Federal registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Eastern Interior Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Yukon Flats NWR, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to modify or restrict harvest limits, including sex restrictions, and season dates for Fortymile caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Fall season between Aug. 1 and Sep. 30, to be announced.</i></p> <p><i>Winter season between Oct. 21 and Mar. 31, to be announced.</i></p>

Unit 25—Caribou	
<p><i>Unit 25C—up to 3 caribou, to be announced, by a joint Federal/State registration permit.</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Eastern Interior Field Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Yukon Flats NWR, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to modify or restrict harvest limits, including sex restrictions, and season dates for Fortymile caribou.</i></p>	<p><i>Fall season between Aug. 1 and Sep. 30, to be announced.</i></p> <p><i>Winter season between Oct. 21 and Mar. 31, to be announced.</i></p>

North Slope

Proposed Regulations

Moose

Unit 26—Moose	
<p><i>Units 26B, remainder and 26C—1 moose by Federal registration permit by residents of Kaktovik only.</i></p> <p><i>Federal public lands are closed to the taking of moose except by a Kaktovik resident holding a Federal registration permit and hunting under these regulations</i></p> <p><i>The Arctic NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Arctic Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set or adjust annual harvest quotas, set any needed sex restrictions, determine the number of permits issued, and set season dates.</i></p>	<i>May be announced</i>

Muskox

Unit 26—Muskox	
<p><i>Unit 26A, that portion west of the eastern shore of Admiralty Bay where the Alaktak River enters, following the Alaktak River to 155°00' W longitude south to the Unit 26A border—1 musk ox by Federal drawing permit</i></p> <p><i>The BLM Arctic District Office manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to close the season, and determine annual harvest quotas, the number of permits issued, and the method of permit allocation between State and Federal permits.</i></p>	<i>Aug. 1-Mar. 15</i>
<p><i>Unit 26C—1 musk ox by Federal registration permit only</i></p> <p><i>Public lands are closed to the taking of musk ox, except by rural Alaska residents of the village of Kaktovik hunting under these regulations</i></p>	<i>May be announced between July 15-Mar. 31</i>

<p><i>The Arctic NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to announce season dates, determine the number of permits issued annually, and set sex restrictions.</i></p>	
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Sheep

Note: The DAL for sheep in Unit 26A specifies setting harvest limits. However, as the harvest limit for the Unit 26A sheep hunt is “one sheep”, OSM clarified this authority includes setting sex and horn-curl restrictions.

Also, the Unit 26A sheep DAL only specifies coordination with BLM. OSM clarified coordination should be with the BLM Arctic Field Office. The Western Arctic National Parklands (WEAR) superintendent has delegated authority for sheep in Unit 26A because the Units 23 and 26A sheep hunts were combined in one DAL as the sheep populations cross unit boundaries. OSM retained the WEAR superintendent as the Federal in-season manager for sheep in Unit 26A to maintain consistency in sheep population management.

Unit 26A—Sheep	
<p><i>Unit 26A, that portion west of Howard Pass and the Etivluk River (DeLong Mountains)—1 sheep by Federal registration permit</i></p> <p><i>The Western Arctic National Parklands superintendent after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, BLM Arctic Field Office, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set season dates and set or adjust annual harvest quotas and harvest limits, including sex and horn-curl restrictions.</i></p>	<p><i>Season may be announced.</i></p>