

By: Van Lawrence  
Introduced: 08/25/2016  
Adopted: 08/25/2016

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-39

A RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR WALKER TO CLOSE AREAS ADJACENT TO  
DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE TO THE TRAPPING AND HUNTING OF  
BEARS, WOLVES AND WOLVERINES

WHEREAS, Over a half a million annual visitors from around the world come to Denali National Park and Preserve, in large part, to see the iconic wolves and bears of the Park; and

WHEREAS, Both the Park and commercial tour companies advertise Denali National Park and Preserve as the best place in the world to see wolves within their natural habitat; and

WHEREAS, A large percentage of these visitors come to Fairbanks because of our proximity to the Park; and

WHEREAS, Hunters and trappers are allowed to use bait in the 22 mile long corridor, commonly referred to as the Wolf Townships or Stampede Trail corridor, to lure bears and wolves out of Denali National Park and Preserve and kill them; and

WHEREAS, The East Fork Pack was the most famous, the most studied and most viewed wolf-pack in the world and has now been decimated by hunters and trappers using bait to draw them just outside the Park boundary; and

WHEREAS, When this area was closed to hunting and trapping the East Fork Pack numbered 22; but has now been reduced to a single female wolf trying to raise pups alone; and

WHEREAS, When the Wolf Townships/Stampede Trail was closed to hunting there were 140 wolves in Denali National Park and Preserve and 49% of visitors saw wolves. Now the East Fork Pack has been almost wiped out and the total number of wolves within Denali stands at 48 - an all-time low - and the number of visitors who see wolves, for the last three years, is only 4%, also an all-time low; and

WHEREAS, This incredible and unique resource is being squandered for the satisfaction of just a handful of individuals; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska economy cannot survive unless we have a diversified economy that promotes tourism and other industries besides oil.


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48 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Fairbanks North Star Borough  
49 urges the Governor, through the Commissioner of Fish and Game to close the areas  
50 adjacent to Denali National Park and Preserve to the trapping and hunting of bears,  
51 wolves and wolverines.

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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED copies of this resolution shall be distributed  
54 to Governor Walker and Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner Sam  
55 Cotten.

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57 PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2016.  
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John Davies  
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

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Nanci Ashford-Bingham, MMC  
Borough Clerk

Yeses: Sattley, Westlind, Lawrence, Quist, Dodge, Davies  
Noes: Cooper, Roberts, Hutchison  
Other: None