



Name: Dalal, Shari

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed reinstatement of Alaska's taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears, including mothers with cubs.

This program is not only inhumane and unethical, but it also lacks scientific justification. Studies have consistently shown that predator control efforts—such as aerial gunning of bears—do not reliably lead to increases in ungulate populations like caribou. For example:

- A 2016 review published in *Biological Conservation* found limited or no evidence that large carnivore removal leads to meaningful prey population increases in most ecosystems.
- A 2020 peer-reviewed study in *Nature Ecology & Evolution* emphasized that ecosystem health depends on predator-prey balance, and that removing apex predators often creates long-term ecological damage.
- According to Alaska Department of Fish & Game's own data, caribou populations are more influenced by habitat quality, weather conditions, and human disturbances than by bear predation.

Killing 99 bears in 2023 and another 80 in 2024 through aerial gunning is not “wildlife management”—it is a brutal massacre that ignores modern science, public values, and the ecological role of predators. Bears are vital to nutrient cycling, seed dispersal, and overall ecosystem health.

As someone who believes in science-based conservation, I urge you to reject this cruel and outdated program. Please protect Alaska's iconic bears and preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

Sincerely,

Shari D.

I urge you to oppose the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. Killing wildlife from the sky—especially mothers with cubs—is not only inhumane, it is NOT backed by science.

Peer-reviewed studies, including one in *Biological Conservation* (2016), found little to no evidence that predator removal boosts prey populations long-term. More importantly, caribou numbers are affected by climate, food availability, and habitat disruption—not simply predation. Removing apex predators destabilizes ecosystems and harms biodiversity.

In 2023 and 2024, nearly 180 bears were killed this way. This is cruel, costly, and ineffective. Alaska must adopt science-based management—not outdated and brutal methods.

Please stop this program.

I am horrified by the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska—especially knowing that mothers with cubs are being slaughtered. Nearly 180 bears were killed in just two years. For what? There's no conclusive science showing this helps caribou herds recover.

Instead, decades of research show that ecosystem health relies on predators, and that caribou populations are more affected by weather, habitat quality, and human activity than by bear predation.

Please don't let this needless violence continue. Alaska's bears deserve protection, not extermination.

I strongly oppose the aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. This practice is inhumane, ineffective, and unscientific. Scientific studies, including those in Nature Ecology & Evolution and Biological Conservation, show predator removal rarely benefits prey species long-term, and it disrupts ecosystems.

Bears are critical to ecological health. Killing them from aircraft—at taxpayer expense—is a reckless policy that must be stopped. Caribou recovery depends on addressing habitat, not waging war on predators.

Please cancel this program immediately.

I respectfully ask you to stop the proposed aerial gunning of bears in Alaska. As someone who values science-based wildlife policy, I am deeply concerned by this brutal program.

Killing nearly 180 bears over two years has no proven benefit for caribou herds. Leading ecological research, including a 2020 study in Nature Ecology & Evolution, shows that predators are vital to functioning ecosystems, and that prey populations are driven more by environmental factors than predation.

Let's protect Alaska's iconic wildlife—not destroy it based on outdated assumptions.



PC302

Name: Dallas, Heidi

Community of Residence: Malvern

Comment:

There are humane methods of limiting bear populations if that's what you are so determined to do (such as baited birth control, relocation, or even surgical methods while the animal is tranquilized). Please find your empathy. - Heidi



PC303

Name: Dalman, Gillian

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Bears are beautiful living creatures who cannot understand the idea of a boundary extending. Killing bears for existing when they have done nothing wrong is cruel and inhumane. Predators are important parts of the food chain and ecosystem. Do not kill these bears.



PC304

Name: Dalton, Bob

Community of Residence: APT 627

Comment:

Caribou herds would do better with the present of this beautiful and wonderful predator . Really no excuse to terminate them . Unless they present danger to humans . The balance will present lot of the natural biodiversity. A Winn for all !!!! Don't kill below reproduction rates. Keeping Caribou and bear in a balanced environment . We know these things now learned from past generations.



PC305

Name: Daly, Colleen

Community of Residence: Lewiston, New York

Comment:

If there is no data indicating that this method worked, let nature take its own course. Very cruel almost like poaching.



PC306

Name: Damanis, Allison

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Enough bears are lost every year to human/bear interaction. Stop eliminating the ones that aren't a problem. You could be benefiting from bears like "the boss" when these animals are given an identity people begin to understand and respect them. These bears could be a financial gold mine if managed properly.

Bio diversity and a robust population is key to long term survival. Just stop with trying to manage wildlife life for the convenience of humans. Do better



Commentor: Carol Damberg

Location: Anchorage, AK

Email: [REDACTED]

PROPOSAL 1 : 5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area. Modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd as follows: Allow black and brown bears to be removed by department staff as part of the intensive management plan for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH).

I OPPOSE PROPOSAL 1:

“To date, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has failed to produce evidence that their control of both grizzly bears and black bears has been successful at increasing focal prey abundances. They have failed to implement the active, adaptive management necessary to demonstrate the efficacy of their intensive management. Such extreme predator control is unacceptable to the public, especially when there is no evidence of its efficacy, and the lack of science flies in the face of the North American Model.” (June 2025 Journal of Wildlife Management).

The above statements are from an article published in the June 2025 Journal of Wildlife Management: Bears in North America: Habitats, hunting, and politics. The review was developed for the meeting of the International Association for Bear Research and Management in September 2024.

The Board of Game (BOG) should take note of the influential group of Wildlife Scientists that stand behind these statements. The Journal of Wildlife Management is one of the premier scientific wildlife publications produced in the world. The Journal of Wildlife Management publishes original research contributing to fundamental wildlife science. The Journal of Wildlife Management is a journal by The Wildlife Society. The Wildlife Society is an international network of over 11,000 leaders in wildlife science, management and conservation who are dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship. The International Association for Bear Research and Management (IBA) is a professional organization for biologists, wildlife managers, and conservationists focused on the conservation of eight species of bears. It supports effective management and advances scientific understanding of bear species worldwide.

The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (Model) (noted in the quoted statement above) is a unique framework that emphasizes the public trust in wildlife, sustainable management practices, and the importance of science in conservation efforts. The Model is a set of principles that guide wildlife management and conservation in the United States and Canada. It emerged in the late 1800s as a response to the overexploitation of wildlife resources and the need for sustainable practices. The following are the key tenets the BOG and State continue to violate.



- 1) Wildlife as Public Trust Resources:** Wildlife is considered a public resource, managed by government agencies on behalf of all citizens. This principle ensures that wildlife is preserved for current and future generations. (The BOG and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (State) continue to ignore 1000's of comments from the public that includes hunters, guides, tourists, tourism specialists, indigenous people, biologists, etc.. There has been zero deliberation about the content of the comments other than – “we got a lot of comments”! This is disrespectful and violates the trust of the public. The BOG has not been sincere to address the concerns of the diverse public that have submitted comments.)
- 2) Rule of Law:** Wildlife management is governed by laws and regulations that are developed and enforced by state and federal agencies. This legal framework guides the responsible use of wildlife resources. (The courts have found multiple times the State is violating the rule of law = The AK State constitution. Conducting IM practices without the science to prove it is working is violating the rule law. Killing significant numbers of bears and wolves without assessing the impacts to these populations violates responsible use of public resources. Aerial gunning bears is clearly not responsible use of wildlife resources – wont and waste when not retrieved or discarded in unknown locations. There have been no records provided to the public of the disposition of the animal's meat, fur, etc.)
- 3) Legitimate Purpose for Killing Wildlife:** Wildlife can only be killed for specific, legitimate reasons, such as for food or self-defense. This principle discourages wasteful killing and promotes ethical hunting practices. (Clearly the State is violating this principal with all of its IM programs – bears and wolves are not being eaten, there are no self-defense issues, and if furs and parts are being sold there are no public records. The legitimate reason for their Kill program is to “increase the Mulchatna Caribou Herd” however there is no science available to show it is working.)
- 4) Science as the Basis for Policy:** Decisions regarding wildlife management are informed by scientific research and data, ensuring that policies are based on sound evidence. (The State is clearly violating this principal. There is no scientific data and analysis showing the Mulchatna IM program is working to increase the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. They have a few collared calves/caribou they claim is the evidence. The State has no study design or statistical analysis to account for other variables impacting the herd. Empty Science! As for the bears and wolves, the State is clearly violating this tenant as they have no idea what the impacts are to the bear/wolf populations other than speculation and opinion. There are zero data available on bear and wolf populations to prove they are being managed sustainably.)



In summary, the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation is a foundational framework that promotes sustainable wildlife management through public trust, legal regulations, and scientific principles, ensuring that wildlife resources are preserved for future generations. Sadly, the State is ignoring the Constitutional requirement to manage all species sustainably, has blatantly tried to ignore the courts, ignored the premier tenants of the North American Model, and have violated the public's trust.

I sincerely ask the BOG to act in an objective manner and engage in the kind of deliberative, reasoned analysis required by law to assure the sustainability of the bear populations. Please do not disregard the prior court decisions, the State constitution, the greater scientific communities' evaluations (former State biologists, Wildlife Society scientists, International Bear management experts, etc.), the collective perspectives of all the public (hunters, non-hunters, indigenous, etc.) and the North American Model.

YOU CAN MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION AS A BOG MEMBER – VOTE NO ON PROPOSAL 1. PLEASE STAND UP FOR SCIENCE AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION THAT REQUIRES SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ALL RESOURCES USING SCIENCE!

Alternatives to this proposal:

- 1) Re-evaluate and adopt a science-based population objective for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd so the future harvest of all species can continue without the need for IM practices.
- 2) Ask the ADFG to request an independent peer review of the Mulchatna IM program to identify if the bear removal is making a significant difference to the recovery of the caribou herd. Note: 13 years of aerial gunning wolves made no difference! Nutrition, habitat changes, weather conditions, disease and illegal harvest are primary factors influencing the population and have not been accounted for in the States "analysis" of the IM program.
- 3) Promote the investment of future funds (millions- that will be spent if this program continues) in evaluating the bear and wolf populations in the region to understand their status (populations), their importance to maintaining healthy sustainable ecosystems, and their importance to the economic and social wellbeing of the American Public and Alaska's economy.

Interesting FACTS:

- 1) IM progress reports for the Mulchatna herd ([Units 9B, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, 19B, Alaska Department of Fish and Game](#)) allude to nutritional problems among adult caribou and many calf deaths due to malnutrition, dehydration, and "failure to thrive" that are nowhere mentioned in ADF&G reports to the BOG. Statements to the BOG that there are no nutritional problems in the MCH are inexcusable.
- 2) The 2024 Mulchatna Caribou Herd Photo Survey IM progress report concludes that, "It may be appropriate to consider revising the current population objective of 30,000 to



80,000 given historic and recent population trends.” No mention of that in any recent ADF&G presentations to the BOG. In fact, failure to reach the current IM population and harvest objectives is the primary basis for ADF&G’s declaration of an emergency situation that requires reinstatement and continuation of the bear removal program.

**PC308****Name:** Dampf, Christin**Community of Residence:** Utah**Comment:**

I am opposed to your decision to shoot bears from helicopters. There needs to be a better plan that doesn't take the life of sows with cubs in this indiscriminate culling of bears. Where is the science that backs up what is taking place in Alaska. As a taxpayer and a citizen of the United States I find this sort of unchecked government overreach unacceptable. These animals suffer after being shot. You are killing older senior bears who pass along vital information to the younger bears which impact generations

There have been numerous studies showing the predator control program does not positively affect the caribou population regrowth. There are however other factors impacting the caribou herds Brucellosis disease and the lichen that the caribou follow, leading to habitat decline. Wolves and bears generally hunt the weaker and older prey which ultimately keeps the herds healthier. Please stop the killing of our keystone species and consider listening to the biologists who agree that the predator control program does not work. Thank you.

**PC309****Name:** Daniel, Eric**Community of Residence:** Lorient (France)**Comment:**

I am opposed to this way of taking off brown and black bears because it will not help to save Mulchatna caribou herds. First because scientific studies proved it doesn't work and secondly because caribou's calves are more killed by eagles than by bears. And finally it is horrible to think you can kill pregnant bears or their babies : it is inhuman !!! Let them live.

**PC310****Name:** Daniels, Hopi**Community of Residence:** Murfreesboro, TN**Comment:**

I am OPPOSED to the proposal to modify Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

Bears of all kinds contribute significantly to the local ecosystem and deserve respect. Please consider public input on this matter and stop this proposal.



PC311

Name: Dante, Mikala

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

Please do not continue this practice. We can peacefully co exist with the bears.



PC312

Name: Darsana, Helena

Community of Residence: Bali Indonesia

Comment:

You have NO RIGHT you take the life of another. We stand up for the voicless animals. Do not murder out planets wildlife, you do not have the right to do such hienous action on innocent creatures living in their own habitat.



PC313

Name: Dasilva, Toot

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Stop the slaughter of these bears in Alaska



PC314

Name: Dauk, Laurie

Community of Residence: Prince Albert

Comment:

It is unethical and unscientific as a plan-you can and should do better. Please don't go ahead but look at the full picture and how important all wildlife is.



PC315

Name: Dautel, John

Community of Residence: Solomon Kansas

Comment:

I am against the killing of bears as it is proposed by the Alaska fish and game.



PC316

Name: Davis, Gabriel

Community of Residence: Dillingham

Comment:

My name is Gabriel Davis

I am writing this letter in opposition to the intensive management program I.

I am a Guide and pilot out of Dillingham, Alaska and make my living from hunting bears in unit 17 and 19 in Western Alaska.

Over the last couple years, the Alaska department game illegally added bears to the intensive management program through very deceptive measures that resulted in the killing from helicopters of 200 bears.

This act, according to the judge who ruled on it was done without due process and without scientific basis.

I have worked in Western Alaska for over 20 years as a pilot and Guide and I'm intimately familiar with the regions wildlife. I have a few major problems with the intensive management program, Firstly, the Department of fishing game has virtually no scientific data on the density of bears in the region, the number of bears in the region and have done little to no research on the impact of killing hundreds of bears.

My second problem with the intensive management program is that the department has done Little to include the stakeholders in this region to include guides the public or landholders. When the initial intensive management program was initiated, the Park Ranger for the Wood Tikchik State Park was completely unaware of the states plan despite rhe fact the a large part of the killing would happen inside her park. I know this because when I called her and asked what she thought about the intensive management program for bears she had no idea it was even a plan.

Thirdly, the state has failed to articulate what number of bears they think with satisfy their need in this management program. It makes no sense to me or anyone I know, how a state entity that should be science based can kill hundreds of bears and want to kill hundreds more with no end in sight and no quota that would satisfy their end goals.

The following is a quote from superior court judge that illustrates my sentiments about the lack of scientific basis to make this management program viable.

“The State's admission that the BOG lacked sufficient bear population and distribution information illustrates the BOG failed to consider all the factors that are important and relevant to assure sustainability of the bear population. The State's position misapprehends clear directives contained in case law. Other than the anecdotal evidence in the record when the BOG heard testimony suggesting that "brown bears are widely distributed in Unit 17 in abundance," there is no credible scientific evidence in the record or discussion by the BOG to support the conclusion that bears could be killed sustainably.”

In the same ruling the judge submits that the Board Of Game Did not follow constitutionally required Standards

Adopting the previous predator control program.

This also illustrates one of my main complaints that the Alaska people have not had a fair or legal say in how the management of protected mammals have been managed.

Despite strong opposition to the intensive management of Brown Bear's and a vary assertive decision by the superior court, the state continues to proceed with a program that Has not been vetted by the public, By the courts or by science.

I strongly oppose this intensive management proposal and hope that the department of fishing game can come up with a legal and scientifically based alternative to this current program.

Thank you for your time Gabriel Davis



Jake Davis, Esq.
AK Bar No. 2505026
CO Bar No. 54032
Wasilla, AK

“Disinterested love for all living creatures, the most notable attribute of man.”
Charles Darwin, *The Descent of Man* (1871)

IN OPPOSITION:

ADF&G has not undertaken a legally mandated “relevant population study” of brown bears and therefore this proposal will be found legally invalid (again) if adopted

Brown Bears:

On March 14, 2025, Judge Andrew Guidi (ret.) of the Superior Court for the State of Alaska found the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (“ADF&G”) had unconstitutionally killed 94 brown bears in the spring of 2023, and the same for 81 brown bears in the spring of 2024. His reason was straightforward, ADF&G did not know how many brown bears there were prior to beginning its taxpayer funded slaughter:

Having carefully reviewed the record and the arguments advanced by the State, it is apparent that the State did not have adequate, relevant population studies or any genuine data about bear sustainability in the area of the control program prior to adopting a proposal that would have an obvious impact on a constitutionally protected public resource.

Alaska Wildlife Alliance v. State of Alaska, p. 8 (Case No. 3AN-23-07495CI).

On March 21, 2025, ADF&G asked the Board of Game (“BOG”) to adopt an emergency regulation reinstating IM for the caribou (RC009). I testified against RC009 and submitted an extensive legal memorandum (at the request of a BOG member). It explained RC009 couldn’t be adopted until ADF&G had a brown bear count. I warned BOG that readoption would disregard Judge Guidi’s Order and expose ADF&G to legal liability. As I wrote:

Therefore, unless the Board of Game seeks exposure to further litigation, it must not pass “Go” on ADFG’s Petition until it has material scientific evidence of the population of brown bears (including their sexes) who are exposed to the intensive management under the Petition. The Board of Game must **demand** this information



from ADFG before voting on RC009 to determine the sustainability of the brown bear population subjected to the Petition.

The BOG did not heed my advice and a few days later ADF&G was sued, again. On May 9, 2025, Judge Christina Rankin found that RC009 was invalid because ADF&G “did not address the deficiencies identified by the Superior Court” in Judge Guidi’s Order. It was clear to everyone but ADF&G, without (1) adequate public notice and (2) a brown bear count, ADF&G could not kill brown bears. Nevertheless, ADF&G moved forward and killed 11 bears before they were back in court.

On May 12 (and again on May 19) Judge Rankin affirmatively restrained ADF&G from further killings until they complied with Judge Guidi’s original Order. She then made two extraordinary findings. First, she found ADF&G had acted in bad faith: “the Emergency Regulation was passed (and implemented) in bad faith.” Second, she found Ryan Scott (Director of ADF&G’s Division of Wildlife Conservation), was “mostly not credible.”

Nevertheless, ADF&G remains undeterred by four court orders and is still trying to reopen their unconstitutional brown bear killing, this time through a Special Meeting Regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou. The meeting’s announcement came with accompanying materials, which appear to be ADF&G’s attempt to placate the legal requirement that it have a relevant population study of brown bears before further killings. However, the materials come nowhere close to meeting Judge Guidi and Judge Rankin’s mandate that there be “relevant population studies” of brown bears before any further action. Let’s take a look at a few examples of ADF&G’s “science.”

On the webpage for the Special Meeting, ADF&G posted a document entitled, “Mulchatna Caribou herd presentation – March 2025.” Available here:

https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/mch-presentation.pdf.

- On page 14 of the PDF (items 27 and 28), ADF&G provides an Alaska Brown Bear Density Monograph overlaid with the current intensive management area. The monograph is from 1997, almost thirty years old and at least one generation (likely more) behind the current brown bear densities in Alaska today. This minor but telling example shows how lazy (or unwilling) ADF&G can be when undertaking a legally required scientific analysis of brown bear population and sustainability. **I believe this warrants repeating, instead of undertaking a modern brown bear density survey, ADF&G is citing a study from 1997.**

Also on the webpage for the Special Meeting is a document entitled, “Mulchatna Caribou herd IM Status – March 2025.” Available here:



https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/mch-im-status.pdf.

This document is rife with statistics but much of the citations are decades old, inapplicable or simply wrong in their conclusions. Moreover, there is nothing but anecdotal commentary on whether killing *more* than the 186 brown bears already killed for the Mulchatna caribou will be sustainable. For example:

Page 1:

- “In 2023, 94 bears were removed (82/1,000 mi²) from a 1,200 mi² area; and in 2024, 81 brown bears (152/1,000 mi²) were removed from a 530 mi² area representing an 80% and 147% reduction, respectively.”
 - Plain and simple, this is an unsustainable overharvest. Again, ADF&G is conceding that in 2024 they killed 147% of the brown bears present in the subject area.
- “[T]he department expects bear densities to return to pretreatment levels within 3-5 years.”
 - ADF&G cites nothing for this statement. Brown bears have the lowest reproductive rate of any land mammal in North America. Females typically do not breed until they are 5 or 6 years old. It is inconceivable to think that with sport hunting occurring simultaneously, brown bear populations will be back to normal in 3-5 years. They cannot be back to normal because of reproductive cycles and the fact that ADF&G is not distinguishing between females and males when killing them from helicopters.

Page 2:

- “Ongoing and future nutritional, disease, and habitat research will complement the understanding of the relationship between caribou nutrition and parturition rate, and how climate change may be affecting habitat suitability for caribou in the MCH range.”
 - The question thus becomes why is ADF&G seeking to kill *more* brown bears when work is being done to determine if other factors have an outsized role in the continued caribou population decline?

Page 4:

- “While the department did not conduct a comprehensive survey of available habitat across the range of the MCH, high rates of parturition from 2-year-old and 3-year-old caribou indicated that habitat would likely be able to support increased herd sizes or densities.”



- ADF&G does not even know if the caribou's traditional range can support an increased population. It is plausible the herd has been reduced, in part, because of resource competition. Not knowing whether the caribou you are killing on behalf of can even survive at increased numbers is a galling admission.

Page 5:

- “Most of the affected bear population is conserved within the much larger refugia that is the nontreatment area where removals do not occur. Given the ample area not affected by department bear removals, large effects on the overall bear population are highly unlikely, and any minor effects are likely to be of short duration.”
 - Here, I would direct ADF&G to its own work on brown bear dispersals, which shows that bears can and do move great distances (https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildlifeneews.view_article&articles_id=756). Moreover, the entirety of the “affected bear population” (i.e., the brown bears being killed by ADF&G) might be majority female brown bears that migrated to the calving grounds *from* a protected area. The truth is, ADF&G has no idea whether it is shooting male or female brown bears from helicopters, and it has no idea if those bears are migrating from somewhere else. Simply saying there are protected areas in the larger refugia means nothing. That is like me saying although my house is in a high crime neighborhood for children, my children are safe because there's a school with a good reputation on the outskirts of my neighborhood. The existence of a safe space means nothing when you are killed when you leave it or try to return to it. The brown bears being killed are unaware of these artificial designations.
- In the final paragraph on page 5, ADF&G justifies its “pretreatment” (i.e., pre-killing) determination of bear density by citing two studies, one from 2001 that relies on a 1993 brown bear survey and one from 2010 that relies on a 2003-2004 survey. **The bottom line, ADF&G is basing its population estimates on data that is over 20 years old, at minimum.**

Page 6:

- “Miller (1993) reviewed research from multiple areas of Alaska and conservatively judged 5% of the population as a sustainable harvest rate for brown bears but was later corrected to 5% of the female portion of the population. Further, a study conducted in Canada described sustainable harvest rates of 4–10% of the estimated population (McLellan et al. 2016). More recent estimates in less productive (smaller salmon returns) areas of Alaska estimated that up to 7.7% of the bear population may be sustainable (Schmidt et al. 2021). **Although more**



recent estimates of sustainable yield for brown bears are substantially higher (Brockman et al. 2020).”

- Here, ADF&G prioritizes data from the early ‘90s. It leaves a study from 2020, which shows sustainable yield for brown bears is far lower than originally estimated, for a passing remark in a conclusory sentence. This appears to be ADF&G’s modus operandi: cherry-pick its science, if it cites any at all.

Alaska’s predator control program has already been an unmitigated management failure. The Mulchatna caribou herd shows no signs of recovery, even after the state has spent more than a decade killing wolves and three years gunning down nearly 200 brown bears. That’s not surprising. Research shows disease and food scarcity — not predation — are the top causes of mortality for the vanishing herd. In 2020 scientists found that brucellosis, a bacterial disease, had infected more than a third of the caribou they tested. And climate change is shifting the herd’s habitat, resulting in less lichen for caribou to eat.

Brown bear tourism is a massive earner for the State of Alaska. According to a study by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, bear tourism in Southcentral Alaska generated \$34.5 million in 2017 and contributed \$10 million in direct wages and benefits to the region, supporting 680 jobs. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/notice_6-9-25.pdf. Why does ADF&G insist on killing a lifeline for so many Alaskans?

Until ADF&G does the requisite homework on brown bear sustainability in the Mulchatna calving grounds and ancillary territory, until it has a “relevant population study,” it cannot legally proceed with killing more brown bears.

Wolves:

As for wolves, after 14 years of aerially gunning, it is crystal clear that killing wolves from aircrafts has been found NOT to have any benefit to Mulchatna caribou. ADF&G simply has more dead wolves, not more living caribou. The enactment of A.S. § 16.05.783(a) by citizen ballot initiative in 1996 currently prohibits the aerial shooting of wolves. ADF&G should not be so quick to disregard the will of the Alaskan public.

Finally, wolves kill sick and weak caribou. They allow the stronger genetic lines to persist, and the weaker genetic lines to disappear. In nature, nothing exists alone. By killing wolves for nearly a decade and a half simply because a gunner needs his or her “fix,” is not wildlife management. Its sport hunting. It does not help caribou; in fact, many biologists believe less wolves means sicker and weaker caribou overall.



ADF&G should remember there are others that want to share experiences in the wilderness with wolves and brown bears. These animals are not ADF&G's to use as target practice. Each wolf and each brown bear killed is a unique individual who deserve better than a bullet from the sky.

ADF&G should use \$1,000,000 more wisely than shooting constitutionally protected wildlife: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/gameboard/pdfs/2024-2025/special_7-14-25/notice_6-9-25.pdf.



PC318

Name: Davitch, Paula **Affiliation:** Wildlife initiative

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

I don't believe humans should play God



PC319

Name: Davydova , Oxana

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I strongly oppose the shooting of bears. There are no borders between protected parks and unprotected areas, and the bears roam freely between both, which means you don't truly know what percentage of the population is being exterminated. The bears attract tourism and keep eco system in check. This policy is just cruel and inhumane.



PC320

Name: Dawson, Denee

Community of Residence: Winnipeg

Comment:

I am completely and utterly disgusted by the senseless murders of these sweet, innocent bears. Shame on the Alaska Board of Game for allowing this!!!!!! I do NOT support this act. Please reconsider your abhorrent decisions in this matter. We need bears as part of a healthy ecosystem. We do not want them to become extinct. Respectfully, give your heads a shake.



PC321

Name: De bel, Mary

Community of Residence: Nederland

Comment:

We do not need or should even want to shoot bears



PC322

Name: De Gasperis, Elena

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

My name is Elena De Gasperis and I'm against the killing of bears.

No scientific evidence supports this method in order to benefit the Caribou wellbeing.

Bears are majestic creatures and an important part of the ecosystem.

These practices must be stopped.



PC323

Name: De La Fuente, Monica

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

SAVE OUR BEARS !!!!! Uphold the constitution!!!



PC324

Name: De Ridder, Mary

Community of Residence: Weeze

Comment:

I oppose the shooting of the bears! Stop the slaughter of the bears. The caribou herds are being affected by man. Let nature do its own work.



PC325

Name: Deblasio, Frank

Community of Residence: Nutley, NJ

Comment:

Population needs to be reduced to help out the caribou population, but let hunters do it, not from helicopters. Bear meat is very good, don't let it go to waste.



PC326

Name: Deel, Malissa

Community of Residence: WV

Comment:

I know that this has been done in the past.. but one thing I have learned in my 44 years on this planet is that we should learn from the past..not repeat it!! I know that each of you, deep down in your hearts, know that this is not the solution or answer to the issue at hand!!.. I do understand the concern that there is for the people and would go so far as to say that I agree that something needs to be done to either deter the bears or encourage them along when they're crossing..but in today's world with everything else we as humans have accomplished.. there NEEDS to be a better way!!.. as a committee, instead of taking the easy way and senselessly killing these bears..I implore you to take the time and find a different solution!!??.. restrict public access during certain times/days for now if you have to until you can peacefully find a resolution!!??.. hire a separate committee to come up with some ideas and implement them!!??.. Just PLEASE don't kill anymore bear!!??.. PLEASE, PLEASE, find a different way so that they are around for our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren..etc. to see and experience the joy and fear of seeing them!!.. I would just like to repeat..that I truly believe that all of you know this is wrong!!.. so PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS and let's work together to figure out how we can DO BETTER!! BE BETTER!!.. Thank you for allowing me a minute of your time and I hope you really take all of these comments to heart!!..



PC327

Name: DeFrain, Jourdan

Community of Residence: Boynton Beach, FL

Comment:

Strong opposition— There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover. Not only is the slaughtering inhumane, it's reckless and the long-term efficacy is questionable as the root of the problem is not being addressed. With that said, brown and black bears are both keystone species. Strong public opposition nationwide towards this proposal continues to grow. Further consultation on other, more humane and well-thought out approaches are strongly desired. Thank you.



PC328

Name: Degener, Angela

Community of Residence: 19

Comment:

Stop animal cruekty !



PC329

Name: DeHaas, Larissa

Community of Residence: Idaho

Comment:

I am strongly opposed to this regulation. It has not been proven to increase caribou herds. This honestly just sounds like a morally deplorable way for humans to inflate their egos through murder of bears.

It is pretty obvious that the climate apocalypse we as humans created is pushing animals to extinction points. Murdering bears from air planes and helicopters only contributes to the exacerbation of climate impacts.

If you really cared about caribou populations you would heavily fine anyone driver behind the wheel who chooses speeding over animals on roadways safety. You would cut down on the ever decreasing wild land available for caribou migration. etc.

Listen to the science already. Stop murdering for a “problem” you created by habitat destruction & climate apocalypse.



PC330

Name: DeHaven, Kelsy

Community of Residence: Bend, Oregon

Comment:

There is zero scientific evidence that your predator control program assists Caribou. Primary causes for the decline in population are contributed to starvation and dehydration. Please stop using taxpayer dollars to fund what has been declared unconstitutional in your state.



PC331

Name: Del Rosario, Maja

Community of Residence: Phoenix Arizona

Comment:

Please stop the killing of the bears. This is not right!



PC332

Name: Deleu, Morgane

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the inhumane killing of bears in Alaska. Practices such as shooting mother bears with cubs, baiting, and aerial gunning are not only cruel, but ecologically irresponsible.

These actions damage Alaska's reputation and threaten the balance of its wild ecosystems. I urge you to stop these brutal methods and implement stronger protections for bears and other wildlife.

Thankyou



PC333

Name: Delpport, Tiané

Community of Residence: North Dakota

Comment:

The Bible states we are to "work and keep the grounds" in Genesis. Keep means to protect and to love, and that is not what is happening when we shoot the bears. It is such an inhumane thing to do. God put the bears on this earth and he made sure there is food for them, we are meant to coexist with animals. Stop killing the bears!!



PC334

Name: DeLuca , Victoria

Community of Residence: Phoenixville

Comment:

STOP KILLING THE BEARS!!!!



PC335

Name: Dempsey, Della

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

Date: 07.07.2025

To: The Alaska Board of Game

Subject: Opposition to Proposal 1

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

Today I write to you to express my strong opposition to Proposal 1, which seeks to add black and brown bears to the Mulchatna Predator Control Plan.

I am deeply concerned that this program, which permits the aerial shooting of bears and the killing of cubs and sows, undermines the ethical standards and scientific principles that should guide wildlife management. Predator control of this magnitude, especially with limited supporting data and uncertain outcomes, risks damaging the integrity of Alaska's ecosystems and reputation as a leader in conservation-based tourism.

In Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) Proposed Regulatory Changes accompanying this proposal, the Department states that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area encompasses approximately 39,683 square miles, and that multiple predator control areas may be utilized within the management area. This ~40,000 square mile control area is:

50 miles from McNeil River State Game Sanctuary

30 miles from Katmai National Park

3 miles from Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

While brown bear home ranges can be quite large, the average is between 50 and 150 square miles. Thus, the iconic bears that are marketed for viewing around the world at McNeil and Brooks Falls very feasibly travel into this proposed Control Area and would be subject to aerial gunning. Many children are beside themselves, worried the bears they know and have studied in school that live in all the proposed areas could be gunned down and killed. Leaving nothing to show they even existed but a hide for the trappers to auction off. I worry about the youth and future generations of Alaskans. Will slaughtering animals cruelly en masse become the norm of society? What kind of message does this unscientific, unsupported, barbaric plan send to the public? How can completely wiping out multiple generations of bear families be allowed or justified? How will we save our incredible, diversified, pristine ecosystem from collapse without the support of our Apex predators?

According to a study by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, bear tourism in Southcentral Alaska generated \$34.5 million in 2017 alone and contributed \$10 million in direct wages and benefits to the region, supporting 680 jobs. The study focused on four areas: Katmai National Park & Preserve, McNeil River State Game Sanctuary, Lake Clark National Park & Preserve, and the Cook Inlet Region. These areas attract thousands of visitors to witness the bears fishing for salmon, playing with their cubs and interacting with each other. The study estimated that each bear in Southcentral Alaska is worth \$1.3 million over its lifetime, based on the tourism revenue it generates. At a time when State and Federal

budgets are being slashed, we should be protecting the wildlife assets in our state, not spending hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to gun them down. Many Alaskans have built their businesses catering to visitors who want to see bears and wolves in the Alaskan wilderness. What happens to their livelihood? How will they continue to support their families?

The assumption that bear predation is the primary driver of the Mulchatna caribou herd's decline is not conclusively supported by the available research. Singularly targeting predators may yield short-term gains at the cost of long-term ecological and reputational harm.

Furthermore, I feel this process lacks good faith and transparency. Holding this meeting in the middle of the busy summer season when most Alaskans are unavailable to comment does not solicit meaningful public engagement. Further, there is an unsettling lack of transparency around where aerial gunning would take place within the control area and how many bears would be killed under this plan. It is my understanding that, if this proposal passes, ADF&G could create a bear culling program anywhere within the 40,000 square mile control area until 2028 without any further public input.

I urge the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Game to reconsider this policy and to pursue alternatives rooted in sound science, stakeholder collaboration, and respect for the diverse economic and cultural values Alaskans and our visitors hold for wildlife.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Della Dempsey



PC336

Name: Dennenberg, Dani

Community of Residence: Washington DC

Comment:

I oppose the new Mulchatna bear control program and am urging you to join this effort. Mulchatna bears are sentient beings who deserve to live free in their wild lands, free from harassment, intervention that does not represent true sustainability and unconscionably cruel practices such as being gunned from helicopters.

Judge Guidi of the Superior Court of Alaska already ruled in favor of the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, finding that the Mulchatna Bear Control program—through which the State has aurally gunned nearly 200 brown bears—was unlawfully adopted.

The following was cited during that ruling, "...it is apparent that the State did not have the adequate, relevant population studies or any genuine data about bear sustainability in the area of the control program prior to adopting a proposal that would have an obvious impact on the constitutionally protected public resource."

Defend the Mulchatna bears today. Have your legacy be compassion, empathy, leadership and good science.

Dani Dennenberg

Masters in Humane Education
Board Certified Acupuncturist
PNW resident of 15 years



PC337

Name: Dennenberg, Hava

Community of Residence: Pacific Northwest

Comment:

STRONGLY OPPOSED.

As a tourist to your state and as someone who supports your wildlife preserves and refuges, protection of the Mulchatna Bears is beyond crucial and dear to me. Alaska's bears are also a constitutionally protected resource and they need your help and protection. It is as simple as that.

As you are already aware I am sure, in 2022, the Board of Game deliberated on a proposal to extend an already existing wolf predator control program in Western Alaska. The Board

discussed the proposal behind closed doors and amended the proposal to include bears, despite not having any population data on bears in the area. They then passed the proposal unanimously, creating the Mulchatna bear control program. The public was not given an opportunity to comment on the proposal, and the Board never discussed the sustainability of the program on the local bear population.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)'s proposal is nothing short of unconscionable, wildly out of step with science and preposterous. They have requested that the Board of Game deliberate on regulation changes that would create a ~40,000 square mile black and brown bear control program (which includes aerial gunning) in western Alaska. This is undoubtedly in response to AWA's recent court victories, which found that the State's 2022 Mulchatna bear control program was illegal and void. The Court also ruled that the State acted 'in bad faith' when they proceeded to kill 11 bears this May, despite two judges ruling that they were doing so illegally, and that the testimony of the State's Director of Wildlife Conservation was "mostly not credible".

The State has scheduled a Special Meeting on July 14th in Anchorage for the Board of Game to vote on the proposed regulation changes. The proposed changes would allow ADFG to KILL AS MANY BEARS as they deem fit within a 40,000 square mile area already undergoing wolf control.

The area that ADFG is asking the Board of Game to open to bear control is surrounded on three sides by federal lands that have historically been safe havens for bears. If the regulation changes are adopted, aerial gunning of bears will be allowed to occur approximately:

3 miles from Lake Clark National Preserve

30 miles from Katmai National Park

50 miles from McNeil and Brooks Falls

Along the Alagnak, Nushagak, and Mulchatna Rivers

On the borders of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Yukon Delta National

Wildlife Refuge

It is crucial to remember that bears have some of the lowest reproductive rates of any land mammals. Female brown bears don't reach breeding age until they're five to eight years old, only have one to three cubs per litter, and only give birth every four to five years. Black bears also have low reproductive potential, with late maturation and small litters. This slow reproductive cycle means that the death of a single bear, particularly a breeding female, can significantly impact the population's ability to recover. Bear control programs like Mulchatna, which kill bears regardless of age or sex, can have a massive, negative impact on a local bear population's ability to replenish itself.

Why would you hasten this low birth rate by allowing for this unconscionable killing of them? Do you really want this blood on your hands?

Respectfully,

Hava Dennenberg & Family



PC338

Name: Dennis, Sherrie

Community of Residence: Earth

Comment:

Nature and the bears themselves already cull bears. Nature is a self-righting organism. We're the ones who throw things out of balance. We need to back off and allow nature to swing the pendulum back. Every time we interfere, unless it's to rehabilitate wild areas, or protect species we've harmed, it's a mess. This is not the way we play at being heroes. There is a segment of the bear population near Brooks Falls in Katmai National Park that is closely observed by people around the world. What is Fat Bear Week without bears? If we let things be, nature will balance things. Even our past mistakes. I can't believe humans shooting bears from the ground isn't enough. And where is consideration for the indigenous folks who rely on bear hunting? Have you thought through how you're going to adversely affect their access to bears? It's not just the meat. Bear grease is used to treat drums, bear skins and claws are used in regalia and ceremonies. Where is consideration for their music, their dancing, their ceremonies? Isn't there enough killing in the world already? Enough. Enough. Enough.



PC339

Name: Derby, Logan

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE DONT KILL ANY MORE BEARS!! Apex predators are crucial for maintaining healthy environments for all animals. Caribou populations are not in decline from bears, wolves, or any other natural predators, but from human interface. Logging causing habitat loss, over hunting, human settlements and highways are causing the herds to collapse. Deal with these issues and the herds will regenerate. STOP KILLING PERDATORS. STOP HABITAT LOSS. LEAVE NATURE ALONE.



PC340

Name: Deshmukh, Dimple

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Please save those bears. They dont deserve this.



PC341

Name: Desjardins , Jessica

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed expansion of the predator control program near Brooks Falls, Lake Clark, and Katmai.

The aerial killing of nearly 200 brown bears — including mothers and cubs — is deeply disturbing, especially considering this program was previously ruled illegal. Attempting to reinstate it through a rushed process raises serious ethical and legal questions.

What’s more troubling is that there is no solid scientific evidence showing that killing predators benefits caribou herds. In fact, past efforts — including the killing of 250 wolves — failed to prevent the collapse of the Mulchatna herd. Predator control not only fails, but it causes lasting, irreversible harm to Alaska’s iconic wildlife.

As a wildlife lover i urge you to reconsider. Wildlife management should be backed by science not by political pressure or outdated methods.

Please protect the beauty that is Alaska’s ecosystems- not destroy them.



PC342

Name: Deutscher, Brett

Community of Residence: PO BOX 3541

Comment:

Please do not murder bears! Use relocation instead. Use taxpayer money for that.



PC343

Name: Devenport, Dael

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I strongly oppose the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) proposal for a new black and brown bear control program over 40,000 square miles in western Alaska, which includes the use of aerial gunning. This drastic measure lacks scientific credibility and raises serious ethical and legal concerns.

First and foremost, the State's previous bear control effort in the Mulchatna region was deemed illegal and void by the courts, with judges ruling that the State acted in bad faith and continued killing bears despite explicit legal injunctions. The court also found the testimony of ADF&G's own Director of Wildlife Conservation to be "mostly not credible," calling into question the integrity of the agency's scientific and procedural justifications.

Now, rather than address these serious issues, the ADF&G is pushing for a sweeping expansion of predator control without presenting new, peer-reviewed science to support the claim that bear reduction will effectively aid the Mulchatna caribou herd. There remains no robust evidence that such lethal control measures are necessary or effective in achieving long-term caribou recovery. The use of vague, unspecified numbers of bears to be killed, along with the sheer scale of the proposed area, suggests a policy based more on politics than on sound wildlife management.

The Board of Game should not endorse a program riddled with legal deficiencies, ethical concerns, and a glaring absence of transparent, science-based evidence. I urge the Board to reject this proposal and instead invest in non-lethal, habitat-focused solutions that are grounded in credible ecological science.



PC344

Name: Di Girolamo, Paola

Community of Residence: Italy

Comment:

Save the bears because killing them in their natural environment is just non sense.



PC345

Name: Diaz, Angel

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

I am writing to show support of the natural area and resources that Alaska is home. It may be easy to overlook comments from someone of a different state, but speaking from a point of view where nature is scarce and curated environments are everywhere, being able to have the foresight to see how the encroachment of these animals impacts not only residents in your localities, but everywhere else is imperative. While many protections lie in the great state of Alaska, it is an important reminder that Alaska remains as one of the few areas on Earth that remains wild. Alaska is a representative of these fragile

communities and regardless of how externalities impact these regions, us humans have the autonomy to determine how we shape these ecosystems. I hope the board of Anchorage is able to preserve these natural areas for future generations because without them, the value and connection that humans have with nature erodes until we ourselves become displaced like the animals we seek to protect.



PC346

Name: Dibrova, Yana

Community of Residence: Winnipeg

Comment:

Bears need to live! It's live form and we can't murder them!!!



PC347

Name: Dicosola , Claudia

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I clearly do not support. Not because Im just an animal lover, because there is no scientific proof to support it. Just be clear, not supporting.



PC348

Name: Dietlin, Kathy

Community of Residence: Honolulu

Comment:

After several trips to Alaska and seeing firsthand the awesome beauty of the brown bears, I cannot imagine that there would even be the possibility of allowing hunting of these majestic creatures. As the scientific evidence has proven, decreasing the apex predators has not saved the caribou herds from dwindling. Killing the bears will just cause irreparable damage to the balance of the ecosystem in the area. Please, please do not even consider killing the bears!



PC349

Name: Dill, Katie

Community of Residence: Homosassa Florida

Comment:

There is no evidence that killing bears will help protect caribou and not effect the environment in a negative way. This is unjust and cruel. Just like killing elephants to save Africa did the opposite of what it was supposed to do. Please be smarter



PC350

Name: DiLorenzo, Matthew

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please have the decency to either work relocating animals in a safe manner or using other methods to control bear migration/population. These are highly intelligent creatures that deserve our respect. Thank you.



PC351

Name: Dimitrov, Lina

Community of Residence: Atlanta

Comment:

I oppose this proposal for the unnecessary killing of bears in Alaska. Not only is there lack of evidence for such predator control methods. Furthermore, if the sentiment is that predator control is needed, there are non lethal options for predator control that should be explored first, rather than defaulting to a lethal approach.



PC352

Name: Dinh, Karry

Community of Residence: Vancouver BC

Comment:

Please stop killing the bears!!!



PC353

Name: Dittloff, Deanna

Community of Residence: Depere, WI

Comment:

I am in opposition to this proposed regulation change. Bears are a highlight of Alaska & bring thousands of people to Alaska for tourism. It is my understanding that the killing of these bears will have no effect on the caribou herds. I am an avid viewer of the bearcams at Brooks Camp in Katmai National Park & would be devastated if any of the bears were killed by this proposed change. Please follow the science & save the bears of Alaska!



PC354

Name: Dixon, Janna

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I oppose the killings of bears and wolves.



PC355

Name: Dixon, Linda

Community of Residence: Calgary Alberta

Comment:

Leave the bears alone, people should not be in their territory, start breeding caribou if the population is getting low



PC356

Name: Doan, Donna

Community of Residence: Langhorne PA

Comment:

I oppose the killing of the bears. Human interference into the natural lifecycle is inappropriate. When prey species diminish, so will the predator population. Violence against America's wildlife should NOT be tolerated, much less financed with tax dollars. I suspect a strong hunting lobby that does NOT reflect the sentiments of the majority of Americans is behind this ill-conceived initiative. I strongly urge the decision makers to REJECT this plan. The eyes of America are on you, and we are waiting for you to DO THE RIGHT THING, vote against slaughtering the bears.



PC357

Name: Dobner, Caitlyn

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

To the Board of Game, I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes to 5 AAC 92.111 regarding Intensive Management for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Allowing for aerial gunning of bears and any wild animal for that matter, is not wildlife management. It is tax payer funded killing with no scientific support that it supports and increase in caribou herd numbers. There is absolutely no evidence killing predators helps the caribou herds - evidenced by the killing of wolves which has not resulted in increases to the herd numbers. Continuing with this practice will continue damage to our precious wildlife. Additional, this has been found to be an illegal program by multiple judges. Please hear the people and do not move forward with this program change. Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Warm Regards,

Caitlyn Dobner



PC358

Name: Doe, Jordan

Community of Residence: Michigan

Comment:

You're absolutely idiots if you think this is an OK thing to allow....go after the board members if it's passed!!



PC359

Name: Doehring, Francesca

Community of Residence: Georgia

Comment:

All animal populations have already been diminished because of humans. Bears are already endangered enough without us doing extra things to murder them.



PC360

Name: Dolan, Erin

Community of Residence: Lambertville NJ

Comment:

Allowing the destruction of brown bears in this instance has already been proven ineffective in protecting the caribou herds. As we have seen over and over, interfering with the natural order causes more problems than it solves. I have never been to Alaska but hope to get there one day soon and i hope there are wild bears and other wildlife left to see.



PC361

Name: Dominguez, Maria

Community of Residence: Guatemala

Comment:

The planet is for all of us, not just humans. Maybe it seems like there are too many bears, but that's not true — the real problem is that they have very little space left.

Bears go where they can survive. The solution isn't to kill them. Taking away a life is never the answer. What we really need to do is protect their space and learn how to live together.



PC362

Name: Donnelly, Lilly

Community of Residence: Pocatello, Idaho

Comment:

Bears should be killed more ethically, only if absolutely necessary controlling populations is important but it's important not to just murder vital species that protect the earth and the environments they live in every animal has a unique purpose that should be protected over everything



PC363

Name: Donovan, Brian

Community of Residence: Dillingham

Comment:

Hello, this is Brian Donovan. Owner of Nushagak Guides outfitters and I am totally against the bear eradication program that they have been doing. Fishing game has not provided adequate research to me trying to kill the bears off the Caribou calving grounds. I rely on the Brown bear population, provide for my family. Thank you very much.



PC364

Name: Douaire , Twyla

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Science is important. Real science. The science is clear. Killing bears will not help save the caribou herds. They are in decline due to logging and oil and gas extraction, since they need huge contiguous swaths of land undisturbed by machinery, roads and humans. Killing the bears will do absolutely nothing but kill the bears. And the caribou will still die. Please go back to the drawing board, keep these ecosystems wild, no logging or drilling or exploration.



PC365

Name: Dougherty , James

Community of Residence: West Orange

Comment:

Please preserve and consider other options besides the massacre , let's find symbiotic systems , thank you



PC366

Name: Douglas, Brianna

Community of Residence: Seminole

Comment:

I strongly oppose this new plan for caribou management in Alaska. As we have seen many times in the past, predators are important to keep nature in balance. Using helicopters to manage the bears is unethical. If management of bears is needed, it needs to be done in a better more controlled way without killing mothers and babies.



PC367

Name: Douglas, Deborah

Community of Residence: Placerville, Ca

Comment:

Please spare the Bears



PC368

Name: Douthit, Caroline

Community of Residence: New Market, Maryland

Comment:

I oppose this action. As a science teacher, we have studied the predator-prey relationship of many animals, and slaughtering bears in Alaska won't solve the caribou population. There are many other strategies that could be implemented to help their population grow, and not kill one of their predators.

I also just got back from visiting alaska, and the bears are one of your most valued resources for tourism. I went on se et excursions with experts and heard what local people did to protect the bears , while protect themselves. So much of it is education and only man can find solutions for both to safely coexist and promote bear conservancy.

So I absolutely OPPOSE this proposition, they are a critical part of Alaska's ecosystem & state. Man needs to put their brains & resources (so many exist already) to work and find another solution to increase the caribou population.



PC369

Name: Dowell , Melissa

Community of Residence: Kenai

Comment:

There is ample research showing predator control programs do not help recovery of ungulates and could harm infection mitigation because there are less predators eating the sick/infected animals. Please do not allow this practice to continue. These bears are some of the most sought after from a tourist perspective and are incredibly valuable to the ecosystem.



PC370

Name: Downs, Christine

Community of Residence: Denver, CO

Comment:

Although not a resident of Alaska, I am a regular visitor and have been to Katmai as well as surrounding area. As an ecologist I make it my priority to stay on top of BMPs for wildlife management and cannot support this proposal. Past efforts to manage predators and scientific studies do not support the success, efficacy, or sustainability of the proposal's predator control in improving the viability or longterm health and numbers of the herd. In fact, shifts in climate, and thus habitat and food availability, as well as disease have been shown to be the primary stressors on caribou herds including the Mulchatna herd. The board should prioritize addressing these known and confirmed stressors above all else to properly manage and support the caribou population, not the take of bears. Additionally, due to the proximity of the proposed predator control area to Katmai NP, as well as other popular natural resource areas/sites, the board risks impacting public perception and outcry at the loss of individuals and species that they specifically travel to your beautiful state to see. For these reasons I ask that the proposal to allow for the take of brown and black bears be denied.



PC371

Name: Doyne, Stacey

Community of Residence: Seattle, WA

Comment:

I'm writing from Seattle to strongly oppose the proposal to reinstate Alaska's aerial gunning program targeting brown bears—including mothers with cubs.

This practice is not only inhumane, but scientifically unsupported. There is no conclusive evidence that killing predators like bears helps caribou herds recover. In fact, the Mulchatna herd continued to decline even after the state killed over 250 wolves in the region.

Reinstating a program that was previously ruled illegal—through a rushed comment process—sets a dangerous precedent. Expanding predator control zones near world-renowned protected areas like Brooks Falls, Katmai, and Lake Clark also threatens vital ecosystems and the wildlife tourism economy.

We should not be using taxpayer dollars to fund an ineffective, brutal program with irreversible consequences for Alaska's iconic wildlife.

Please stop the aerial gunning. We owe it to future generations—and to the integrity of Alaska's wild lands—to do better.



PC372

Name: Drescher, Melanie

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Please leave the bears in peace. Learn from your mistakes in the past where your actions did nothing to preserve the caribou herd's population. We are not the deciders of the fate of the bears, nature is. Leave them alone to live and die as nature intended. You want visitors to photograph them and spend their money in your area right? Well how will it be when they discover your horrific ways of killing these bears they have come to see.



PC373

Name: Dsouza, Duane

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

save the bears. please do not hunt the bears for sport. they are majestic creatures and deserve to be wild and free.

thank you.

duane.



PC374

Name: Duarte, Xiomara

Community of Residence: APT B

Comment:

There is absolutely no reason to be killing bears in their own home.



PC375

Name: DuCharme, Adrienne

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

As a biodiversity and conservation major, I took classes that would have prepared me for working for your organization. We know that killing apex predators destroy ecosystems. Your whole point in killing wolves and bears is to protect the caribou herd for later hunting??? Why so much killing to local animal herds just for a food source. Why are you not allocating the resources of killing animals instead to sustainable growing methods? Grow breadfruit. You make a mockery of humanity and make me ashamed to be related to you as another human on earth. Stop the unnecessary slaughter of wolves and bears for the eventual planned slaughter of caribou. None of you have a heart. This should make every woman and man in America ashamed to be a human alongside you and your senseless cruelty. You can't claim ignorance, We learned at Yellowstone the importance of protecting wolf populations. All of you need to resign.



PC376

Name: Dudley , Kristina **Affiliation:** Kristina Dudley Locum Veterinarian

Community of Residence: Usa

Comment:

There is no good data showing these culls will be effective in preserving caribou populations.

IF a cull were shown to be a viable solution, it must be CONTROLLED based on scientific knowledge about the bears' habitats etc - and done in the way that minimizes harm.

This is not that way!!! You can do better, you need consultation with more scientists in these fields.



PC377

Name: Duis, Jamie

Community of Residence: Utah

Comment:

I am wiring to oppose the Mulchatna bear "control" proposal in Alaska. The elk population is not in danger of reduction due to bear, but is likely if human hunting and habitat destruction are increased. This is unnecessary and cruel and will generated negative public relations in the Alaskan tourism economy. As an avid traveler to Americas parks, I will boycott visiting Alaska if the state government continues to support this type of policy.



July 5, 2025

Comment to the Alaska Board of Game supporting the bear and wolf reduction program for the Mulchatna Caribou herd.

By Dan Dunaway, Dillingham Alaska

Dear Board of Game members and Commissioner Lang.

I am a long time member of the Nushagak Advisory Committee and Vice Chair of the Bristol Bay Federal Subsistence Advisory Council (BBRAC). The following comments are mine alone and are not representative of either group.

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the intensive management program to remove predators of the Mulchatna Caribou herd as outlined in RC 009 and RC 010 of your March 2025 Statewide Meeting. Rather than repeat myself, I submitted RC 187 to the March meeting supporting the ADFG intensive management. My RC187 included a copy of the letter of support written and submitted by the Nushagak AC dated 16 November 2023. I can supply a fresh copy of RC 187 if requested.

At the time I submitted RC 187 I could not locate the letter of support written and submitted by the BBRAC. I have located that letter and it is attached to this comment. The short version is, the Bristol Bay RAC supports the effort of ADFG to reduce wolves and bears on the calving grounds. In a recent discussion I had with BBRAC Chair Nanci Morris-Lyon she said she still is in strong support for the program and gave me permission to say so.

I am in contact with numerous residents of the Bristol Bay area and my sense is that many or even most of us believe there are TOO MANY BROWN BEARS in the region. We continue to have huge unprecedented sockeye salmon runs and record breaking escapements into the far interior reaches of the region. These runs are fueling very strong cub production year after year. One comment I commonly hear is: "mammals used to have 1 or 2 cubs but we see lots of litters of 3 and 4 now and many are surviving these mild winters." The strong runs feed the cubs allowing them to enter winter denning in top condition. AND the adult males are doing so well on salmon there is less interest in preying on the cubs. In fact for these reasons and the hassles of the DLP process I remind you that you graciously made the brown bear season year-round in GMU 17 - thank you.

You should know the BBRAC is also proposing a Federal Subsistence regulation to allow year 'round brown bear season in GMU17 .



About mid-May of this year I was in the Dillingham airport and overheard two young men who appeared and talked as if they were associated with bear guiding operations. One said he was hunting pretty close to the reduction site but they had no issues finding good bears. The other hunter noted his group was a little farther away but they saw no effects at all from the 2 years of the project. He further noted " those bears move all over...". The airport was very crowded and I was unable to get over to them and get names or more information. However what I heard underscores my belief that this intensive program could very much help the caribou while have no lasting impact on the overall bear populations of the area.

Further, given the surprising numbers of bears taken in the first two years, I strongly believe this area has many many more bears than ever imagined and the fear of detrimental population impacts are grossly overstated by those who are opposed. I sympathize with those wishing for more and higher quality bear population data - it would be great to have it. However I can't count the number of Advisory Committee meetings around the Bay I attended as an ADFG Sport Fish biologist (89-02) where the Bristol Bay public demanded 1) more moose and caribou, 2) less bears, 3) predator control. These demands usually led to extended discussions on the real difficulties and expenses of counting all these critters and especially bears. ADFG Biologist Dick Sellers (long retired) had an extensive project to count bears in the Chignik/ Black Lake area. It had a modicum of success but the cost and extreme difficulty made it clear the process could not be easily or quickly replicated at numerous other locations in the state. Such studies take a lot of time and the low number of Mulchatna caribou may not be able to spare that time.

I want to acknowledge this program may temporarily impact some local guides, people I greatly respect. But I don't know that it has hurt them at this time. The goal of this program is to restore a critical food resource (caribou) for many people over a wide area. A critical subsistence food supply has to take priority over a few bear trophies.

Please restore the Mulchatna project as outlined by ADFG. I think we have an excellent local team working on it and given the success seen in the Cold Bay wolf effort years ago, it is worth continuing this for a couple more years.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

I expect to attend this meeting in person and will be available to discuss it if you would like.

Dan Dunaway
PO Box 1490
Dillingham Alaska 99576

BBRAC letter to BOG on following pages



Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

c/o Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: (907) 787-3888, Fax: (907) 786-3898
Toll Free: 1-800-478-1456

In Reply Refer To:

OSM 24013

Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett
c/o ADF&G Boards Support and Office of the Commissioner
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett:

I write to you on behalf of the Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council). The Council wishes to give support to the Intensive Management Program the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has been conducting and to future efforts from ADF&G on reducing predator populations to increase calf survival.

The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Bristol Bay Region in Southwest Alaska. The Council was established by the authority in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establishes the Council's authority to initiate, review and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their regions that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities served by the Council. The Council provides a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations regarding any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.

During our fall meeting held October 24-25, 2023, in Dillingham, the Council met to discuss fisheries and wildlife management concerns and to develop wildlife proposal and closure review recommendations for the Federal Subsistence Board (Board). During this meeting, the Council received a report from the ADF&G Area Biologist, John Landsiedel, on the recent Intensive Management Program that had been conducted the previous spring on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's (MCH) calving grounds. At this meeting, the Council agreed to express support of the Intensive Management Program ADF&G has been conducting and to future efforts from ADF&G on reducing predator populations to increase calf survival. We also greatly appreciated the report from Mr. Landsiedel.

The MCH, an important subsistence resource for residents of the Bristol Bay Region, has been closed to hunting since the fall of 2021. The Council has repeatedly reported to the Federal Subsistence Board through recent Annual Reports their concerns over the health of the MCH and on the effects of the increased bear population on the recovery of the herd. The region has experienced record-breaking Sockeye Salmon returns that have fueled an increase of the bear population, resulting in increased bear sightings and issues with public safety. The Council supports ADF&G's Intensive Management Program future control plans that will aid herd recovery.

The Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council appreciates ADF&G's attention to these matters and the support of the subsistence needs of the region's residents. If you have any questions



regarding this letter, please contact me via Leigh Honig, Council Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management, at leigh_honig@fws.gov, or 1-800-478-1456 or 1-907-891-9053.

Sincerely,

Nanci Morris Lyon

Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board

Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Office of Subsistence Management

Interagency Staff Committee

Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Mark Burch, Assistant Director, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Administrative Record



Commissioner Vincent-Lang and Chairman Burnett 2

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The Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council appreciates ADF&G's attention to these matters and the support of the subsistence needs of the region's residents. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me via Leigh Honig, Council Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management, at leigh_honig@fws.gov, or 1-800-478-1456 or 1-907-891-9053.

Sincerely,

Nanci Morris Lyon

Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board

Bristol Bay



PC379

Name: Duncan, Teresa

Community of Residence: Franklin

Comment:

I oppose the aerial gunning of bears. Doing so would be extraordinarily cruel and unnecessary. Bears in these areas are valuable to the community due to the tourist dollars that they attract.



PC380

Name: Dunlop, Jordana

Community of Residence: Scotland

Comment:

OPPOSED.

Not one, but two judges have already ruled that last year's bear-killing program was illegal-and found the state acted in bad faith by killing 11 bears after court orders were in place. This latest proposal is no different and should not be allowed to go ahead.

Nearly 200 bears have been killed in the last two years - including cubs - without ANY credible science, population data, or evidence that it helps caribou recovery.

The actions of Alaska Department of Fish & Game are totally reprehensible. What they are doing is not conservation. It is slaughter.



PC381

Name: Dunn, Julie

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Do not kill wildlife that have not posed a risk to their own or human safety, if relocation is needed to provide that safety for bears and humans we should explore this. Killing is inhumane and not justified



PC382

Name: Dunn, Leo

Community of Residence: Seattle Washington

Comment:

Leave gods plan alone. Bears play and important role in the circle of life. They are beautiful animals not meant for humans to kill. We are the risk not them . I do not support killing of theses bears.



PC383

Name: Duprey, Michelle

Community of Residence: Morgan Point

Comment:

I am opposed to the proposal to the change that would allow ADFG to kill as many bears as they deem fit within a 40,000 square mile area already undergoing wolf control. These are sentient beings and it is deplorable that you are considering making this change. We have taken over so much habitat, that there are only a few remote places on earth where they can exist in peace, this area being one of them. Additionally, one of the biggest economic factor for Alaska is tourism and bears are part of that draw as well. Compromising the healthy population puts this economic engine at risk. I hope you reconsider this proposal and not hunt black and brown bears in this area.



PC384

Name: Dvorak, Thomas

Community of Residence: South Dakota

Comment:

I testified 15-20 years ago that the Mulchatna caribou herd should be put on a limited draw so they wouldn't have to shut the season down completely. That management scheme has been PROVEN to be an effective game management tool in Alaska and all over the United States.

Members of the APHA and other audience members called me an anti-hunter, "Adolf", and "a gopher hunter from SD who knows nothing about wildlife." The State CHOSE to leave the season wide open with a two-tag limit per hunter. That was a huge mistake. Only 2-3 years later, the season was shut down. Better management would have helped the problem of falling caribou numbers.

Communities were punished by that mistake.

Sending aerial killers out to kill more wildlife (bears) in an UNPROVEN attempt to remedy a self-created problem is an extension of horrible management. When I had read the State had already killed nearly 200 brown bears over a two year period I was stunned.

When the only tool you have is a hammer, all your problems are nails.

Continued aerial killing high value brown bears from communities is the most foolish thing I can think of. It punishes communities.

The caribou depletion caused economic loss to communities and the state. Following it up with killing those bears punishes the communities further and takes away their opportunities further. That is a big deal.

"Don't expect us to believe that it's in everybody's best interest just because a person of authority speaks it." WD

"Support your country all the time and your government when it deserves it." Mark Twain

I'm reaching the end of my years. As my dust settles, the F&G does not deserve the authority to fly out and kill high value brown bears which will punish communities.

Thomas "Willie" Dvorak



PC385

Name: Dwight, Margaret

Community of Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Comment:

I am adamantly AGAINST killing brown and black bears at Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. This is why: 1) Brown Bears, Black Bears, and salmon sustain a crucial ecosystem in Alaska. Ecosystems are biological communities of interacting organisms and their physical environment. Bears expertly catch salmon in rivers and eat them in the water, alongside rivers, and in the forests. Scavengers, such as coyotes, eagles and other birds eat the remains of the salmon. The salmon carcasses provide essential nutrients to the trees, plants, and water systems, including feeding and maintaining ecosystems of insects. All parts of the ecosystem are necessary for continual renewal, and bears, as apex predators at the top of the food chain, are necessary to start and maintain this cycle of life. 2) Brown Bears and Black Bears are unique, intelligent, emotional animals at the top of the food chain. They are able to learn new methods of fishing by adapting to changing situations, they have memories and can identify other bears, and mother bears take care of and defend their young cubs with passion, loyalty, and consistency for 2-3 years to ensure they are successful at surviving as cubs, yearlings, sub-adults, and adults that live well into their 20s. 3) Each bear is unique and can be identified by experts and volunteers alike as having particular personalities, mannerisms, and methods of fishing, walking, running, swimming and playing. Tagging them is completely unnecessary because each bear is completely unique, distinctive, and special to other bears as well as human observers. 4) I love observing the Brown Bears at Katmai and the Black Bears at Tongass National Forest, both protected areas in Alaska close to Mulchatna bears. Please don't kill the bears.



PC386

Name: Dyar, Candace

Community of Residence: Washington State, United States

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As it stands, there is no credible scientific evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably. There is also overwhelming evidence that predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. And, per the State's own research, the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food (due to climate change), not bear predation.

I want Mulchatna caribou to succeed, but I don't believe the current, unlawful bear control program is the best way to help them.

If the Board of Game wishes to make significant changes to this area, then please ensure that the decisions are rooted both in credible science and what the people choose.



PC387

Name: Echenique, Tomas

Community of Residence: Salem

Comment:

Very saddening to see the senseless deaths of these beautiful creatures.



PC388

Name: Edelmann, Jolene

Community of Residence: Eagle

Comment:

This is not a fair way to regulate overpopulation. Not only that, but it's also incredibly cruel!! These bears don't have a voice to speak up but they deserve to live.



PC389

Name: Edmunds, Ricky

Community of Residence: England

Comment:

This is absolutely disgusting. Why would you want to shoot wild animals. I mean I know the orange taco tits loves all things evil, but seriously? Grow up.

I am a wildlife photographer, this is their planet as much as ours and we need to respect their boundaries.

Humans are just so self entitled. Leave these bears alone.



PC390

Name: Edney, Joanne

Community of Residence: Lake Clark National Park

Comment:

I strongly oppose the culling of brown and black bear in the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. As you know, brown bears have already or are in the process of becoming extinct in many areas of the world. Tourists travel yearly from all parts of the world to witness the rich resource that Alaska still enjoys. This brings money and jobs into Alaska. There has not been any reliable research to convince the Board of Game or anyone else that this will significantly alter the Mulchatna Herd. If there is such evidence then the Board should share it with the public whom they serve and stand strongly behind it - however it does not appear to exist. Why would the Board of Game support a regulation that is so short sided and damaging to Alaska.

Thank you for considering my comments.



PC391

Name: Eggert, Shiloh

Community of Residence: British Columbia

Comment:

This cannot happen! They will go extinct without this happening soon enough. Leave the bears alone. They need to live. Slaughtering for no reason should be BANNED

HUNT PREDATORY HUMANS INSTEAD



PC392

Name: Ehrke, Niki

Community of Residence: Pioneer, CA

Comment:

I oppose the slaughtering of bears in Alaska – especially aerial slaughtering. This is inhumane and unnecessary. This would cause bear cubs to lose their mothers, which is unconscionable. There's no evidence that this is going to protect the Caribou herd. This must be stopped. Please do the right thing, look inward and listen to your conscience. Please stop this.



PC393

Name: Eischens, Kolton

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

Yes yes and yes.

I would love to see the board help out hunters as well and allow same day airborne for wolves/bears. In these predator areas. Set a quota or whatever needs to happen and allow more hunter harvest.

I'm all aboard for more predator control!



PC394

Name: Ellifrits, Jane

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

They should go to jail for shooting these innocent animals



PC395

Name: Ellis , Leanne

Community of Residence: Yukon

Comment:

Do not kill the bears! They are on their land, doing what bears do! They are feeding ND filling up for the winter... that shouldn't be a death sentence, especially in Alaska of all places!!! In Haines the bears walk freely around the rivers, parks and creeks and have for thousands of years before anything was paved! Bears have a right to eat and humans might not like it so maybe humans should leave them alone!



PC396

Name: Ellis, Maddy

Community of Residence: Aspen

Comment:

I am vehemently opposed to the slaughter and massacre of bears and any creatures. Human beings do not get to play God and gun down animals for zero reason. Leave nature be. Appreciate it from afar and respect all beings.



PC397

Name: Ellis, Makenna

Community of Residence: Po Box 3124

Comment:

Trying to control a population of animals from a helicopter is gross incompetence. Especially when in past years murdering innocents bears and wolves have not helped the caribou as eagles were found killing calves more than any other predator.

Do not be snipping bears out of helicopters. Take a [REDACTED] look around you and use your energy and power to do something actually beneficial for your state and its citizens.



PC398

Name: Embalsado, Genevieve

Community of Residence: Roseville, California

Comment:

I don't support this because it's animal cruelty. The Bears help regulate the ecosystem and their disappearance might result to overcrowding of other species which is not good either. So if that species overcrowded, they'll kill them also. When does the massacre stops?



PC399

Name: Emmins, Tayla **Affiliation:** The wildlife collective

Community of Residence: Australia

Comment:

It is animal cruelty they aren't hurting anyone. There are very few bears left in the wild.



PC400

Name: Enes, Michael

Community of Residence: The Heights Amesbury, Massachusetts

Comment:

Madness.... This repetitive culling of bears is reprehensible.....!!!

We demand for you to stop this and allow the population to grow naturally without intervention by anyone.....!!!



PC401

Name: Englar, Tammy

Community of Residence: Hillsborough, Florida

Comment:

I've gone to Alaska twice with the intention to see the bears. If this bill goes through I will never return. This is just plain cruel. Save the bears, we have enough death.



PC402

Name: Enochs, Erin

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of the bears in any form by humans. They are a natural part of our wildlife system that will regulate its self. It is their land.



PC403

Name: Equihua, Ebony

Community of Residence: Paramount

Comment:

These bears are integral to their ecosystem and there has been no proof that murdering them truly benefits their neighboring species! They are not at fault nor do they deserve death for a problem that surely can be solved other ways!! Don't murder these bears! Don't charge tax payers to murder these bears!



PC404

Name: Erb, Jessica

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

I support Alaska's bears and am highly opposed to the poaching of them. Killing them for no evident reason is inhumane.



PC405

Name: Erb, Kristen

Community of Residence: Edmonton, AB

Comment:

this is barbaric. absolutely awful and a knee-jerk reaction with no proven scientific evidence for positive outcome.



PC406

Name: Erickson, Diana

Community of Residence: california

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to the slaughter of bears to benefit Caribou. The bears in Alaska are a national treasure. Bears and Caribou have coexisted for eons. Why do you want to meddle with this?



PC407

Name: Erlenbach, Joy

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

I'm writing to urge the Board to not support PROPOSAL 1 - 5 AAC 92.111 and the modification to include bears in the intensive management plan for Mulchatna. Scientists around the nation are watching what has unfolded between the Department and the courts over the last several months. A recently released peer-reviewed journal article titled Bears in North America: Habitats, hunting, and politics (Boyce and Derocher, 2025) titled the section on Alaska "Alaska: What science?" and pointed to the Department's lack of science and lack of evidence to support their actions as directly disregarding the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation – the foundation of wildlife management. I guess you could call my request an appeal to the honor of the Department- a request for the Department to act in a way that others will watch and be proud of rather than disparege. For the Department to be an organization that scientists want to work for, collaborate with, and reference in their work because what they did was done well and done honorably. Proceeding without meeting the courts mandates for science-backed decision-making should certainly call into question the Department's honor for all those that are paying attention.



PC408

Name: Erny, Michaels

Community of Residence: DR

Comment:

We need to preserve protected areas for bears. Let the people stay out and let them have some natural habitat. This is outrageous and we should not allow this to happen.



PC409

Name: Ershova, Masha

Community of Residence: 15500 middlebrook dr

Comment:

Stop killing bears



PC414

Name: F., Jonah

Community of Residence: Portland, OR

Comment:

Please do not implement the new Mulchatna bear control program. This is a cruel, unnecessary and ineffective way to protect the Mulchatna Caribou. Predator control has been found to have no positive impact on the caribou population, and since predators prey on weaker animals, they even help stop the spread of brucellosis. When 250 wolves were killed to try and protect the caribou in 2017, the caribou still rapidly declined at the same time. Predator control is not an effective solution. Please don't implement this control program.



PC415

Name: Facin, Tom

Community of Residence: Deep River CT

Comment:

Leave nature alone all too many times humans try to control nature and create a disaster



PC416

Name: Fahey, Michael

Community of Residence: Virginia

Comment:

It is unacceptable to me that we are attempting to control a population of wild bears by murdering them. There is no scientific research that deems this necessary or effective. This is murder.



PC417

Name: Fannin, Liz

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Humans are invasive, leave the damn bears alone



PC418

Name: Faria, Ayesha

Community of Residence: India

Comment:

Killing innocent animals with or without scientific knowledge is unacceptable and absolutely inhumane. We have to protect our wildlife and not eliminate one to save another.

**PC419****Name:** Farley, Amber**Community of Residence:** Tennessee**Comment:**

Save the bears! They are innocent and not invasive. Humans are the invasive species. Killing for the sake of killing is sick and wrong! Please stop. Please save the bears for generations to come. They are magical.

**PC420****Name:** Farmer, Susan**Community of Residence:** Virginia**Comment:**

I cannot support killing of bears if the evidence does not support that it truly affects another species. Inform the public about the dangers of getting too close to wild animals. Pet a stuffed animal, not a real one and give your phones a rest and watch with your eyes.

**PC421****Name:** Farrell, Nicolette**Community of Residence:** Wasilla**Comment:**

This is so cruel and unnecessary! How dare we humans think we are superior!! Absolutely heartbreaking. This planet is to be shared amongst humans and other species. Please do what is rights and allow the bears to live in peace. If it's not bears we trying to protect, it's sharks, lions or rhinos. Humans are selfish and I am embarrassed to be one!

**PC422****Name:** Farris, Annie**Community of Residence:** texas**Comment:**

I am writing today to express my deepest discontent with the unlawful and morally corrupt killings of bears in alaska. To protect our planet we must protect all of it, every tree, animal, mountain and lake! This will change the outcome of alaskan history forever. SAVE THE BEARS NOW!



PC423

Name: Fattorini , Joseph

Community of Residence: Long Branch, NJ

Comment:

I do not even understand why we are having such conversations on a regular basis. How is it that so many ideas get passed through without any consent of the people? Natural habitats are being invaded every moment of every day and almost nothing is ever done about it. I highly suggest some immediate intervention with all forms of law makers especially when it comes to the sacred wildlife of this planet. We have created enough extinction that our children will never know existed and it is time to reevaluate our relationship w nature



PC424

Name: Faucher, Sue

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

we need to reconsider the killing of wildlife because "mankind" "feels" we know how to run wildlife population, is it so wrong to let wildlife take care of itself. animals have been on earth long before all this technology, charts, graphs, etc. we really need to become more respectful of "all animals" and take a step down from practicing our 'know-it-all god-like knowledge.



PC425

Name: Faust, Nina

Community of Residence: Homer

Comment:

P.O. Box 2994

Homer AK 99603

July 3, 2025

RE: Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou

To: Board of Game Members

I followed the last episode of aerial bear killings in the Mulchatna area and found that project an unwarranted, unscientific, senseless slaughter of Alaska's bears. I am strongly opposed to a repeat of this senseless killing of bears. With our tight state budget, this is one program that can be cut completely.

ADF&G keeps trying to go around the public notification process for comment periods by declaring emergencies that do not exist. Now the proposal is to slaughter as many bears as they can, no limit declared, in an area of 40,000 square miles by opening this wolf control area to unlimited hunting of black

and brown bears. To compound this travesty, there are many important federally protected monuments, parks and refuges surrounding one of the areas, some only 30 miles away.

World renowned bear viewing occurs at Katmai National Park and at McNeil River, a state game refuge, and Brooks Falls, site for the famous fat bear competition. Killing bears in the more southerly, slaughter zone could eliminate some of these famous bears thereby affecting the world class wildlife viewing those two places are known for.

The Board of Game needs to stop this rushed aerial hunt that has no real scientific basis nor any proven effect on the caribou. Before any predator control program is implemented, there needs to be a scientific assessment of the consequences of the last round of bear killings. What effects has taking so many bears out of the population had on the overall health of the species. Bears are slow to reproduce. Did it really help the overall caribou population or are other factors causing the decline? And there needs to be a thorough vetting of this proposal by the public instead of being rushed through a special meeting.

It is not in the public's best interest to move forward on another hastily introduced aerial killing program. This is not such an emergency that ADF&G can't first do the science on the effects of the last aerial killing of so many bears. People care deeply about bears and aerial slaughters like this do not sit well with the public. Please do not let this regulation pass.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust



PC426

Name: Faye, Faye

Community of Residence: APT G

Comment:

Keep BEARS SAFE



PC427

Name: Fedak, Mary

Community of Residence: St. Louis

Comment:

Please reconsider this proposal. This is not the answer to bear management and would leave many cubs vulnerable without their mothers. It seems to be a very radical and cruel proposal so please do not allow this to be approved. Thank you very much for your time and thoughtful consideration... Mary Fedak

Please reconsider the aerial assault on native bear and wolf populations. Both of these iconic species represent huge parts of Alaska's natural resources and attract tourism to the state. These majestic animals need and deserve to live as nature intended and not have their population decimated by man in such a brutal capacity. It would be inhumane treatment of one of nature's most valuable gifts to Alaska and also detrimental to the natural balance of the environment. This is NOT a solution. Please disallow this proposal. Thank you very much...Mary Fedak

**PC428****Name:** Feek, Adrian**Community of Residence:** Gloucester**Comment:**

I think it's not right to cull the bears they should be left alone

**PC429****Name:** Feijen, Stef**Community of Residence:** Belgian**Comment:**

I strongly oppose the aerial killing of bears in Alaska, especially when it is justified as a method to support caribou populations. In fact, studies show no consistent evidence that predator control of this kind leads to long-term recovery of prey species. This practice is not only ethically troubling, but also ecologically unacceptable and unsupported by robust data. Wildlife management must be based on science and not outdated assumptions or political convenience.

Finally, bears are worth far more alive. They are a major draw for wildlife tourism all around the world, which brings significant revenue to Alaska's local communities.

**PC430****Name:** Felix , Alexander**Community of Residence:** Oklahoma**Comment:**

As one of the leaders of the galactic federation I order you to stop the killing of innocent animals.

**PC431****Name:** Feminella, Amy**Community of Residence:** Hamilton Sq, NJ**Comment:**

I am opposed (and appalled) by this proposal. Please do what you can to preserve and protect Alaska's beautiful wildlife.



PC432

Name: Fennessy , Christine

Community of Residence: Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

As I understand it, no credible scientific evidence supports the idea that bears can be culled sustainably.

There is, however, overwhelming evidence that predator control such as this will not re-establish populations of moose and caribou. As you know, the Mulchatna caribou are in decline because of disease and lack of food due to the effects of climate change.

Please don't misunderstand me – I want both caribou and moose populations to succeed. But this kind of unlawful bear control is not the way to restore stable numbers of these animals.

I believe that any such decisions made by the Board of Game should be rooted in credible science, and in what the people decide. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



PC433

Name: Fernandez, Erika

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I oppose the slaughter of brown and black bears. There is no science to prove that this will benefit the herd



PC434

Name: Ferrarese , Jennifer

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

I am oppose the proposed regulation because bears should be left alone to live in peace, free from harm and danger. Moreover, the initiative would be a waste of taxpayer money.



PC435

Name: Ferraro, Erica

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please do not let humans go out and purposefully kill the bears, let nature take its course.



PC436

Name: Ferraro, Robert

Community of Residence: APT C B

Comment:

Stop the killing, unless it's proven that the elk or whatever is down because of bears !



PC437

Name: Fiege-Howard, Natascha

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

I strongly oppose shooting bears from helicopters and hunting bears period! I made two recent trips to Alaska to view brown bears and black bears. On each trips we spent around \$12,000. Most of that money was spent inside Alaska especially in the Katmai area. Protect the brown bears, don't kill them. Mother Nature does a great job keeping the population in check. First of all by delayed implantation. Secondly only 33% of brown bear cubs make it past the age of 2. Preserve and protect the brown bear and black bears population. They are immensely popular making international news every single year worldwide attracting lots of tourists. Imagine the bad publicity Alaska will get if bears are shot from helicopters.... Not a good look!



PC438

Name: Fields, Alicia

Community of Residence: Phoenix, AZ

Comment:

I am deeply opposed to culling the bear population. If you are trying to manage caribou population there are better ways to do so. There is no evidence killing the bears helps at all when trying to increase caribou. These animals have coevolved together and the natural balance should continue to be able to thrive. Humans are the demise of populations of animals, it's better to find solutions there with that than destroying Alaskas amazing biodiversity. Please stop the killing.



PC439

Name: Finch, Alora

Community of Residence: Kansas

Comment:

I oppose the hunting and shooting of the mulchatna bear.



PC440

Name: Fine , Emily

Community of Residence: Denver

Comment:

Let the bears in Alaska be wild and free. Just like the Buffalo used to be in America



PC441

Name: Fine, Brice

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Opposition, bears are a fundamental part of Alaskas ecosystem.



PC442

Name: Fintel, Brittany

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

There is no reason to kill off grizzly bears especially in areas that the bear population brings tourists & locals to see them. This would also hurt touring companies that promise these people to see bears.



PC443

Name: Firman, Madilyn

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed regulation changes that would allow the aerial gunning of bears in the Mulchatna region.

My relationship with the bears of Mulchatna is one rooted in years of observation, respect, and deep concern for the ecological integrity of the region. These animals are not just isolated figures on a population chart they are a vital part of the land's balance, and their presence represents the wildness and resilience that make Alaska unique.

I've spent countless hours watching bears swim through salmon streams with the grace but also power that only a wild creature possesses. What you propose risks not only their lives but the very spirit of this land.

Aerial gunning is not management it is eradication by convenience. This method is indiscriminate, inhumane, and violates the principle of fair chase that many Alaskans and outdoor enthusiasts deeply

value. It reduces the bears to targets, not sentient animals with an important role in their ecosystem. Studies have long shown that predator control efforts like these often fail to achieve their stated goals and can destabilize ecosystems in unintended and irreversible ways.

We should not sacrifice bears especially in such an aggressive and controversial manner because of assumptions about their impact on caribou populations. The Mulchatna caribou herd has declined due to a complex mix of factors, including habitat change and disease. Killing bears from helicopters won't solve this problem.

I urge the Board to reject this proposal and instead invest in ethical, transparent, and science-led approaches to wildlife management. The bears of Mulchatna deserve better. This is their home, we are simply visitors.



PC444

Name: Fisk, K

Community of Residence: Puyallup, WA

Comment:

Killing of bears with justified cause should be halted until scientific evidence would justify such actions



PC445

Name: Fitzpatrick, Angela

Community of Residence: Windsor Ontario

Comment:

I oppose the killing of the bears



PC446

Name: Fleck, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Aspen Woods - Ward 6

Comment:

Absolutely stop gunning down innocent bears, including the most innocent cubs. This is atrocious activity and is being spread widely how inhumane this is as well as unnecessary!!



PC447

Name: Fleck, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Aspen Woods - Ward 6

Comment:

Stop shooting Bears!! There is no need for this barbaric act.



PC448

Name: Fleming, Deena

Community of Residence: IL

Comment:

I am in opposition of killing the bears. Please save the bears in Alaska.



PC449

Name: Flores, Abigail

Community of Residence: Lakewood, California

Comment:

Stop the killing of bears. Bears are an integral part of our ecosystem. Killing the bears are cruel and disgusting. Leave nature to balance the system. Human intervention is unnecessary and pointless.



PC450

Name: Flores, Carolina

Community of Residence: Cataluña, Spain

Comment:

These measures are not science supported, killing bears that cannot understand they have "trespassed" is inhumane and poor and lazy policy. Do better



PC451

Name: Flores, D

Community of Residence: Washington

Comment:

Save the bears, the wildlife! Eliminating bears will have consequences upsetting the balance in nature.



PC452

Name: Flores, Dante

Community of Residence: West New York

Comment:

I don't even live in the immediate vicinity or even close to it. But killing these bears from afar will definitely have a negative impact. There has to be a way to create more food or move some of them to a more sustainable environment.



PC453

Name: Flores, Deborah

Community of Residence: Colorado USU

Comment:

Unnecessary eradication of Bear is wrong.



PC454

Name: Flores, Nora

Community of Residence: Community of the people

Comment:

Please don't kill these innocent bears 🐻, It's called survival of the fittest, the Caribou will over populate and become sick and cause diseases. The bears can also be relocated and spayed and neuter. Please save the w



PC455

Name: Flynn, Maura

Community of Residence: Out of state

Comment:

I will cancel my families trip to Alaska and tell every single person I know to stop visiting as a tourist (I am a travel agent) until you start protecting wildlife including the bears!! We come to see the wildlife. The unjust and useless slaughter of these beautiful animals is insane! And no one is eating them, it's not like deer or duck.



PC456

Name: Flynn, Susan

Community of Residence: Los Angeles

Comment:

I don't want my tax dollars to be used towards killing bears, I love animals



PC457

Name: Fondran, Jade

Community of Residence: Euclid, Ohio

Comment:

I do not believe it is fair to commit these terrible acts. It has been proven to not be effective so why continue the suffering? The killing of these bears is sadistic and strange. Often many mother bears and cubs are endangered by these killings which will further cause disruption in this fragile ecosystem. If this program allows killing in these areas what's to stop if someone wants to expand the regions outward? People visit Alaska to see these animals free and alive. This is a main reason why so many come to your state to visit. Tourists fund the protection of these animals not their death. If this passes I will definitely not be traveling and supporting the region and will share with others not to as well. Please protect the bears.



PC458

Name: Fontaine, Mariel

Community of Residence: America

Comment:

As a bachelor of animal science and current veterinary student, the slaughter of apex predators without extremely strong, unbiased scientific evidence is both unethical and cruel. This is ridiculous and makes me embarrassed to be American watching my own government participate in such cruelty.



PC459

Name: Forbes, Tracey

Community of Residence: Alberta, Canada

Comment:

These beautiful animals have just as much of a right to walk this earth as we do. Please stop the slaughter.



PC460

Name: Foryan, Melissa

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

Hello. I am STRONGLY opposed to the horrible and useless killing of bears via helicopter/plane. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska's ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex

predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters, ignores scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power.



PC461

Name: Foss, Kelli

Community of Residence: Santa Cruz, CA

Comment:

Please stop indiscriminately killing bears. The bear population is part of a healthy ecosystem and they should be protected as such. Relocation of trouble bears is a better option as humans encroach on their environment.



PC462

Name: Foster, Maureen

Community of Residence: Church Street

Comment:

More animals they don't tell us what to do!! Just leading their own lives 😞 😞 😞



PC463

Name: Fowler, Leah

Community of Residence: Maryland

Comment:

Save the bears. This is wrong to use tax payer money to shoot bears from a helicopter.



PC464

Name: Fox, Deborah

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Save the Bears they are God's creatures on this earth and are a great part of our ecosystem. We weren't created to kill, we were created to love and protect life. Please put a stop to killing these beautiful creatures. Thank you 🙏 🙏



PC465

Name: Fox, Lori

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bears. No more killing bears and wolves just because they exist.



PC466

Name: Franco Vera, Angelica

Community of Residence: Houston

Comment:

If we want humanity to be restored one must begin by respecting and valuing wildlife lives.



PC467

Name: Frank, Nina

Community of Residence: Munich

Comment:

Save the bears, stop the killing immediately!



PC468

Name: Frankini, Andrew

Community of Residence: New Jersey

Comment:

The world is changing and we must save the environment for future use



PC469

Name: Fraser, Jeanette

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

No to shooting and killing the wildlife/bears for population control or any reason. Quit messing with the ecosystem in Nature. We have learned this does not help anything.



PC470

Name: Frazier, David

Community of Residence: Marquette, MI.

Comment:

Stop killing the Bears. They have more than enough space to coexist-especially in Alaska-and shooting them from the sky is hardly an honorable means of hunting. Why are you hell bent on a creating a world where your grand kids dont have the option to see these beautiful and iconic animals? To build hotels and casinos?? Are you really folding on your wildlife to big business like that Alaska??? If its not that, then seriously why? We all thought you were better than that, and we all thought your state gov. cared about its native dwellers, but I guess even Mighty and Wild Alaska can be shaken by corporate greed. This is shameful.



PC471

Name: Fredericksen, Donovan

Community of Residence: Wasilla

Comment:

The state needs to open all areas of the mulchatna caribou heard to same day airborne hunting for black and brown bear hunts. The state uses tax payer money to send officials out to shoot them by helicopter, residents should be able to hunt same day airborne to helps save taxpayer money, and allow for more sporting opportunities.



PC472

Name: French , Linda **Affiliation:** deepcovens@gmail.com

Community of Residence: Nova Scotia

Comment:

Killing bears is disgusting when you kill from helicopter. No evidence that caribou are being killed by bears when more are killed by humans. You are breaking the laws. I supposeyou consider that normal.



PC473

Name: Friars, Maddie

Community of Residence: Stouffville

Comment:

It's unacceptable to kill these bears. Destroying the natural habitat and wildlife in Alaska and doing irreversible damage. I'm absolutely appalled by whoever thinks they have the right to kill our animals, and that's there home not ours. Our country deserves better people here to protect our wildlife and our beautiful and beloved home.



PC474

Name: Friese, Kimberly

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

I oppose this regulation. The killing of bears and other predators is not scientifically proven to help increase caribou/other animal populations. In the government's own research, it states declining populations are due to lack of food because of climate change. Please stop the unnecessary killing.



PC475

Name: Frith, Michele

Community of Residence: 28 North Shore Road

Comment:

Please do not kill our natural environment! DO NOT kill these bears! We are sabotaging our planet and have already destroyed so much of it!! There is a natural process going on and leave it that way!



PC476

Name: Frldman, Melodye

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

It is the epitome of cruelty to kill these bears in the wild minding their own god damn business. Hunting them from the air is not hunting, it is called brutality and involves no skills. Shame on you disgusting people!



PC477

Name: Frost, Madilyn

Community of Residence: Delaware, Ohio

Comment:

As a United States citizen it terrifies me to see this beautiful country be torn apart and destroyed due to human ignorance. I'm begging you to take a chance and see what benefit this is giving you by hunting a species that has been on this land longer than our country has existed. If this hunting is for no apparent reason then I do not see why it would be opposed to cease fire. If there is a reason, I demand an explanation.



PC478

Name: Fuller, Rosemary

Community of Residence: Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Comment:

YOU CANNOT AND MUST NOT kill the Brooks Falls grizzly bears, or any other bears in Alaska or elsewhere. They are an endangered species, much beloved and treasured by people around the world . Bears bring in much valuable tourism income for your state, apart from their God-given right to exist on this planet.

Thousands of fans around the world watch the Fat Bear contest each year, organized by your excellent Park Rangers.

These bears have done nothing wrong. Think of the damage you would do to the already terrible reputation around the world as a nation that elected Trump AGAIN by slaughtering innocent bear victims. THINK ABOUT IT AND THINK AGAIN!!!!

SAVE THE BEARS NOW!!!!



PC479

Name: Funk, Candace

Community of Residence: Idaho USA

Comment:

Slaughtering essential wildlife in their home is equivalent to me moving into a strangers home and killing all the occupants. Nature manages wildlife! Human "management" stems from greed. Stop the human assault on nature and her wildlife!



PC480

Name: Fuoco, Jamie-Lee

Community of Residence: Vancouver

Comment:

There has to be a better way to manage our forests. Apex predators keep everything in balance and are essential to the environment



PC481

Name: Fuss, Brandi

Community of Residence: # 178

Comment:

Someone needs to stand up for wildlife we cannot keep allowing this it needs to stop



PC482

Name: Fyle, Nadia

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Stop killing the bears!!!!



PC483

Name: Gadoya, Lasya

Community of Residence: Mumbai

Comment:

I stand for and speak for every positive point made to save the bears. Every life matters. There needs to be a balance in ecosystem for future generations to survive



PC484

Name: Galvez, Jesse

Community of Residence: Las Vegas Nevada

Comment:

AGAINST meddling with the bear population. We need our apex predators population healthy. Do not use my tax dollars to kill one of my favorite animals. They need protection not destruction.

A million times NO!! DO NOT KILL HEALTHY BEARS!!



PC485

Name: Garcia, Adrianna

Community of Residence: Orange County

Comment:

Animals were here before us and should still be here after us. Leave them alone and let nature be !



PC486

Name: Garcia, Andrea

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Save the bear and save all animals.



PC487

Name: Garrett , Jeff

Community of Residence: Beavercreek Ohio

Comment:

Killing these beautiful animals to protect the caribou is absurd. If the bears are not there the caribou will overpopulated and more will die from overpopulation and starvation!



PC488

Name: Gartner, Sonja

Community of Residence: Kootenay boundary

Comment:

Stop slaughtering innocent creatures that have done nothing to deserve this, in the guise of 'control' The best thing humans can do is stay out of it!!!! Who says that caribou have more right to live than the bears.... Why are you constantly trying to play god?!



PC489

Name: Garza, Shadicy

Community of Residence: Texas

Comment:

Please STOP the madness with bears. They are sentient beings who love their cubs and feel emotions and pain! Please let them live comfortably where God designed them to live. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE have a heart. What Would Jesus Do?



PC490

Name: Gates, Randy

Community of Residence: Az

Comment:

Please don't kill Bears with helicopters or any other means



PC491

Name: Gatica, Jodi

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the board and games proposed regulation to modify the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area to allow for the take of brown and black bears by department staff to benefit the herd.

The ruthless slaughtering of brown and black bears is disgraceful. No scientific rationale is present to support a belief that killing young and adult bears is helping caribou. Stop pulling the trigger!



PC492

Name: Gatti , Maria

Community of Residence: Toronto

Comment:

This is animal cruelty and needs to stop.



PC493

Name: Gayle, Maddie

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

It is very unfortunate that this is the proposed solution for protecting the caribou of this region, please do not reinstate any legislation that would legally allow the killing or “population control” or bears or any predator from a helicopter. Please reconsider another form of caribou protection instead of this. I’m not an expert in this field by any means, but please listen to those who are who have more experience in this field. Please keep Alaska’s animals protected while there are still here.



PC494

Name: George, Roberta Ann

Community of Residence: # 502

Comment:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s (ADFG) bear-killing program, which permits the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters and planes, is a brutal and ecologically reckless practice that must be stopped. This method of wildlife control is not only inhumane—inflicting terror and suffering on intelligent, sentient animals—but it also disrupts the delicate balance of Alaska’s ecosystems. Targeting bears, apex predators vital to maintaining healthy populations of prey species and forest biodiversity, undermines decades of conservation work and disrespects the intrinsic value of these iconic creatures. Such killing, often done under the guise of increasing moose or caribou numbers for hunters, ignores

scientific evidence and prioritizes short-term human interests over the long-term health of the environment. It is a shameful betrayal of Alaska's wild legacy and an unacceptable abuse of state power.

Bobbie george

As a supporter of brooks fall bears this is devastating news so I am writing to stop the senseless killing.



PC495

Name: Georges , Ericka

Community of Residence: Miami,Fl

Comment:

Stop the ruthless killing if animals that were here before us. Learn to coexist like they have to with us. Or have a fair fight, no weapons just yoi and them a holes!



PC496

Name: Gerber, Jasmine

Community of Residence: Riverside, CA

Comment:

This is wrong!



PC497

Name: Germain, Jillian

Community of Residence: Mechanicville

Comment:

I think it is honestly disgusting how people want to use taxpayer money to murder these beautiful creatures who are innocent. I'm ashamed that humans are taking out everything beautiful in this world. They can't protect or speak for themselves while your shooting them dead from a [REDACTED] helicopter, i'm truly disgusted. We must protect not only the bears, but every wildlife because they deserve to be free and safe, just like us. And for TWO YEARS ?! THESE PEOPLE ARE HEARTLESS AND EVIL



PC498

Name: Geurts, Madison

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I am opposed to this. Bear should not be gone down via a helicopter that is cruel inhumane and not wildlife management.



PC499

Name: Gibson, Michele

Community of Residence: Northern hemisphere

Comment:

I am against the shooting of bears in Alaska. As an educator, we should embrace our natural world and protect wild animals for ourselves and future generations. I camp in remote area, and I am knowledgeable about protecting myself. Education is key. Take a page from our native Indians, and embrace our natural world and it's inhabitants, not destroy.



PC500

Name: Gibson, Trina

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please stop bear hunts. Learn to co-exist with these amazing animals. Take lessons from Churchill, Manitoba



PC501

Name: Gilbert, Susan

Community of Residence: Kasilof, AK

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the Mulchatna Bear Control proposal. Aerial shooting of bears without a clear understanding of the number of bears in the area, including transient bears, reflects poor scientific and research work which is essential in formulating any type of animal control program. Additionally, non-discriminatory gunning is likely to kill the wrong types of bears and is very likely to produce negative outcomes, potentially leading to the near extinction of bears in this area. Historically, the environment tends to regulate itself so that there is not an overpopulation of any species for any appreciable amount of time. I do not think the DFG has done their due diligence on this issue, and allowing an unlimited number of bears to be gunned down from the air is patently wrong. Sow bears could be gunned down, allowing her cubs to die slow deaths. Given the slow maturity rate of bears and low reproduction numbers, this could be an ecological disaster. Bears are a vital part of Alaska and important to its citizens, of which I am one. I ask that the Board consider the voices of Alaskans and refuse to approve this proposal. Thank you.



PC502

Name: Gingras, Celine

Community of Residence: Canada alberta

Comment:

This is not necessary. Bears were there before us. Let them live!



PC503

Name: Giroux Chaves, Samantha

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Please don't hurt the bears or animals. It's very unnecessary. Always the animals get killed. Leave nature alone.



PC504

Name: Glaubitz, Susan

Community of Residence: Castricum

Comment:

Unbelievable that you are trying to change The law so these bears can be killed. There is no scientific evidence That this Will help The herds. More likely is will ruin The eco system



PC505

Name: Gliemann , Hannah

Community of Residence: [REDACTED] Fayetteville AR 72703

Comment:

My name is Hannah Gliemann. I am a mental health professional from Arkansas, a nature lover, an advocate for the voiceless.

It has been brought to my attention that the ADFG is proposing to reinstate a taxpayer funded aerial gunning program targeting bears - including cubs. There is no scientific evidence that culling the bear population will help caribou populations recover. Almost 200 bears about been killed by air in 2023 &2024.

It is time for humans to respect nature and coexist peacefully with bears.

I absolutely love this country, and I love to explore every acre of it. Will I put Alaska on my travel list when there's no bears, no moose, no pristine land?

Please do not use taxpayer money to slaughter bears. We are all nature. We are all One.

In Love,

Hannah Gliemann



PC506

Name: Goggins, Morrah

Community of Residence: UNIT 1227

Comment:

I ask that the Alaska Board of Game does NOT adopt regulation changes in title 5 of the AAC. There is absolutely no evidence that The slaughter of bears and wolves will help the Caribou population in this area. I ask that our taxpayer dollars not be used to senselessly kill these animals, who just like the Caribou, are vital to the native ecosystem of Alaska. Please consider collecting at minimum another's year's worth of data on these Caribou populations and the impact specifically of bears and wolves on them in comparison to other threats. If the data concludes that this regulation is necessary, we as taxpayers will understand that you will have to reconsider. However, at this time, the data does not show that this measure will help. Please consider alternative measures to aid in the survival of the Caribou population of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. Thank you.



PC507

Name: Goh, Gracia

Community of Residence: Singapore

Comment:

There are many tourists that go to see the bears which provides economic benefit to the community.

Also, for ecological purposes, the intrinsic value of the bears' lives, and ethical concerns, it would be good not to kill them.



PC508

Name: Göksel, Gülsen

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

One day the human being will feel alone on the earth if they continue to seduce themselves into killing animals according to the compromised sport the name hunting! One day, our children will not find a drop of water, a leaf to get cool under its shade, or an animal to let the balance survive nature and humans.

You're not right to kill them without asking for my consent. I'm a part of life and your activity hurt me.



PC509

Name: Goldhaber, Gordon

Community of Residence: Minocqua, WI

Comment:

There is absolutely no evidence that killing brown bears helps caribou populations recover. If anything this program is nothing more than an endeavor driven by greed, bad science, and trophy hunting interests. It's time this madness stopped.



PC510

Name: Goldsboro, Karli

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

I oppose this "bear management" regulation. Let nature be and stop interfering with natural habitats and ecosystems for the sake of trophy hunting and an ego boost.



PC511

Name: Gonzales, Valerie

Community of Residence: Citizen

Comment:

Bears are important and do not deserve to die. They are part of an ecosystem system that needs to stay intact. When bears are killed a kink is put into the ecosystem. Please do not kill them!



PC512

Name: Gonzalez, Alayna

Community of Residence: Lawrence, Ks

Comment:

I'm sick just imagining all of the wildlife that is being harmed in our nation. No one has more of a right to our land than the animals themselves that have been here for years and help our ecosystem.



PC513

Name: Gonzalez, Gaby

Community of Residence: Simi valley

Comment:

Animal control has been ineffective therefore it will only put wildlife at more risk and damage it.



PC514

Name: Goodman, Siobhan

Community of Residence: San Antonio

Comment:

I oppose this cruel and unethical practice. We are on the brink of extinction crisis for many species and practices like this contribute to that crisis. Allow these species to roam THEIR home in peace. Leave the wildlife untouched.



PC515

Name: Gordon, Aylla

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

These bears are apart of our ecosystem. They are living creatures with souls not your target.



PC516

Name: Gorman , Julie

Community of Residence: United kingdom

Comment:

Comment Opposing 5 AAC 92.111 - Intensive Management Plans I

To Whom I May Concern:

I am writing to most strongly oppose the proposed changes to 5 AAC 92.111. I oppose these changes on the following grounds:

This has already been declared illegal by the courts, two times. Only recently a judge ruled that the killing of bears in this way is not allowed.

Yet despite the court's ruling, bears were still killed.

The courts have already said that it is wrong to make such changes without letting the public have input. And yet, as previously, the public are not being allowed reasonable time for this before the court hearing.

It seems that there has been a blatant disregard of the law.

There has been no change to the facts that support the original ruling against this slaughter of bears. As such, it makes no sense to try again, to push for this.

Caribou numbers are in trouble primarily because of loss of food and habitat, partly due to climate change. When nature and an ecosystem are in balance, then animal numbers naturally find their correct levels as to what the land can support.

While bears may take a few calves, as is part of nature, they don't hunt grown caribou. However, caribou can produce young every year, and so have the potential to restore their population, whereas bears only have cubs every four to six years, and most of those do not survive. These figures just do not support blaming bears for decreasing caribou numbers.

If caribou numbers are in such decline, then surely it makes more logical sense to stop all unnecessary hunting. Obviously Native communities hunt them and should be allowed to continue to do so, as they rely on them for food. Trophy hunting, however, is not necessary.

The way these bears have been killed, by being shot from planes, is just pure slaughter. Even females with cubs. This combined with the continued trophy hunting of caribou, when their numbers are already decreasing, does not seem like wildlife management, but more like there's a hidden agenda for the land.

These natural areas already generate a large income from tourists from all around the world. In fact Katmai National Park has many people who return multiple years specifically to view the bears. The bears of Katmai are also watched remotely, and have a huge worldwide following. They are very important to me personally, and I hope to get to see them one day. It's a huge worry that these bears, that so many have come to know and love, could be lost to this proposed kulling. Bears are known to have home ranges of up to 195 square miles, which could certainly see them leaving the protection of the Parks and Preserves and entering the kill zones.

So much of the world's nature and natural places have been destroyed, gone for good. What's left should be treasured for what it is, and protected at all costs, otherwise we will not have a habitable planet.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

Julie Gorman



PC517

Name: Govea , Yvonne

Community of Residence: No

Comment:

No animal should be slaughtered from a helicopter to protect another animal. How about we put into law some humane laws to protect both animals.



PC518

Name: Grace, Keli

Community of Residence: Oregon

Comment:

rs, and black bears across a 40,000 square mile area!! This area is bordered by the purposeful YUKON DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TOGIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, KATMAI NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PRESERVE!!

This operation is inhumane and unethical, causing unnecessary suffering to the bears... AND represents a troubling approach to wildlife management. In addition, AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, it lacks a scientific foundation as study after study shows that predators are not the major factor determining the population of moose, caribou, and other game animals. ADFG is sidestepping the fact that such action will disrupt ecosystems for the obvious purpose of sport killing vs scientific foundations.

The practice is not only seen as unethical and inhumane but seen as damaging Alaska's reputation as a responsible steward of its natural resources and will most certainly if enacted, filter down to boycotting Alaska's economy because of this obvious uneducated attack on apex predators.

In addition, you would also know in your position, that the killing of older, experienced bears can lead to the loss of vital survival knowledge for younger bears. If you proceed with this egregious act, it is a stamp of approval that your commission does not care about the viability of the targeted species.

A similar Alaskan predator control operation in 2023 killed approximately 100 brown bears (including cubs) and black bears, far more than the original planners estimated. This suggests that the Department cannot control the true mortality levels during these exercises.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this senseless plan and prioritize a more balanced, humane approach to wildlife management which we the people expect of those placed in vital positions such as yours. I may not live in Alaska, but all wildlife is a concern or should be to all of us. There is no need to keep killing. With regards, ,Keli Grace



PC519

Name: Grace, Patrick

Community of Residence: Victor, ID 83455

Comment:

Dear Alaska Game and Fish Board,

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the culling of resident bears in the Mulchatna Management Area. It is striking clear that scientific research has concluded that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been in decline for a number of reasons that hugely overshadow the depredation experienced by the local bears and wolves. Overpopulation of the herd during the mid 1990's causing lasting damage to sustainable forage, coupled with the presence of Brucellosis have had a devastating effect on population numbers. Those factors combined with the warmer seasons we have been seeing have shifted the landscape biotically making it alot harder for the caribou to recover to healthy numbers.

Predators are the knife that cuts the disease from the herd, making the herd stronger in the long run. It has been shown time and time again that predator numbers self regulate with the rise and fall of available prey. Please consider your decisions based on sound data and science, the future of our most valuable national treasures are shouldered on the choices we make today.

Respectfully Yours,

Patrick Grace



PC520

Name: Gragert, Cynde

Community of Residence: Ashland oregon

Comment:

I do Not support the slaughter of bears including mothers and their cubs. This is despicable "management." There is no proof that killing hundreds of bears will improve caribou herds. And who is this for? Trophy hunters?



PC521

Name: Graham, Madison Graham

Community of Residence: Lake County

Comment:

Bears play a vital role in our ecosystems, from seed dispersal to balancing populations. But their habitats are shrinking, their food sources are threatened, and too many fall victim to poaching and unnecessary hunting. These intelligent, powerful creatures deserve better.

We can't undo the damage already done, but we can stand up now—to protect their homes, regulate harmful practices, and ensure future generations get to see bears in the wild, not just in storybooks.

Let's raise our voices for the voiceless. Save the bears. 🐾 🌲



PC522

Name: Granfield, Pat

Community of Residence: East Hampton

Comment:

Government officials 🙄 no respect for nature

Guns are toys for men 🙄



Name: Grant, Isabel

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Greetings Board of Game,

I have followed this issue closely since the predator control of wolves and bears was first approved by this committee. I am deeply disturbed by the lack of critical thinking and involvement of science in the management decisions regarding the Mulchatna caribou herd. Statements made by this board suggest that while you may acknowledge that the primary cause of the population decline is related to disease and climate change, you feel that the only thing you can do is remove predators.

However, research presented to you by ADFG's own scientists strongly suggests that because wolves and bears are not the primary causes of herd decline, removing them will not raise the population. You could remove every single bear from that area and still see the population continue to decline because killing bears will not cure the caribou of brucellosis. It will not prevent the caribou from starving through a hard winter. It will not magically allow a sick and weak female caribou to successfully reproduce. These issues cannot be solved with predator control.

Furthermore, you are killing wildlife that actually plays a role in preventing the spread of disease in their prey populations. Bears are not extractive entities that sit on top of an ecosystem and simply take from it. Bears are an integral part of the very environment that supports the existence of a caribou herd. If you remove them entirely or remove too many, you will ultimately cause more harm to the caribou in the long-run.

Perhaps what I find most concerning about this decision is that the state does not know how many bears exist in Unit 17D. "People see bears in this area" is not an acceptable metric to evaluate population size and stability. Bears are also a population that reproduces slowly. Females take years to become sexually active and will only successfully reproduce if their body mass meets a certain threshold. If they suffer a particularly lean summer, they will not reproduce and will struggle to survive the winter. Combine the loss of the females from environmental factors with predator control (that targets both females and males) and you risk bringing the bear population to a level they cannot recover from without intensive management.

Because we don't know how many are in this area, or even have a good estimate, you have no idea how many bears can be removed from this area without threatening the stability and persistence of the bear population there.

I will also point out that the state has made no effort to learn anything from the predator control you have already done. Is anyone tracking to caribou to see if the first round of predator control worked? Has anyone used the bear carcasses to estimate female-male ratios and even a population estimate? If so, why has this information not been presented to the public? And if none of these things have been done, then it shows yet another level of irresponsible management.

As an Alaskan, I want there to be caribou and bears in Unit 17d. If the Board of Game continues to make decisions that have no scientific backing, I don't expect future generations will have either species. I am urging this committee to think about the long term impacts of these decisions on ecosystem health and reject this proposal. Reject it because we have yet to see evidence that it works, reject it because there are

alternative options that have not been explored, reject it because you have not released sufficient information to the public to allow for legitimate public discourse.

This proposal is inappropriate and irresponsible management of wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my opinions,

Isabel



PC524

Name: Grant, John

Community of Residence: Massachusetts

Comment:

I am commenting because I am deeply concerned about the unscientific and unethical shooting of brown and black bears to “save” the Mulchatna caribou herd. Science has shown over and over again that killing apex predators does NOT save wild ungulates. Whether it’s brown bears, wolves, or cougars, killing these iconic predators causes more harm than good when trying to save caribou. Bears are omnivores having a diet mostly containing of vegetation rather than meat. Brown bears rather feed off a caribou carcass than out in the effort to take down a caribou itself. Also the decline in this herd of caribou has nothing to do with native predators, climate change is the culprit making it harder for caribou to adapt to a changing world. Climate change has altered the distribution of habitat and food for caribou causing a major decline overall. We should be investing ways to mitigate the problems of climate change to tackle this issue. Gunning down bears is not and was never the solution to this problem. Also I just find this incredibly cruel and unethical that people are shooting these incredible animals from a helicopter. Bears, wolves, and cougars bring immense economic value through ecotourism having thousands upon thousands of people every year wanting to see these animals across Alaska. Also these animals HAVE the intrinsic right to live on this planet. Not to be gunned down for the purpose of “management”. Please do the right thing and end this cruelty. No bear deserves to be shot from the air because we as a species fail to take action on the climate crisis putting the caribou in peril.



PC525

Name: Grant, Robin

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Please stop this morally indefensible act that is not based on science. There is no scientific proof that killing all these bears will help protect caribou. Please only base policy on science



PC526

Name: Gray, Amy

Community of Residence: Juneau

Comment:

Please do not kill the Katmai brown bears or black bears!



PC527

Name: Gray, Kimberley

Community of Residence: Calgary

Comment:

There's enough evidence from biologists and conservationists to justify halting this action.



PC528

Name: Gray, Robert

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Shooting bear from helicopter is a cowardly thing to do, if you absolutely have to kill bears, you need to kill male adult bears. you need to do it like a Man. This is the most cowardly thing I've seen I live in Florida. We have approximately 4000 bears 25 million people and they won't to start killing our Bears. I'm 60 years old lived here 2/3 of my life and I've never seen a bear in the state of Florida. I don't think we have a bear problem. We have a damn people problem just like you people in Alaska do!



PC529

Name: Graziani , Brigitte

Community of Residence: Monterey, CA

Comment:

Aerial shooting of wildlife is a barbaric way to control the bears numbers. Why not institute a sterilization program rather than shooting them with no idea if they have babies awaiting feeding back in a den? It just seems like we can do better.



Name: Greaud, Stacey

Community of Residence: Baton Rouge

Comment:

I oppose this barbaric non-scientific proposed wildlife management practice for the following reasons:

In

2020, a group of State biologists were tasked with studying the vanishing herd. They found that the main reasons for the decline were disease and a lack of food. Brucellosis, a relative of mad cow disease, has decimated the herd, causing lameness, infertility, and lower birth rates. Over a third of the caribou tested at the time were infected. Likewise, climate change has slowly shifted the Mulchatna herd's habitat. The lichen that caribou depend upon is disappearing, and the landscape is becoming more and more shrubby; prime moose habitat, but poor caribou habitat. Overpopulation and habitat damage when the herd numbered 200,000 may have also contributed to the sharp decline.

To try and save the Mulchatna herd, the State enacted a predator control program, operating under an Intensive Management law passed in 1994 that allows ADF&G to take action to manage struggling populations. One of the tools under Intensive Management is predator control, which allows the increased killing of large carnivores like wolves and bears to increase ungulate populations for hunter harvests. Despite AWA's persistence and the overwhelming evidence that these predator control programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations, the State Board of Game continuously approves these programs. To read AWA's full position on Intensive Management and predator control, please read our position paper.

In areas known as Predator Control Areas, ADFG is authorized to shoot bears and wolves from helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, as well as kill predators of any sex and age. While a wolf control program has existed in the Wood-Tikchik area for years, it wasn't until 2023 that the State adopted a bear control program as well. In the last two years, the bear control program has resulted in the killing of 175 brown bears.

However, bear predation isn't even in the top three identified causes of mortality among the Mulchatna herd (and golden eagles have carried off more caribou calves than bears and wolves in some study years). There is no data to support that predator control programs, and the mass killings of wolves and bears, will recover the Mulchatna herd.

Instead, studies, including one on moose harvests in GMU 13 and another on wolf predation on the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, have shown that reducing predators doesn't lead to an increase in ungulates. Further, wolves and bears are known to prey on weaker animals, which may have helped keep brucellosis levels down in the Mulchatna herd. By 2017, 250 wolves had been killed in the original Mulchatna Predator Control program; the caribou herd declined rapidly at nearly the same time.



PC531

Name: Greenholz, Doug

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

Board of Game - I am fortunate to have been able to visit Katmai a few years ago, while on a fishing trip. We took one day off fishing to visit Katmai and Brooks Falls. Even seeing a small sampling of the beautiful wildlife and extensive (mostly) undisturbed nature, I cannot how deeply the experience moved me. Alaska, and specifically Katmai, struck me as the last frontier, yet is accessible. It is CRITICAL that the environment and it's natural inhabitants be left unharmed and undisturbed. I was sick to my stomach to learn that anyone would consider killing bears in their natural habitat, and to do from a helicopter is a very sick idea. I urge you to NOT allow any such activity. The habitat is a true treasure. Please leave it for others to observe, learn from, appreciate and be inspired for generations to come. PLEASE!

Sincerely,

Doug Greenholz

Taxpayer

Alaska Visitor



PC532

Name: Greenholz, Sarah

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I oppose this proposed regulation to hunt bears. This is a terrible idea. Nature will take care of itself. By hunting bears, you will affect the natural environment and also the economy. Many people come to visit AK each year to view bears. You will be taking jobs from people who do bear photography tours. It will affect the amount of bears people see at Brooks Falls, Lake Clark, and Tongass, to name a few. People who come to fish also enjoy viewing bears. By shooting from the air, you may kill mother bears and leave babies to die a horrible death. This is an awful idea and I vehemently oppose it.

Thank you.



Name: Gregory, Laura

Community of Residence: Fairbanks, Alaska

Comment Regarding Board of Game's Special Meeting Regarding Intensive Management for Mulchatna Caribou Herd

I strongly oppose the state's proposal. This program and situation has been back and forth for months now. Most importantly, the state did NOT assess how the program would impact bears. Between when it reversed and now, there has been NO new information or data to support this proposal. There is NO information from the state on the bear population and the impact this program can have on the bear population in the area. There is no data to support the slaughter of bears positively impacting a caribou herd.

This aerial slaughter of the Mulchatna bears and wolves is NOT supported by independent, peer-reviewed science. Predator control programs like this have been repeatedly debunked as ineffective in increasing ungulate populations. Killing these animals with NO valid research or knowledge of the population is extremely reckless, immoral, and unethical. As an Alaska resident, I would greatly prefer my tax dollars to be allocated to learning more about these animals versus murdering them due to inaccurate information and a lack of data.

I travel every summer to see bears. These animals bring substantial financial resources through tourism. This area is only 100 miles from Katmai's Brooks Falls. Nature finds a way. With the cyclical nature and population of many animals, we should be educating ourselves on these populations and the health of the animals versus blindly killing them based on a false old mentality.

I very strongly urge to put this entire management plan to rest for good. This proposal was just rejected on March 14th saying it was "unlawfully adopted." This initial program estimated 15-25 brown bears be killed and over 200 have been killed in the last two years. The resources of this program should be utilized to collect research, not shooting bears and wolves, including cubs and pups, with no statistical backing. Bears have a very low mortality rate.

End this unjustified slaughter. Collect the research.

Laura Lyn Gregory



PC534

Name: Gregory, Tamra

Community of Residence: USA

Comment:

Please stop the unnecessary slaughter of these magnificent animals. Nature will take care of itself, it does not need man playing God. This is a disgusting display of power and control.



PC535

Name: Gregson, Heather

Community of Residence: Malden Massachusetts

Comment:

Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area

I am opposed to allowing Black and Brown Bear Elimination

There is no reason to kill natural predators when humans are having the largest negative impact on caribou herds and their environment. Apex predators such as bears and wolves are easy scapegoats for people to blame rather than looking at ourselves, our actions and the negative repercussions we cause.

Bears and wolves select the sickest, weakest of the herd for food only. Humans take the largest and strongest for arrogance, ego and bragging.

Decades ago, it was decided to end the Pollock Fishery to protect the Herring and Stellar sea lions. The closing of the fishery had catastrophic results, with a sharp decline in herring stock and Steller sea lions starving to death.

If you want to protect the Mulchatna Caribou, protect them from humans, trophy hunting, and habitat loss from human-caused degradation.

Let the bears live.



PC536

Name: Griffin, Traci

Community of Residence: Kodiak

Comment:

Let nature take its course. It's done fine for thousands of years.



PC537

Name: Griffith , Nancy

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

STOP the bear killings. There's no ecological or animal reason for these killings.



PC538

Name: Grote , Chelsea

Community of Residence: Arizona

Comment:

Hello! Please spare these amazing bears. They are doing what nature intended and do not deserve to be destroyed.



PC539

Name: Groves, Jaye

Community of Residence: CA

Comment:

These bears are a keystone species to their environment. They take many years to mature and reproduce, in addition to having few offspring that take years to raise before they can reproduce again. Programs such as the one proposed will have a drastic negative impact on the species and the surrounding ecosystems.

Grizzlies exist in a fraction of their original environments, leaving only a few safe spaces left for them to thrive. Why make the mistake of destroying a species as the lower states have made. Alaska is and can continue to be an example of how to manage land and wildlife properly, a state all other states can look up to. But only propositions such as these are not passed.



PC540

Name: Guadagno, Jennifer

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

Please stop killing our bears. I was just made aware of this appalling situation. I was just in Alaska on a cruise last week and I only saw 1 bear but it made my heart melt . You should never put an animal down.

Thank you for listening,

Jennifer Guadagno



PC541

Name: Gualtieri, Lauren

Community of Residence: Alabama

Comment:

Bears don't know when they have crossed into a kill zone. They just roam naturally. There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover. This is ethically indefensible and a waste of taxpayer money.



PC542

Name: Guerrero, Jeanette

Community of Residence: Los Angeles CA

Comment:

The bears aren't going anyone or any other animals harm! Stop killing those poor creatures. Killing the mothers along with their cubs is evil!!



PC543

Name: Gumuryan, Ani

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

I am writing as a deeply concerned citizen regarding the recent aerial killings of over 200 bears—many of them mothers and cubs—reportedly carried out by the State of Alaska under the justification of wildlife “management” and “preservation.”

This practice is not only inhumane but ecologically misguided and morally unacceptable. Shooting animals from helicopters is a brutal act that causes fear, suffering, and destabilizes the very balance of the ecosystems Alaska is claiming to protect.

Bears are not a threat to the ecosystem—they are a vital part of it. As apex predators and scavengers, they play a crucial role in seed dispersal, nutrient cycling, and population control of other species. Removing them disrupts the natural balance and sends shockwaves through entire ecosystems, harming far more than the species being targeted.

Killing bears under the guise of protecting caribou or moose herds is an outdated and flawed management tactic. True conservation is not about manipulating populations for human hunting quotas—it's about coexisting with the natural world, allowing wildlife to function as it has for millennia without human interference.

What message are we sending to future generations when we sanction the slaughter of iconic wildlife from the sky? That convenience and control matter more than compassion, science, and the sanctity of wild lives?

I urge the state of Alaska to immediately halt these aerial killings and invest in ethical, science-based wildlife management strategies that respect the interconnectedness of all life.

Let bears be bears. Let nature be wild. Humanity's role is not to dominate, but to protect what remains.



PC544

Name: Gunnlaugsson, Ingrid

Community of Residence: Pompano beach, florida

Comment:

Please stop killing those beautiful bears!!



PC545

Name: Gupta, Anubhav

Community of Residence: Delhi India

Comment:

Please can you stop this mindless cull. Please have some sanity.



PC546

Name: Guthrie , Annie

Community of Residence: Port Townsend Washington

Comment:

I am begging you, please don't do this. These beautiful, magnificent creatures deserve our love, respect, and protection. They are vital and worthy, they do not deserve to be slaughtered. Please let them live safely and freely, without fear or threat. Please, don't do this.



PC547

Name: Gutierrez, Reyna

Community of Residence: My home

Comment:

I do not want these bears to be eliminated anymore, they are being wiped out for what? Even if their was a benefit from this how could it be right? It's not so it needs to stop. These lands need to be protected and ALASKA needs to stop.



PC548

Name: Guyon, Rebecca

Community of Residence: Chicago

Comment:

You have no right to murder these in convent bears. Shame on you and all of Alaska. I'm so disgusted and saddened by this heartless senseless act. Please end this now.



PC549

Name: Guzman , Gregory

Community of Residence: Leave them alone its their habitat.

Comment:

Leave the animals alone they aren't bothering anyone and plus theyre invading their space.



PC550

Name: Hall, Amy

Community of Residence: #108

Comment:

Please no more killing of bears at Katmai Natl Park, the humans are the real issue and I beg of you to preserve the bear's natural habitat, even if it means removing the humans visiting!



PC551

Name: Hall, Amy

Community of Residence: Round Hill

Comment:

Stop slaughtering bears. This is atrocious.



PC552

Name: Hall, Debbie

Community of Residence: Colorado

Comment:

I strongly oppose the killing of these bears!

I do not believe this will help benefit the caribou herd.

This is a terrible management"plan" there's no scientific proof, no tracking, etc.



PC553

Name: Hall, Gina

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

Wildlife is becoming less and less in our lifetime, without the all wildlife to manage their part of the ecosystem there will be an overgrowth of vegetation, fish life among other Wild growing area. Each animal put on this earth plays a role in the development and thriving of this earth



PC554

Name: Hall, Wayne

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

There is really not much more to be said about the ADFG/BOG scientific ignorance and bureaucratic arrogance of the Mulchatna bear and wolf killing program that was not already said by many when the “emergency petition” was submitted and, according to court decisions, illegally approved by the BOG in March of this year. Just as there is not much point in saying it as, just like in the past, there is no doubt at all, zero doubt, that it will be approved unanimously by the BOG anyway. As usual, the BOG will act subserviently to the will of ADFG. Furthermore, there is little doubt this will even be read by the Board.

There are, however, a few issues to question.

First, the cost of these programs as claimed by ADFG never includes the “Personal Services” costs (Salaries and Benefits) of the many state employees, from biologists to the Director and Commissioner, involved in the administration and implementation of the program. This would suggest either state employees are not involved at any level in any way in the program, or, they would otherwise just be sitting around with nothing else meaningful to do. Either of which speaks poorly of all ADFG employees and administrative staff involved in the program. But, especially given the various Alaska Superior Court decisions regarding “bad faith” and “not credible” ADFG staff activities, should that be a surprise? Of course it is not. But what are the ADFG Personal Service costs and why are they not included? And what about the substantial legal costs associated with legal proceedings including legal fees awarded to the plaintiffs? The public should know the true costs of the program regardless of the source of funding.

Second, the “March 2025 Mulchatna Caribou IM Status & Information” published by ADFG confidently states “Most of the affected bear population is conserved within the much larger refugia that is the nontreatment area where removals do not occur”. Where, ADFG/BOG, is that data? But, in effect, ADFG and their obedient BOG are saying bears killed in the Mulchatna program will be replaced (and later killed in authorized subsequent years of this predator control program) by bears in the surrounding protected areas of the Togiak NWR, Lake Clark NP, McNeil Sanctuary and Refuge, and Katmai NP and Preserve. ADFG is absolutely petrified to allow any evidence that those formerly “protected” bears from Togiak, Lake Clark, McNeil or Katmai are being killed from helicopters in the Mulchatna aerial predator killing program, though they certainly are. Should we wonder why? And, ADFG continues, “Based on the indicators of the affected bear population being robust and the removals only affecting a small proportion of the affected bear population, the department has determined that removing all bears from

the WMCH calving grounds has been and will continue to be sustainable”. What “indicators”? Anecdotal comments? Where is there any ADFG data to support that? Just because they say so?

But, because there will never be any answer to these questions and recognizing that commenting here is in reality of no influence on the guaranteed ADFG/BOG decision to proceed killing Mulchatna bears, at least for the record, I am opposed to Proposal 1.

Wayne Hall



PC555

Name: Halpern, Roy

Community of Residence: Sonoma

Comment:

As a photographer, I have been exclusively photographing brown bears in the Katmai region every year for the last 25 years. This is a poor plan for many reasons. The money generated from bear tourism is Hugh. I have encouraged many friends to go to Alaska, and see the bears. They always say, "It was expensive, but the most memorable part of the trip" " The bears support many other businesses. As well as many positive environmental benefits.

The only reason we can see these bears is they are not really aggressive. The reason being, they are not harassed.



PC556

Name: Halpin, Kevin

Community of Residence: Point Lookout, NY

Comment:

I am opposed!



PC557

Name: Hamblin, Shelby

Community of Residence: IA

Comment:

I oppose this. There is no scientific evidence backing the claim that these bears can be killed sustainably.



PC558

Name: Hamilton, Gary

Community of Residence: Connecticut

Comment:

This slaughter is completely unacceptable and indefensible. There's no reason for it and no scientific evidence whatsoever that it would help maintain caribou populations. Stop this senseless killing spree now!



PC559

Name: Handy, HJ

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I support this goal by ADFG as long as the hides, skulls and (meat from black bears) is used or donated to people who can make use of it and not left to merely rot away.

Science based game management is an effective tool and if there is a surplus of bears they should be harvested.

There should be allowances for residents who can access those areas to hunt as well.

Outside state influences should not be allowed to dictate what's best for Alaska. The state and its interests come first for the benefit of the residents of Alaska, not the non-resident special interest groups.



PC560

Name: Hanlon, Sharon

Community of Residence: California

Comment:

Hello. I oppose the killing of bears for the supposed decline in Mulchatna Caribou. You continue this killing spree when you don't know for sure the reason for decline. So when you count the numbers and see that bear population is low, will you start shooting the Caribou? Why don't you do the study instead of the extreme the easy way out?

Save the bears!



PC561

Name: Hannifin, Leslie

Community of Residence: Nevada

Comment:

We the people are not God. It is not our place to shoot bears, especially with taxpayer money that we, the people, didn't authorize. This is yet another massive government overreach. Let nature take its own course. Look at what happened to Yellowstone when the government took away all the wolf packs, it massively disrupted the ecosystem, from every aspect. This is not our place to decide what animals are allowed to live. That is God's decision alone.



PC562

Name: Hansen, Andrew

Community of Residence: Wyoming

Comment:

I vehemently oppose the proposal to hunt ("take") Alaskan black and brown bears to benefit the named caribou herd. I am unaware of any sound scientific studies that suggest killing bears will benefit the caribou. Rather, the proposal comes across as misguided killing humans who somehow enjoy the killing act.

I live in Wyoming where a substantial grizzly population exists and is growing. I have been to scientific talks on the bears' feeding habits. A total of 256 different foods have been identified—the vast majority are grasses, insects, and nuts. Of course they will bring down an occasional elk, moose, or bison but the overall impact on these populations is a giant "zero". Frankly, they would rather eat blueberries. Factually, one of the greatest sources of food for the mighty grizzly is the army cutworm moth, a.k.a. millers! A bear can eat upwards of 40,000 millers a day during a hatch.

Your department needs to quit portraying these bears as marauding killers of big game—it is simply not true. Pure fantasy on the part of the human killing zealots. Let's use sound science and kill this moronic proposal,



PC563

Name: Harb, Samantha

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

My dream has always been to come to Alaska and see bears. Tourism is a big thing because of the bears. If the bears are murdered in this way, I will not be visiting Alaska ever. And or tell people how amazing it is.

Bears are consciousness beings. Please don't destroy them and make them hate humans.



PC564

Name: Hardy, Viktor

Community of Residence: Quebec

Comment:

As a Canadian, I have always wanted to go to Yukon, when hearing such horrible ideas it definitely changes my thoughts on if I should support this territory and their ideas. It probably is the same for many more tourists opinions. Especially since bears are one of the most powerful, impressive and beautiful things you can witness anywhere in this world. Nature is far more powerful than the human race. Humans shouldn't try to interfere with nature, anyone who actually goes outside and knows how to appreciate the REAL world that is the nature, the ecosystem and the planet we live on would understand that bears deserve to live just as much if not probably more than humans nowadays. Save the bears and save the ecosystem, that is all we have.



PC565

Name: Harned , Betty

Community of Residence: Louisville

Comment:

I oppose the proposed predator control.

There have been no scientific studies to show that bears are causing the decrease in the caribou herds.

More study is needed.



PC566

Name: Harp, Mary

Community of Residence: Edwards, CO

Comment:

It is important that we honor and say all things. It is senseless killing but no positive return.



PC567

Name: Harpaul, Nadia

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

Stop killing the bears



PC568

Name: Harrison , Robert

Community of Residence: Kentucky

Comment:

What has gotten in to people of animal wellbeing? You can't make be believe that killing wildlife (bears,wolves) to name a couple from aerial assault is humane. Have you people no heart. These are part of our heritage. We are the protectors of them, not their assassins. My god, what has happened to this country. I'm just glad I won't have to live by the decision to aerial euthanize these animals if that's your decision. That will be on you. Remember when they are gone they're gone.



PC569

Name: Hart, Cristin

Community of Residence: Pacific Northwest

Comment:

Please don't implement the shooting of Alaskain bears from the air or ground!



PC570

Name: Hartley, Martin

Community of Residence: Belmont Estate, Bristol Road

Comment:

Until there is an peer reviewed scientific paper published on the reasons qualifying why the bears need to be culled in order to preserve and protect other natural habitats and animals in the region that they are being shot then this process has to stop immediately.



PC571

Name: Harvey, Alex

Community of Residence: [REDACTED] Highway Healesville 3777

Comment:

To the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal allowing the killing of brown and black bears in the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area.

Killing apex predators like bears is not only immoral, but also ecologically irresponsible. Bears play a critical role in maintaining the balance of ecosystems — removing them disrupts natural food webs and can have far-reaching negative impacts on biodiversity, soil health, and other species.

Targeting bears to artificially boost caribou numbers ignores the deeper issues affecting the herd, such as habitat loss, climate change, and human development. Science consistently shows that predator control is not an effective long-term solution and often creates more problems than it solves.

We must move toward wildlife management practices grounded in ethics, ecology, and science — not short-term fixes that sacrifice one species for another.

Please reject this proposal and choose a path that respects Alaska's wildlife and ecosystems as a whole.

Sincerely,

Alex



PC572

Name: Harvey, Kurt

Community of Residence: Sunnyvale, CA

Comment:

I'm 100% against the culling of brown and black bears. There's no scientific evidence that predator management has a positive effect on herds, caribou, elk, or deer.



PC573

Name: Harward, Shannon

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

We should definitely not mass slaughter the bears. Humans are on planet earth along with many other species who all equally deserve to be here. We are in our lifetime facing the mass extinction of many animals that our grandchildren may never get a change to see in real life because we as humans are killing them all.

It is an ethical responsibility of ours to treat all human beings with kindness and respect regardless of gender or race, because we can empathize with humans even those that look different from us to know that they also feel pain and have families. I urge you to take into consideration that all beings, regardless of how much or little they resemble humans, have eyes to see, noses to smell, ears to hear, mouths to eat, lungs to breath, hearts to pump blood and love their families. All living beings deserve compassion as this is an ethical responsibility of ours to carry out.

Please stop killing the bears. They deserve to live on this planet as much as you and I.



PC574

Name: Haseleu, Holly

Community of Residence: Alaska!

Comment:

Please stop this. I do not want to spend my tax dollar on killing bears. Please stop Killing bears. Predators are not the problem. Besides you



PC575

Name: Haughwout, Madeleine

Community of Residence: Florida

Comment:

This is senseless and unnecessary.



PC576

Name: Havinson, Lilia

Community of Residence: United States

Comment:

It's heartbreaking and unacceptable that bears are still being shot in Alaska, often under the guise of "management" or "sport." These majestic animals are a vital part of the ecosystem — intelligent, sentient beings who feel pain, fear, and love for their young. Killing them, especially during vulnerable moments like hibernation or when they're with cubs, is not only cruel but ecologically reckless.

There are more humane and science-backed ways to manage wildlife populations without resorting to violence. We need to stop treating wild animals as trophies or threats, and start respecting their right to live freely in the habitats they've roamed long before we arrived.

Please stop doing these cruel things to animals !



PC577

Name: Hayden, Beverly

Community of Residence: Tennessee

Comment:

I absolutely oppose the aerial gunning of bears proposal.

These bears are part of an ecosystem that existed for millennia before humans. We should not mess with the natural order of things.

Additionally, from an economic point of view, people from around the world bring millions of dollars to this part of Alaska to watch these bears who have become famous through the Explore live cams. It's unsound economically to destroy the very draw for all these tourist dollars.

But mostly, it's immoral to gun down these sentient beings.

Please do not allow this proposal to pass.



PC578

Name: Hazelgrove , Lisa

Community of Residence: UK

Comment:

We are witnessing global environmental destruction on a global scale each & every day. Each murdered animal, every felled tree, every water course & ocean are polluted with toxic filled substances and daily we see the effects of this insanity. Why is it that men in positions of power feel that the answer to the everything is more killing, more pollution & more imposed of the same is the answer? Mother Earth, the clue is in the title; "Mother" - the giver of life to the universe. Why does "Mankind" fail to be kind. Mankind is killing our planet for financial gain whilst failing to realise that its lack of respect to our skies, our water & our fellow humans and every creature that has evolved are all here for the purpose of enriching our world.

I have been fortunate to see Alaska with my

own eyes. I have seen its incredible forests, glaciers, mighty rivers and mountain's. It is an example of how our planet once was. The pointless killing of animals, habitats, flora & fauna has no place in our world. Our children deserve so much more. This planet deserves so much more. Man-Unkind needs to step up & do so much more.



PC579

Name: Hazelton, Kristi

Community of Residence: CO

Comment:

Subject: Oppose Aerial Gunning of Mulchatna Bears – Protect Alaska's Wildlife Heritage

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature and the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Mulchatna bear control program, which would permit the aerial gunning of bears from helicopters.

This practice is not only deeply inhumane, but also undermines the principles of ethical wildlife management. Alaska's bears are a constitutionally protected public resource, and they deserve to be managed based on sound science, not political pressure or outdated predator control models. Aerial

gunning is a brutal, indiscriminate method that causes suffering and disrupts ecosystems with little evidence of long-term benefits to prey species.

I have a deep connection to the Mulchatna region and its bears. My family and I are frequent visitors of Katmai National Park and Brooks Camp. Whether hiking, photographing, or simply knowing they roam wild and free, these animals represent the wild spirit of Alaska that draws us and other visitors and sustains local pride.

Killing bears from the air may satisfy short-term goals, but it damages Alaska's reputation as a leader in wildlife conservation and alienates residents and visitors alike who value responsible stewardship of nature.

Please uphold Alaska's constitutional responsibility to protect our wildlife for all Alaskans — not just those who see predators as a threat to be eliminated. I urge you to reject the Mulchatna bear control program and instead prioritize science-based, humane wildlife management strategies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristi Hazelton

Windsor, Colorado

Frequent visitor to Alaska



PC580

Name: Hedge, Susan

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I am opposed to the modification of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area. I believe there is sufficient scientific data to show that this herd has a cyclical rise and fall in its population numbers and it makes no sense to kill hundreds of bears and wolves to try to get the population up. Let nature take its course. Killing bears and wolves during the denning season from helicopters is obscene. I have been to both McNeil River and Brooks Camp and those bears are at risk with the new management area. We are lucky in Alaska to have such wonderful opportunities to view bears at those and other locations. The Board of Game has a responsibility to more than just caribou hunters. The general public and tourists want to be able to experience bears and wolves in the wild. Alaska has 32 distinct caribou herds. Certainly the Mulchatna herd will either thrive or become a smaller herd. Please stop killing bears and wolves.



PC581

Name: Heimel, Steven

Community of Residence: Anchorage

Comment:

I oppose the proposed regulation. The wording here just adds bears to an existing intensive predator program that was for wolves. The geographic area is far too large. The proposal mentions science, yet no science is actually cited. It gives the commissioner far too broad authority. It says the program will continue year after year, artificially interfering with the ecosystem each year. This is not sound management at all and it makes our state look bad. This is not a matter of animal rights, but a matter of ecosystem management. Plus it is costly at a time when budget restraint is needed in our state.



PC582

Name: Heitz, Andy

Community of Residence: San Francisco

Comment:

With no scientific evidence or backing the proposal to expand the hunting zone is baseless. Please reconsider the proposal to kill more bears and wolves, especially in this time when environmental and species protection is at such great peril.

Sincerely,

Andy

@andyheitzphotography



PC583

Name: Helenbrook, Marisa

Community of Residence: New York

Comment:

Please stop this unnecessary effort to control the bear population in Alaska!



PC584

Name: Henkle , William

Community of Residence: Ohio

Comment:

I do not agree with killing of these native bears that not only are vital to the habits they range but also play a huge role in Alaska's tourism. Though we should do our best efforts to help the caribou population, the bears play a more vital role. Caribou are a prey species which means we can more easily intervene in their reproduction. Bears have a few cubs a year and are lucky if 1 of them reach a mature age, while as the caribou breed much more frequently.



PC585

Name: Hennigan, Eva

Community of Residence: Natchitoches

Comment:

SAVE THE BEARS!!!



PC586

Name: Henry, Donna Lee

Community of Residence: Canada

Comment:

Let's not destroy everything that mother nature gives to the planet. We could start with shooting murderers and rapists and child molesters.



PC587

Name: Heppner, Elyssa

Community of Residence: North Carolina

Comment:

Control measures that target bears are inhumane and ecological unsound and unsupported by available research.



PC588

Name: Herbruck, Janet

Community of Residence: San Diego

Comment:

Predators --bears and wolves--are keystone species. They are crucial for the role they play. The environment which includes Caribou is out of balance because of human activity directly or indirectly. Nature can heal itself when humans stop interfering. I oppose the killing of bears.



PC589

Name: Hermann, Yvette **Affiliation:** University of South Carolina Mountaineering and Whitewater Club

Community of Residence: Columbia, SC

Comment:

Hi there! My name is Yvette, and I'm speaking on behalf of myself and the club for which I am treasurer. As somebody who has grown up outdoors, primarily in Romania's untouched wilderness, which also has a notable bear population, I believe it is imperative that ecosystems as pristine as Alaska's remain that way. Any human interference must be done humanely, and must be scientifically necessitated. Culling bears from helicopters fits neither of those criteria, and therefore should not be pursued. I urge the Board of Game to discontinue that practice. Thanks for your time and consideration!



PC590

Name: Herrera, Rebecca

Community of Residence: N/A

Comment:

Please stop killing bears.



PC591

Name: Hersey, Rene

Community of Residence: Canmore, BC

Comment:

I strongly OPPOSE a taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program by the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game modifying the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Management Area targeting Katmai & Southwest Alaska Bears, including mother's w cubs of Brown Bears and Black Bears! There is no scientific evidence that this slaughter helps caribou populations recover.

AND 30 miles from Katmai NP, 3 miles from Lake Clark NP, 50 miles from the iconic Brooks Falls where Tom Mangelsen photographed the famous image of a Brown Bear catching a salmon in his mouth and put this destination on the map around the globe for 4 decades thus far so that millions of visitors with cameras have travelled to Brooks Falls specifically trying to replicate his world renowned photo while these tourists have injected hundreds of millions into the local economies in lodging/food/transport/guiding/aircraft/?

This is ethically indefensible, AND a judge ruled some of these past killings illegal, yet Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game killed 11 more. This is a chronic problem with Fish & Game Depts., the killing continues after judges rulings and after cut offs for hunting, trapping and snares closing alerts, more animals dies illegally.

There is copious evidence that predator "control" programs do not work to recover struggling moose and caribou populations. Your own research concluded the main reasons for the Mulchatna caribou herd decline are disease and a lack of food due to climate change, not bear predation.

Also, there is no scientific evidence to support the conclusion that Mulchatna bears can be killed sustainably!

We all want to help the Mulchatna caribou but this unlawful program which includes hunting and trapping of Wolves and Bears aerially, and ground-based lethal removal of Wolves, Black and Brown Bears is to upset the entire ecosystem in these targeted areas.

And, using motorized vehicles, which, would include snow mobiles to run over these keystone species, is abhorrent and an extermination program, not a management program.

Your three year objective lacks scientific vigor. You cannot look at your keystone species as expendable when global warming, mining, deforestation, fires, ignoring the science, habitat encroachment and disease are the true culprits creating problems for Caribou, Moose, Bears, Wolves and other wildlife. The damage to these irreplaceable species may be considerable and even back in 2017 when you killed 250+ Wolves, the Mulchatna herd still collapsed.

Why use taxpayer money? These are supposed to be protected species!

Your program is wrong for Bears, Wolves, and for the People.

Please stop now.

Name: Hesse, Lauren

Community of Residence: Maryland

Comment:

This method of shooting bears supposedly to prevent harm of caribou populations and tourists/human visitors has already been found to be ineffective and illegal. Aside from the abhorrent morality of it, the proposed aims of the project will not be met, making it a strategic and moral failure to undertake.



PC592



Honorable Members of the Board,

From 2020-2022 I worked for ADFG in region 4 as a research biologist. Specifically, I helped collect, organize, and analyze data on the Mulchatna caribou.

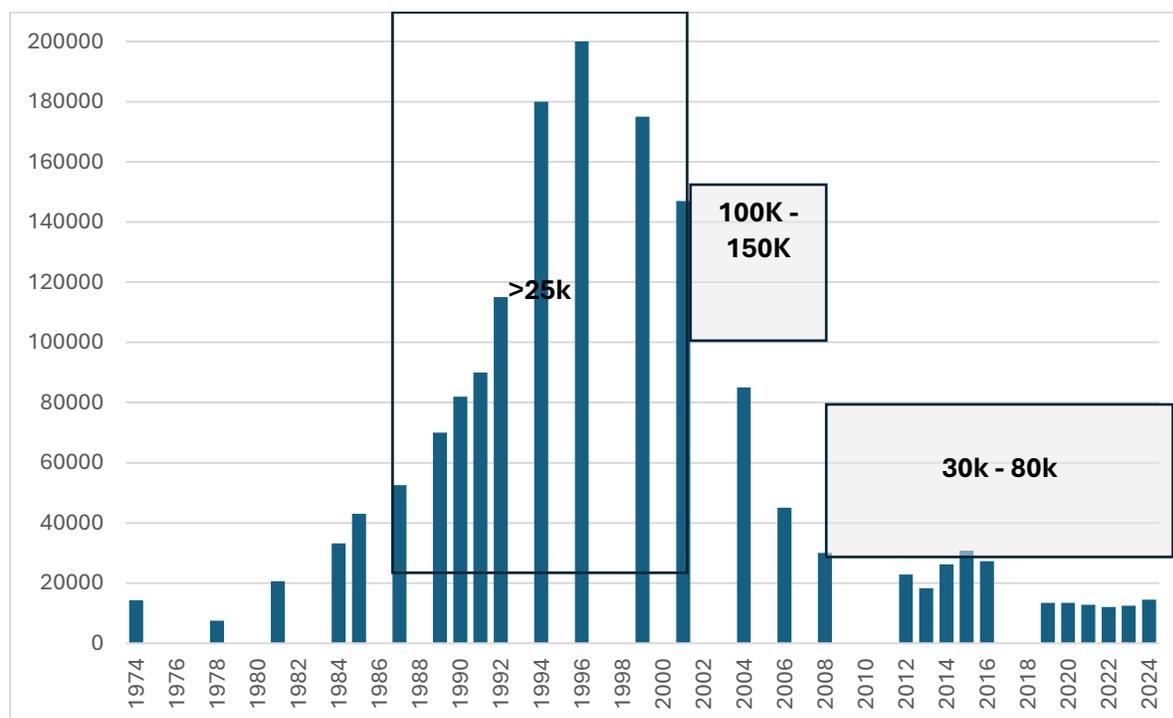
I think it's fair to say that we are all here today because we all care deeply about the health of these caribou. We also care deeply about the health of these brown and black bears. We all want to see healthy populations with harvestable surplus, and we all want to trust that BOG will use the best science to make the most informed decision possible on these critical resources to our state.

Respectfully, this is why it is entirely frustrating that every single biologist, all experts in their field, that I have spoken to who is/will be submitting comments to the Board today feels that they are trying to craft something more akin to a persuasive speech to you, rather than submitting scientific information that will be understood and thoughtfully considered by the Board. The very nature that this meeting has been taken up as an "emergency meeting" highlights that the board continues to either misunderstand or, concerningly, ignore the science behind the predator prey dynamics for the MCH. Of equal concern is that you, the board members, appear to have come to this meeting with a predetermined outcome that seemingly cannot be overturned by scientific input. You can imagine how frustrating that might be from someone who hopes that management decisions are based on science, not bias and misunderstandings.

Plainly, this is not an emergency. It *might* be an emergency if a reasonable population objective for the MCH were still ~200k. However, let's look at this magic 200,000 number that is being thrown around currently. Why should the MCH population goal be 200k?

The MCH population (when we started to quantify these things in the early/mid 70s) was on average 14k caribou for about a decade. Then, they had a big boom, skyrocketing the population up to 200k in the 90s, then dipping back down around 2012 to right around 20k. Now, since then, the population has been pretty stable, hovering again, around 15k, just like it was in the 70s. Interestingly, we heard from one of our Indigenous neighbors at the last BOG meeting that the caribou around the GASH (Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross) communities used to be abundant, but left the area and possibly joined the MCH around the time of the MCH boom. It's possible the MCH was thus inflated not by increased fecundity and survival, rather from outside recruitment of a different herd.

So, here we are, in another “emergency meeting” discussing a relatively stable population. Why is that? That is because I am aware of no established procedures for developing scientifically derived population objectives.



To my knowledge the population objectives were established:

- First in 1987 during the beginning of an exponential growth phase (objectives were set to be around 25k)
- They were modified in 2002 during the crash phase to 100,000 -150,000 caribou.
- They were then modified most recently in 2008 to 30k-80k and have remained there since *and were not derived using any metrics of carrying capacity, rather they were an aspirational, arbitrary number.*

So, what I want to say is that we should not be looking back at the “glory days” of a hugely inflated population and framing our ideas of what the population **was** to what it **should sustainably be**. Instead, we should be developing population objectives based on the current ecological conditions of habitat capacity and population structure. Which would mean, in the past decade the herd appears **stable**, it’s just at a lower abundance than some non-biologists assert it should be.



These arbitrarily defined population objectives are what bring us to the table today, and to me, that is the real cause for concern. If you care about caribou, I hope you take this much away from what I've said: it's time to determine new population objectives that are derived from actual habitat assessments. So, **task ADFG with habitat assessments over predator control.**

Thank you for reading my, hopefully somewhat, "persuasive speech". I hope you take a hard look and consider the logic before you instead of defaulting to the talking points that have been given to you by those interested in looking for an easy solution to a complex biological situation for the MCH that demands a hard like at new science yet to be gathered.

Thank you, and thank you for your continued interest in the longevity of caribou and bears in Southwest Alaska.



PC594

Name: Hickson , Shannon **Affiliation:** The Wildlife Collection

Community of Residence: BC

Comment:

Please save the bears for future generations to come. We must find a way to cohabitate without senseless killing. This is their home too. We are watching from Canada and urge you to reconsider the proposal.



PC595

Name: Hika, Grace

Community of Residence: Hawaii

Comment:

To the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed reinstatement of the taxpayer-funded aerial gunning program targeting bears, including mothers with cubs. As a citizen who deeply values the interconnectedness of life and the sacredness of our ecosystems, I urge you to reconsider this harmful and outdated approach.

In 2023, 99 bears were killed by aerial gunning, and another 80 in 2024. There is no peer-reviewed scientific evidence that this method helps caribou populations recover. What it does create, however, is ecological imbalance, cruelty, and a severing of the natural relationships that sustain Alaska's wilderness.

Predators like bears are not threats to be eliminated—they are keystone species whose presence supports biodiversity and ecosystem health. The removal of apex predators through such violent means is not only ethically disturbing but ecologically shortsighted.

As someone who cares deeply about wildlife conservation, I respectfully ask you to prioritize science, ethics, and long-term ecological stability over short-term population management goals. Please oppose the aerial gunning program and seek non-lethal, evidence-based methods for managing wildlife.

Alaska's bears deserve better. So do future generations.

Sincerely,

Grace Hika



PC596

Name: Hill, Janet

Community of Residence: Ontario

Comment:

Please stop shooting the bears from helicopters. I would be very interested in proven studies showing the effectiveness of these actions.



PC597

Name: Hill, Jonah

Community of Residence: Alaska

Comment:

Don't kill the bears



PC598

Name: Hill, Renee

Community of Residence: United States of America

Comment:

Stop the killing of all wildlife



PC599

Name: Hill, Rhonda

Community of Residence: New Mexico

Comment:

I'm against the proposal to cull the bears. It lacks scientific backing and won't address the root of the issue.



PC600

Name: Hill, Ruth

Community of Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Comment:

I am writing to oppose the creation of a bear control area in the Mulchatna Western Alaska area.

In addition to being a part of the online bear watching community my husband and I have traveled from New Zealand to visit Alaska in the past specifically in order to enjoy the natural environment. As with many tourists we were drawn to Alaska for the white water rafting, tramping and tours to view flora and fauna, especially bear and bird species, in common with the majority of both resident and non-resident

Alaskan tourists (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666957925000187#s0075>;
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ongoingissues.economicstudy>).

My rationale for opposing this proposal is:

- It is not supported by scientific evidence.

Present research shows that predator control often fails to achieve long-term population goals (<https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/csp2.12729>). Studies have demonstrated that caribou populations are primarily limited by habitat quality, weather patterns, and food availability rather than predation alone, suggesting that moves to address these will be more effective in boosting caribou population (<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9285560/>). Additionally, removing predators can lead to ecological imbalances and does not guarantee sustainable caribou increases.

- It will disrupt ecological integrity.

Wolves and bears are keystone species that maintain ecosystem health. Predator-prey relationships have evolved over millennia and disrupting these relationships can have cascading effects throughout the ecosystem, potentially harming other wildlife species. It is difficult to estimate the ripple effect human interference can play on the ecology of the area but past experiments such as what is proposed have not yielded good results (<https://www.mdpi.com/1424-2818/14/11/939>). With longer lived and slower breeding predator species, such as bears, this impact is likely to be more difficult to recover from.

- Alternative management strategies are more likely to be successful.

Improving caribou numbers can be better affected through evidence-based alternatives such as habitat restoration, hunting quota adjustments, addressing human-caused mortality factors, or seasonal hunting restrictions in critical areas. Unlike short-term responses with unproven outcomes such as culling apex predators these approaches can be more effective and sustainable (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320718307225>).

- Economic Considerations.

While caribou hunting may bring in money to the region this must be considered as a non-sustainable revenue stream, with the potential to negatively impact other more sustainable tourism revenues. Working to increase wildlife viewing tourism revenue is a more viable, if longer term, option but this relies on intact predator populations. Artificially reducing apex predator populations may affect this line of tourism. This is something that New Zealand also wrestles with: our tourism sector depends on our natural environmental assets, making the improvement and maintenance of that environment key to maintaining and growing our domestic and international tourism streams. Thus any implied short-term economic benefits of increased hunting opportunities must justify not only the program costs but also the negative economic impact on environmental tourism in the region. Indeed the ADFG's own report shows that nearly 90% of non-resident tourist spending is from viewing wildlife, suggesting that anything that impacts not only the environment but also the perception of the Alaskan environmental asset will negatively affect this revenue (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ongoingissues.economicstudy>).

As such the economic case for predator control is questionable when weighed against tourism revenues. Alaska's 2011 economic study found that nearly 900,000 households participated in wildlife viewing (77% of them visitors), compared to just over 100,000 households that went hunting (86% of them Alaska residents). About 86% of visitors participated in wildlife viewing while only 2% of visitor households

hunted (https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1840/vse_ak_2024.htm). Wildlife viewing represents a sustainable, renewable revenue stream that depends on intact predator populations, while predator control programs require ongoing public funding with uncertain outcomes.

While the proposal to institute bear population killing may appear to offer a straightforward solution, the scientific evidence demonstrates it is unlikely to achieve its stated objectives. More effective, sustainable alternatives exist that address caribou population concerns through habitat restoration, hunting management reforms, and addressing underlying causes like climate change and disease. These evidence-based approaches deliver proven results without the ethical concerns, ecological risks, and potential economic consequences associated with large-scale predator control programs.

As international visitors who have traveled from New Zealand specifically to experience Alaska's remarkable wildlife and pristine ecosystems, we are profoundly disappointed and dismayed that such a destructive proposal is even under consideration. The shortsightedness of implementing a policy with irreversible, long-lasting ecological consequences in pursuit of an unproven short-term goal is deeply troubling. We chose Alaska as a destination precisely because of its reputation for intact wilderness and thriving predator populations - the very attributes this proposal would undermine. It is disheartening to witness the United States, a nation that has been a historic leader in global conservation efforts, pursuing such a regressive approach to wildlife management. The thought that future visitors may encounter ecosystems stripped of their apex predators, or that Alaska's world-renowned bear populations could be decimated for dubious gains, represents not just an ecological tragedy but a betrayal of the natural heritage that draws people from around the world to your remarkable state. We implore you to reject this misguided proposal and instead embrace the sustainable, science-based management approaches that would preserve Alaska's wildlife legacy for generations to come.
