

## PROPOSAL 1

5 AAC 92.111 Intensive Management Plans, Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Area

**OPPOSE**

I strongly oppose the proposal to continue the predation management plan. Not only is it unconstitutional, with Judge Rankin ruling that the program violates constitutional mandates, but there is no evidence that violently culling important apex predator species are effective in increasing the caribou population.

Like many issues, there are multiple factors that have contributed to the decline in caribou population. But also like many issues facing our wildlife today, climate change is a much more significant factor. Loss of food sources, wildfires, and diseases are a far more pressing long term issues facing caribou, bear, and wolf populations alike. We can even examine examples from history when people have overhunted apex species to near extinction, and the profound effects that this had on the local ecosystem. If this sort of ecosystem collapse were to occur, it would be far more costly to create protection, breeding, and rehabilitation programs as compared to creating common sense preventative measures now. Bears and wolves can be scared away into different territory, preventative burns can be performed to prevent deadly wildfires, and areas can be protected when they are identified as important grounds for caribou feeding.

There are many different ways to help bolster one population without murdering another, I hope you take my opinion into consideration. Thank you.

<https://alaskabeacon.com/2025/05/13/after-11-more-bears-killed-judge-orders-stop-to-alaska-predator-control-program/>

[https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/alaska-to-resume-bear-killing-program-despite-court-order-finding-it-to-be-void/?fbclid=PAQ0xDSwLbrRJleHRuA2FibQlxMAABp24OliuPY29QlrSyYMpd-5QvNTaeUhr54wbWjaPjqLZsQFIh0KNqPxxgKEija\\_aem\\_ICN-jTN5fdgBzZVjhpINHg](https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/alaska-to-resume-bear-killing-program-despite-court-order-finding-it-to-be-void/?fbclid=PAQ0xDSwLbrRJleHRuA2FibQlxMAABp24OliuPY29QlrSyYMpd-5QvNTaeUhr54wbWjaPjqLZsQFIh0KNqPxxgKEija_aem_ICN-jTN5fdgBzZVjhpINHg)

[https://www.hcn.org/articles/wildlife-the-culling-of-alaskas-bears-and-wolves/?fbclid=PAQ0xDSwLbshBleHRuA2FibQlxMAABp3dTv83GPYtd17Wc0GGdnJ5teF92ldMYfzM093U3Lu2TcBUoDL9TGvhmAZnZ\\_aem\\_rhQHqqFsZOf3gX73LL\\_OHA](https://www.hcn.org/articles/wildlife-the-culling-of-alaskas-bears-and-wolves/?fbclid=PAQ0xDSwLbshBleHRuA2FibQlxMAABp3dTv83GPYtd17Wc0GGdnJ5teF92ldMYfzM093U3Lu2TcBUoDL9TGvhmAZnZ_aem_rhQHqqFsZOf3gX73LL_OHA)