



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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AMENDMENTS TO GAME LAW REGULATIONS FOR ALASKA ANNOUNCED

Amendments to Alaska game law regulations, designed to gear fishing and hunting opportunities to the supply of game, were announced today by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton.

Changes in the regulations include resetting of seasons and bag limits in each of the 26 wildlife management units in Alaska to accord with the supply of fish and game.

The winter season on moose is eliminated in the Anchorage unit, between Girdwood and Portage, where the weather drives great numbers of them into readily accessible pockets, and shortened in the upper Susitna area where they are easily spotted. It is hoped thereby to direct hunting into areas which have a big supply of moose and which have previously been bypassed.

A split elk season is provided to make possible better use of the meat and prevent unnecessary waste because of warm weather. Taking of mountain sheep in the area near Seward is prohibited east of the Alaska Railroad to give the species an opportunity to build up its population.

Seasons for caribou are provided on portions of the Alaska Peninsula where surveys have shown an abundance of this game.

In the area near Fairbanks where a 20-inch pike has been the usual length taken and where the supply is abundant, the bag limit was raised to 10 fish a day.

The Tongass National Forest Reserve was eliminated from reserves continuously closed to hunting of all animals and birds. The new Kantishna Reserve, an area within three miles of the centerline of the highway from the boundary of Mt. McKinley National Park north to Kantishna airstrip, has been added to those areas which are continuously closed. A new Paxson Reserve, to be continuously closed to goose hunting, has been established on the eastern drainage of the Gulkana River west of Richardson highway to Paxson Lake and Denali highway.

The amended regulations subject privately constructed industrial roads which have public use to the same prohibitions against shooting which apply to roads built and maintained with public funds.

Under the new regulations, anyone who kills a bear or wolverine in defense of life, livestock, or property, must report the action to the nearest official of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife within 60 days.

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