



Federal Subsistence Board

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



In Reply Refer To
F26017

JUL 15 2026

Nanci Morris Lyon
Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
c/o Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East 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 regulatory proposals as well as select closures identified for review in the proposed rule for this regulatory cycle. The Board met on April 21-24, 2026, to consider wildlife closures and proposed changes to Federal subsistence management regulations for the harvest of wildlife on Federal Public Lands in Alaska.

The Board considered 78 proposals and 17 closures during the 2026-28 wildlife regulatory cycle. The Board adopted 52 of the proposals, deferred five, approved the withdrawal of three (WP26-27 and WP26-41/42), rejected 12, and took no action on 11. The Board reviewed and acted on 17 wildlife closures, voting to retain status quo on 12 of them. The Board adopted deferred fisheries proposal FP25-02 as modified by the Southeast Council and determined RFR25-01, the request for reconsideration of Ketchikan's rural status does not meet the threshold. The enclosed table provides a summary of Board actions on proposals and closures 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.

The Board agreed with all recommendations from your Council except for the deferral of WP26-01, which will be taken up during the 2027 Fisheries regulatory meeting; therefore, no 805(c) report is included. The enclosed table provides a summary of Board actions on proposals and closures affecting your region.

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 and are available online at the Federal Subsistence Management Program website, <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/library/transcripts/federal-subsistence-board>.

The Federal Subsistence Board appreciates your Council's active involvement in and diligence with the regulatory process. The ten Regional Advisory 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
Chair

Enclosure: Table of Board's Actions affecting the Bristol Bay Region for the 2026-2028
Wildlife Regulatory Cycle

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

Enclosure 1 – Federal Subsistence Board Action Summary at the April 2026 regulatory meeting

Wildlife Proposals and Closures Affecting Bristol Bay Region

Region	Proposal/Closure Review	Bristol Bay Council Recommendation	Federal Subsistence Board Action
Bristol Bay	WP26-36 – Unit 9 wolverine, modify hunting season dates	Support	Adopt
Bristol Bay	WP26-37 – Unit 9 and 17 beaver, modify trapping season dates and methods and means	Support as modified by OSM	Adopt as modified by OSM
Bristol Bay	WP26-38/39 – Unit 17 brown bear; increase harvest limit, eliminate permit requirement, and extend season	Support	Adopt
Bristol Bay	WP26-40 – Units 17A and 17C caribou, close federal public lands to caribou hunting except by residents of Togiak, Twin Hills, Manokotak, Aleknagik, Dillingham, Clark's Point, and Ekuk	Oppose	Reject
Bristol Bay	WCR26-05 – Unit 9C moose closure review	Retain Status Quo	Retain Status Quo
Bristol Bay	WCR26-07 – Unit 17 Nushagak caribou closure review	Retain Status Quo	Retain Status Quo
Kodiak/Aleutians	WP26-35 – Unit 9 caribou, modify fall season dates	Take no action and defer to home region	Adopt
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta	WP26-41/42 – Unit 18 moose and caribou, eliminate take from boat moving under power	Take no action and defer to home region	Approved the Withdrawal
Statewide	WP26-01 - Move authority delegated through letters to unit-specific regulations	Support as modified by OSM	Defer to 2027 Fisheries Meeting