



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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NEW HUNTING AND TRAPPING  
REGULATIONS ISSUED FOR ALASKA

Revised regulations respecting Alaskan game animals, land fur-bearing animals, game birds, non-game birds, and nests and eggs of birds in the Territory, recently adopted by Secretary of Agriculture Hyde after consultation with the Alaska Game Commission and approval of the Commission's recommendations by the Biological Survey, were published on April 2 in Alaska Game Commission Circular No. 6 and will become effective July 1, 1929. Important changes from existing regulations include a provision liberalizing the seasons on caribou in the Territory. Caribou may now be taken north of the Arctic Circle at any time of year, and south of the Arctic Circle from August 20 to December 31. Formerly the open season north of the Circle was September 1 to March 31. This change was effected in order to accommodate the residents in the far north and enable them to supply themselves with meat, and was recommended by the Commission, because of the abundance of caribou in the region.

Another amendment permits a resident of the Kodiak-Afognak group of islands, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits, to kill a large brown or grizzly bear when such animal is considered a menace to persons, livestock, or property. This change, it is believed, will not materially affect the status of these bears, but will concede to local sentiment against the animals as evidenced by a lengthy petition for such action.

The closing to all hunting and trapping of a 22,000-acre area east and north of Cordova in the Eyak Lake and Power Creek region is also in accord with local sentiment. More than 300 residents of Cordova and the adjacent region had petitioned the Commission for the establishment of this closed area.

Several changes in the regulations affect the seasons for trapping fur-bearing animals. Additional protection will be extended to minks in southeastern Alaska by restricting the open season to the month of January. The Kenai Peninsula was closed to the trapping of minks. The seasons on muskrats, foxes, and lynxes were also modified in certain portions of the Territory. The propagation of fur animals in captivity is encouraged by allowing live animals captured during the open season to be retained during the close season under permit of the Secretary of Agriculture issued through the Alaska Game Commission.

The Alaska Game Commission, at its last meeting at Juneau in November, adopted new regulations relating to guides, poisons, and resident trapping licenses, essentially the same as the old.

Copies of Alaska Game Circular No. 6, which, in addition to the new regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture and those of the Commission, contains the full text of the Alaska game law and Territorial and other laws protecting game and birds in Alaska, may be obtained on request to the Alaska Game Commission, Juneau, Alaska, or to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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