

General Information

How to Change Federal Subsistence Regulations

Alaska residents and subsistence users are an integral part of the Federal regulatory process. Any person or group can submit proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations, comment on proposals, or testify at meetings. The 10 Regional Advisory Councils meet at least twice a year. By becoming involved in the process, subsistence users help to more effectively manage subsistence activities and ensure consideration of traditional and local knowledge in subsistence management decisions. Subsistence users also provide valuable wildlife harvest information. Through cooperative agreements, the U.S. Government and several Native organizations are working to more effectively manage subsistence activities. These organizations work in an advisory capacity and provide both technical information and biological data to help address subsistence issues.

How to Submit a Proposal

Please refer to the form on the next page. This form contains information required to request changes to Federal subsistence wildlife regulations. Although you do not need to use this form to submit your proposal, you do need to include information requested on the form.

Submit a separate proposal (or form) for each proposed change. Proposals submitted by fax (907) 786-3898 or by e-mail (subsistence@fws.gov) will be considered originals. To cite which regulation(s) you want to change, you can use this book or the proposed regulations published in the Federal Register: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

For additional information or for proposal forms, contact the Office of Subsistence Management at (800) 478-1456/ (907) 786-3888 or go to <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>.

Wildlife Regulatory Timeline

January 2009	Wildlife proposal period opens. Proposals to change Federal subsistence wildlife seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means; and customary and traditional use determinations may be submitted.
February–March 2009	Regional Advisory Council fall meetings. The Regional Advisory Councils meet to develop wildlife proposals.
April 2009	Wildlife proposal period closes.
May–June 2009	Public comment period. Wildlife proposals are available for public review and comment.
September–October 2009	Regional Advisory Council winter meetings. The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils meet to review regional proposals and analyses, hear public comments on proposals, and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board.
January 2010	Federal Subsistence Board meets to consider proposals. The Board hears Regional Council recommendations and public and staff comments on proposals before adopting the final regulations for the regulatory year.
July 2010	New regulations go into effect.

You may propose changes to...

- Federal subsistence season dates
- Harvest limits
- Methods and means of harvest
- Customary and traditional use determinations
- For national parks and national monuments—individuals who live in a resident zone community of a National Park Service-managed park or national monument (see 36 CFR 13.43), and those who already hold a Section 13.44 subsistence use permit issued by the Superintendent (see 36 CFR 13.44), may apply for an individual customary and traditional use determination.

Proposal Form

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

THIS PROPOSAL SUGGESTS A CHANGE TO (check all that apply):

- Harvest season(s) Methods and means of harvest
 Harvest limit(s) Customary and traditional use determination(s)

**Submit proposals by
April 30, 2009**

Federal Subsistence Board
1011 E. Tudor Rd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Fax: (907) 786-3898
E-mail: subsistence@fws.gov

**For additional information
and proposal forms:**

Office of Subsistence Management
(800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888
<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>

1. What regulation do you wish to change?

Include Unit number(s) and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state "new regulation."

2. How should the new regulation read?

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written.

3. Why should this regulation change be made?

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

6. How will this change affect other uses, i.e., sport/recreational and commercial?

ANSWER QUESTIONS 7-9 ONLY IF YOU ARE PROPOSING A CHANGE TO A CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL USE DETERMINATION.

7. Which communities have used this resource?

8. Where has this resource been harvested? Indicate specific areas if possible.

9. In what months has this resource been harvested?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please attach any additional information that would support your proposal.