

I OPPOSE all parts of PROPOSAL 199

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Prohibit trapping within 50 yards of multi-use trails and trailheads in Units 13, 14, and 16

Turning the trails that access my people's lands into a giant dog park is just a continuation of Colonialism practices that permeate Alaska pushing my people further into remote areas and in ways that attack our culture and way of life.

I've read the comments of the proponents. We are not outdated. This proposal is not a compromise - it's a takeover. The list of trails are not state managed. Many are maintained by trappers. And it's clear they want us gone.

I would support a setback around where people park cars to access trails. This is the reasonable compromise for pet owners who struggle with figuring out how to subdue their pet.

But a 300 foot wide path through so many miles of lands! I know as a people that this type of rapid incrementalism continues to seek to subdue us. All though the new call of "safety of animals".

Why can't dog owners be responsible and keep their pets on leashes?

Why is it morally superior to let a dog run free than for me, an indigenous woman, to continue the subsistence practices of my people?

Whats next? What more will you take from my people?

Mary Arrsamquq Weingarh

From the Algaaciq Tribe

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