

PROPOSAL 149 – 5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping, and 92.095(a)(3). Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions. Liberalize the season and methods and means for trapping beaver in Units 9 and 17 as follows:

Liberalize the season and method and means for trapping beaver in Unit 9 and 17 as follows: **In Units 9 and 17 – No closed season** and no bag limit. A trapping license is still required.

It is against the law to take beaver by any means other than a steel trap or snare except: **In Units 9 and 17 you may shoot up to the established bag limit with either a firearm or bow and arrow throughout the season provided that either the meat or the hide is salvaged.**

In Units 9 and 17 from June 1 to October 9, taking beaver by any means other than a firearm or bow and arrow is prohibited.

Beaver taken in Units 9 and 17 only need to be sealed if they are to be sold as raw fur.

In Units 9 and 17 you may shoot a beaver on the same day you have flown in an airplane if the beaver is either caught in a trap or snare or you are more than 300 feet from the airplane.

In Units 9 and 17 you may disturb or destroy a beaver dam. You may not disturb or destroy a beaver house or den.

[IN UNITS 9 AND 17 THE OPEN SEASON IS FROM OCTOBER 10 – MAY 31]

[BEAVER TAKEN IN UNITS 9 AND 17 MUST BE SEALED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE SEASON]

[IN UNITS 9 AND 17 FROM APRIL 15 TO MAY 31, A FIREARM MAY BE USED TO TAKE 2 BEAVER PER DAY PROVIDED THAT THE MEAT IS SALVAGED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION; AND IN UNIT 17 A FIREARM OR BOW AND ARROW MAY BE USED TO HARVEST BEAVER FROM DECEMBER 1 – APRIL 14, PROVIDED THAT THE MEAT IS SALVAGED.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The beaver population is ever expanding in Units 9 and 17. They are damming up more small streams every year and preventing salmon from reaching their spawning grounds. Many of these small streams have lost their entire run of salmon. The beaver population needs to be reduced. The liberalization of the beaver season, harvest methods, bag limits, salvage requirements and eliminating some of the sealing requirement will give everyone the maximum opportunity to harvest beaver in these units. Many residents and nonresidents have expressed interest in being able to harvest a few beavers when they are hunting other species. Local residents will be able to harvest beaver anytime they want for food or fur.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Professional Hunters Association (EG-F17-066)
