

MODIFICATIONS TO __.24.

Federal Register citation	Date of publication	Rule made changes to the following provisions of __.24:
59 FR 27462	May 27, 1994	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
59 FR 51855	October 13, 1994	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
60 FR 10317	February 24, 1995	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
61 FR 39698	July 30, 1996	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
62 FR 29016	May 29, 1997	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
63 FR 35332	June 29, 1998	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
63 FR 46148	August 28, 1998	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
64 FR 35776	July 1, 1999	Wildlife and Fish/Shellfish.
65 FR 40730	June 30, 2000	Wildlife.
66 FR 10142	February 13, 2001	Fish/Shellfish.
66 FR 33744	June 25, 2001	Wildlife.
67 FR 5890	February 7, 2002	Fish/Shellfish.
67 FR 43710	June 28, 2002	Wildlife.
68 FR 7276	February 12, 2003	Fish/Shellfish.

During its May 20–22, 2003, meeting, the Board did not make any additional customary and traditional use determinations.

The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture published a proposed rule on August 5, 2002 (67 FR 50619), to amend Subparts C and D of 36 CFR 242 and 50 CFR 100. The proposed rule opened a 75-day comment period, which closed on October 18, 2002. The Departments advertised the proposed rule by mail, radio, and newspaper. During that period, the Regional Councils met and, in addition to other Regional Council business, received suggestions for proposals from the public. The Board received a total of 55 proposals for changes to Subparts C and D. Subsequent to the 60-day review period, the Board prepared a booklet describing the proposals and distributed it to the public. The public had an additional 30 days in which to comment on the proposals for changes to the regulations. The 10 Regional Councils met again, received public comments, and formulated their recommendations to the Board on proposals for their respective regions. Six of the proposals were withdrawn from consideration by their originators. The Regional Councils had a substantial role in reviewing the proposed rule and making recommendations for the final rule. Moreover, the Council Chairs, or their designated representatives, presented their Council's recommendations at the Board meeting of May 20–22, 2003. These final regulations reflect Board review and consideration of Regional Council recommendations and public comments. The public has had extensive opportunity to review and comment on all changes. Additional details on the recent Board modifications are contained below in Analysis of Proposals Adopted by the Board.

Applicability of Subparts A, B, and C

Subparts A, B, and C (unless otherwise amended) of the Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska, 50 CFR 100.1 to 100.23 and 36 CFR 242.1 to 242.23, remain effective and apply to this rule. Therefore, all definitions located at 50 CFR 100.4 and 36 CFR 242.4 apply to regulations found in this subpart.

Analysis of Proposals Rejected by the Board

The Board rejected 6 proposals. All these rejections were based on recommendations from the respective Regional Council and additional factors.

Two proposals requested prohibiting or revising the designated hunter provisions for moose in Unit 6(C). The Board rejected these proposals as being detrimental to subsistence users in one case and rendered moot in the second case by the adoption of other proposals.

One proposal requested imposing special hunter qualifications on moose hunters in Unit 6(C). The Board rejected this proposal because the changes would have constituted an unnecessary restriction on subsistence users.

One proposal requested the establishment of a customary and traditional use determination and harvest system for goat in Unit 8. The Board rejected this proposal based on the recommendations of the Regional Council that the harvest system worked out between the local users and the State would meet the needs of subsistence users best.

One proposal requested deletion of the requirement to remove the claws and the skin of the skull before transporting a brown bear hide from the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area. The Board rejected this proposal because of conservation concerns and because the Regional Councils recommended that the

WABBMA Working Group should be involved in the development and review of proposals impacting this area.

One proposal requested closure of Federal lands to moose hunting in Units 21(D) and 24 by nonsubsistence users. This proposal was rejected because the area proposed for closure has an adequate population of moose to allow the harvest by both subsistence and nonsubsistence users.

The Board deferred action on eight proposals in order to allow communities or Regional Councils additional time to review the issues and provide additional information. Six of the originally submitted proposals were withdrawn from consideration by their originators.

Analysis of Proposals Adopted by the Board

The Board adopted 35 proposals. Some of these proposals were adopted as submitted and others were adopted with modifications suggested by the respective Regional Council, developed during the analysis process, or during the Board's public deliberations.

All of the adopted proposals were recommended for adoption by at least one of the Regional Councils and were based on meeting customary and traditional uses, harvest practices, or protecting wildlife populations. Detailed information relating to justification for the action on each proposal may be found in the Board meeting transcripts, available for review at the Office of Subsistence Management, 3601 C Street, Suite 1030, Anchorage, Alaska, or on the Office of Subsistence Management Web site (<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>). Additional minor technical clarifications have been made, which result in a more readable document.

Multiple Regions