

PROPOSAL 49

5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions.

For the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region, allow the use of crossbows in archery only hunt areas for hunters possessing permanent identification cards as follows:

To allow the use of crossbows in an archery/bow only area by anyone possessing an Alaska permanent identification card and who has completed the crossbow certification course by ADF&G in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Crossbows are an effective game management tool and are more likely to ensure an accurate shot and quick kill for elderly hunters. Alaska seniors may no longer be able to hold a draw on a traditional/compound bow or may have lost the strength over time to shoot one. Crossbows allow the older hunter to continue their pursuit of wild game for the freezer and can be used on a solid rest, like shooting sticks. By allowing this new regulation only for resident hunters who have obtained their permanent identification card we can expect experience in judgement to accompany these hunters afield. This new regulation could serve as a Board of Game test pilot program in all the Units of the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region and if successful could be expanded to the entire state when applicable.

PROPOSED BY: Jim Sackett

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