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ALASKA HUNTING REGULATIONS AMENDED

New Alaska game and fur regulations to become effective July 1, 1932, have been published by the Department of Agriculture as Alaska Game Commission Circular No. 9, entitled, "Laws and Regulations Relating to Game, Land Fur-Bearing Animals, and Birds in Alaska," issued April 2. The new regulations, submitted through the Bureau of Biological Survey, were approved by Secretary Hyde on March 19. The outstanding changes are as follows:

To prevent undue depletion of mountain sheep on the Kenai Peninsula, the non-resident bag limit on these animals is reduced from two rams per hunter to one. The bag limit of two rams for a resident was not changed.

For the conservation of moose, an area closed to the taking of these animals has been established on the northeastern part of the Kenai Peninsula. This sanctuary consists of the area lying north of Skilak Lake and Kenai River and west of the Chidkaloan River and the National Forest boundary.

An area consisting of 1 mile on the east side of Richardson Highway and most of the land between the highway and the Delta River on the west side has been closed to all hunting. Wounding of several buffalo near McCarty late last fall led residents of that vicinity to petition the Alaska Game Commission for a closed area in the region where these animals range, and the new regulation was made in response to this appeal.

As a result of some unwarranted killing of large brown and grizzly bears a limit of two of these bears has been established for residents in southeastern

Alaska. These animals annually bring many thousands of dollars to this section of the Territory by attracting nonresident hunters, and for this as well as for general conservation reasons it was considered desirable to take additional measures for maintaining the supply. By authority granted under the provisions of an Executive Proclamation of 1892, a closed season for large brown bears on Afognak Island has been established. By amendment to a regulation of the Alaska Game Commission a nonresident must be accompanied by a guide when photographing large brown or grizzly bears. Because of the increasing interest in these large bears and the desire of uninformed persons to study and photograph them, the Alaska Game Commission considers this precautionary measure necessary to prevent serious accidents to persons afield, as well as the unwarranted killing of the animals.

In addition to several minor changes in open seasons for the taking of fur-bearing animals and the provision of a slightly longer open season on fox, lynx, mink, land otter, and weasel in fur district 2, which includes the drainage to Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet, an open beaver season is announced for 1933 in all fur districts except district 1 (southeastern Alaska), district 3 (Alaska Peninsula and Kodiak Island group), and district 8 (Arctic drainage). An open season on marten is provided in fur district 7 (Fort Yukon region). Bag limits and tagging and sealing provisions, similar to those heretofore announced in supplemental circulars, are continued by amendments to regulations appearing in the new circular.

The use of motor vehicles and machine guns in hunting protected game animals and birds is now prohibited. Shooting at game from fast-moving automobiles resulted in an increasing number of carcasses found each fall, and the new regulation is expected to prevent this thoughtless waste of game.

Because Circular 9 is being issued this year in advance of the announcement by the Secretary of Agriculture of the open hunting season throughout the United States for migratory game birds, the new regulations provide that the Alaska open season in 1932 shall be the same as that established for the Territory by regulation under the migratory bird treaty act.

The commission's regulation "A", respecting the requirement of guides by nonresident hunters, has been amended to provide that a guide may take only one person in the field at a time. One guide, however, it is provided, will suffice for a man and his wife or minor child. Regulation "B" of the commission has been amended to require that applicants for guide licenses must have five years residence in the Territory, instead of the one year heretofore required.