

This proposal was submitted as an Agenda Change Request and accepted by the Board of Game during the 2015 Southeast Region meeting. The board has scheduled it for the Central/Southwest Meeting, February 2015.

PROPOSAL 212 - 5 AAC 92.540(11)(B). Controlled Use Areas Change the Unit 6B Controlled Use Area as follows:

Unit 6B Moose Controlled Use Area: No motorized vehicles may be used for hunting or transporting hunters or their gear from August 15-September 4, with the exception of vehicles on the maintained surface of the Copper River Highway, Carbon Mountain Road, the Clear Creek boat launch, **and vessels crossing (ferry/transfer vessels) at the mile 36 bridge (wash out) which shall be conducted in a substantially straight line and no more than ¼ mile above or below the bridge.** Moose may not be taken until after 3:00 am following the day on which any motorized vehicle is used for transportation from September 4-October 31.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS AND WHY?

The Copper River Highway at mile 36 has been closed due to river erosion; approximately one mile of highway is gone and has put two bridges in jeopardy of collapse. The Department of Transportation has told citizens at several public meetings the highway closure will be indefinite due to funding. This closure has reduced the access for the non-motorized portion of the Unit 6B moose hunt. This closure has eliminated access from mile 36 to mile 52, which is more than half of the drivable area in Unit 6B.

State residents depend heavily on access via the Copper River Highway. Without a modification to the existing regulation for this controlled use area, access will be denied. This new language was a joint effort between the Copper River PWS AC, Alaska Department of Public Safety (Cordova Post), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Cordova).

PROPOSED BY: Copper River Prince William Sound AC

[SE-2015-04]
