

Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



In Reply Refer To OSMA25019

AUGUST 11 2025

Nanci Morris Lyon, Chair Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council c/o Office of Subsistence Management 1011 E. Tudor Road, MS 121 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199

Dear Chair Morris Lyon:

This letter provides a report on the actions taken by the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) on proposals and closure reviews affecting federally qualified subsistence users. The Board met on February 4–7, 2025, to consider fisheries closure reviews and proposed changes to Federal subsistence management regulations for the harvest of fish, shellfish, and wildlife in Federal public waters and lands in Alaska.

The Board acted on 18 fisheries proposals, two wildlife proposals, four fisheries closure reviews, and one non-rural determination proposal during the 2025–27 fisheries regulatory cycle. The Board deferred their decision on statewide wildlife proposal WP24-01 regarding the sale of brown bear hides to their summer work session and requested additional recommendations from the Councils. The Board took action on WP24-01 on July 24, 2025. The enclosed table provides a summary of Board actions on proposals and closure reviews affecting your region.

Section 805(c) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) provides that the Board will accept the recommendations of a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) regarding take unless, (1) the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, (2) the recommendation violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife management, or (3) adopting the recommendation would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. When a Council's recommendation is not adopted, the Board is required to set forth the factual basis and reasons for the decision.

An 805(c) report provides the justification for when the Board's decision did not follow your Council's recommendations on proposals and/or closure reviews. The Board is not required to give deference to Council recommendations on non-rural determination proposals. No 805(c) report to your Council is included for this cycle as the Board agreed with all of your recommendations.

Additional details of the Board's actions and deliberations are contained in the meeting transcripts. Copies of the transcripts may be obtained by calling toll free number 1-800-478-1456. They are also available online at the Office of Subsistence Management website, https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/library/transcripts/federal-subsistence-board.

The Federal Subsistence Board appreciates your Council's active involvement and diligence in the regulatory process. The ten Councils continue to be the foundation of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and the stewardship shown by the Regional Advisory Council chairs and their representatives at the Board meeting was noteworthy.

If you have any questions regarding the summary of the Board's actions, please contact Leigh Honig, Council Coordinator, at 907-891-9053 or leigh honig@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,

Anthony Christianson

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Chair

Enclosure: Federal Subsistence Board Action Summary affecting the Bristol Bay Region at the February 2025 regulatory meeting

cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Bristol Bay Council members
Office of Subsistence Management
Interagency Staff Committee
Administrative Record