

**HOUSE BILL NO. 154**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE FANSLER

Introduced: 3/6/17

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries, Resources

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing state fish and game reserves; creating the Holitna River Basin**  
2 **Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Reserve; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 16.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

5 **Article 6. Fish and Game Reserves.**

6 **Sec. 16.20.700. Purpose.** The purpose of AS 16.20.700 - 16.20.720 is to  
7 promote management activities to rebuild or enhance fish and wildlife populations and  
8 habitats to maintain historical and sustainable harvest levels for continued high levels  
9 of human consumptive use of these resources.

10 **Sec. 16.20.710. Regulations.** The Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game,  
11 where appropriate, shall adopt regulations that each considers advisable to carry out  
12 conservation and protection purposes under AS 16.20.700.

13 **Sec. 16.20.720. Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping**  
14 **Reserve established.** (a) The following state-owned land and water and all land

1 acquired in the future by the state lying within the parcels described in this subsection  
 2 is established as the Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Reserve:

3 (1) Township 4 North, Range 48 West, Seward Meridian

4 Sections 2 - 5

5 Sections 9 - 10;

6 (2) Township 4 North, Range 51 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 1 - 10;

8 (3) Township 4 North, Range 52 West, Seward Meridian

9 Sections 1 - 23

10 Sections 26 - 35;

11 (4) Township 4 North, Range 53 West, Seward Meridian;

12 (5) Township 5 North, Range 37 West, Seward Meridian

13 Sections 1 - 3

14 Sections 10 - 11;

15 (6) Township 5 North, Range 47 West, Seward Meridian

16 Sections 2 - 12

17 Sections 14 - 23

18 Sections 27 - 32;

19 (7) Township 5 North, Range 48 West, Seward Meridian

20 Sections 1 - 27

21 Sections 34 - 36;

22 (8) Township 5 North, Range 49 West, Seward Meridian

23 Sections 1 - 33;

24 (9) Township 5 North, Ranges 50 - 54 West, Seward Meridian;

25 (10) Township 6 North, Range 35 West, Seward Meridian

26 Sections 4 - 9;

27 (11) Township 6 North, Range 36 West, Seward Meridian

28 Sections 1 - 13

29 Sections 16 - 21

30 Sections 29 - 32;

31 (12) Township 6 North, Range 37 West, Seward Meridian;

- 1 (13) Township 6 North, Range 38 West, Seward Meridian  
 2 Sections 1 - 20;
- 3 (14) Township 6 North, Range 39 West, Seward Meridian  
 4 Section 1  
 5 Sections 12 - 13  
 6 Section 24;
- 7 (15) Township 6 North, Range 42 West, Seward Meridian  
 8 Sections 4 - 6  
 9 Section 8;
- 10 (16) Township 6 North, Range 43 West, Seward Meridian  
 11 Sections 1 - 2;
- 12 (17) Township 6 North, Range 44 West, Seward Meridian  
 13 Sections 1 - 5;
- 14 (18) Township 6 North, Range 47 West, Seward Meridian  
 15 Sections 18 - 19  
 16 Sections 29 - 33;
- 17 (19) Township 6 North, Ranges 48 - 55 West, Seward Meridian;
- 18 (20) Township 7 North, Range 35 West, Seward Meridian  
 19 Sections 6 - 7  
 20 Sections 18 - 19  
 21 Sections 30 - 31;
- 22 (21) Township 7 North, Ranges 36 - 38 West, Seward Meridian;
- 23 (22) Township 7 North, Range 39 West, Seward Meridian  
 24 Sections 1 - 18  
 25 Sections 21 - 25  
 26 Section 36;
- 27 (23) Township 7 North, Range 40 West, Seward Meridian  
 28 Sections 1 - 21;
- 29 (24) Township 7 North, Range 41 West, Seward Meridian  
 30 Sections 1 - 14  
 31 Sections 17 - 18;

- 1 Section 24;
- 2 (25) Township 7 North, Range 42 West, Seward Meridian
- 3 Sections 1 - 23
- 4 Sections 28 - 33;
- 5 (26) Township 7 North, Range 43 West, Seward Meridian
- 6 Sections 1 - 27
- 7 Sections 29 - 30;
- 8 Sections 34 - 36;
- 9 (27) Township 7 North, Range 44 West, Seward Meridian;
- 10 (28) Township 7 North, Range 45 West, Seward Meridian
- 11 Sections 1 - 2
- 12 Sections 12 - 13
- 13 Sections 24 - 25;
- 14 (29) Township 7 North, Range 47 West, Seward Meridian
- 15 Sections 6 - 7
- 16 Section 18;
- 17 (30) Township 7 North, Ranges 48 - 54 West, Seward Meridian;
- 18 (31) Township 7 North, Range 55 West, Seward Meridian
- 19 Sections 1 - 2
- 20 Sections 11 - 14
- 21 Sections 23 - 26
- 22 Sections 32 - 36;
- 23 (32) Township 8 North, Range 34 West, Seward Meridian
- 24 Section 19;
- 25 (33) Township 8 North, Range 35 West, Seward Meridian
- 26 Sections 3 - 10
- 27 Sections 13 - 24
- 28 Sections 27 - 32;
- 29 (34) Township 8 North, Ranges 36 - 44 West, Seward Meridian;
- 30 (35) Township 8 North, Range 45 West, Seward Meridian
- 31 Sections 1 - 29

- 1                               Sections 35 - 36;  
2                               (36) Township 8 North, Range 46 West, Seward Meridian  
3                               Sections 1 - 24  
4                               Sections 29 - 30;  
5                               (37) Township 8 North, Range 47 West, Seward Meridian  
6                               Sections 1 - 32;  
7                               (38) Township 8 North, Ranges 48 - 53 West, Seward Meridian;  
8                               (39) Township 8 North, Range 54 West, Seward Meridian  
9                               Sections 1 - 2  
10                               Sections 11 - 36;  
11                               (40) Township 8 North, Range 55 West, Seward Meridian  
12                               Sections 13 - 14  
13                               Sections 23 - 26  
14                               Sections 35 - 36;  
15                               (41) Township 9 North, Range 30 West, Seward Meridian  
16                               Sections 1 - 5;  
17                               (42) Township 9 North, Range 32 West, Seward Meridian  
18                               Sections 3 - 9  
19                               Sections 16 - 21;  
20                               (43) Township 9 North, Range 33 West, Seward Meridian  
21                               Sections 1 - 35;  
22                               (44) Township 9 North, Ranges 34 - 52 West, Seward Meridian;  
23                               (45) Township 9 North, Range 53 West, Seward Meridian  
24                               Sections 1 - 5  
25                               Sections 8 - 17  
26                               Sections 20 - 29  
27                               Sections 32 - 36;  
28                               (46) Township 10 North, Range 30 West, Seward Meridian  
29                               Sections 7 - 36;  
30                               (47) Township 10 North, Ranges 31 - 52 West, Seward Meridian;  
31                               (48) Township 10 North, Range 53 West, Seward Meridian

- 1 Sections 22 - 29
- 2 Sections 32 - 36;
- 3 (49) Township 11 North, Range 31 West, Seward Meridian
- 4 Section 31;
- 5 (50) Township 11 North, Range 32 West, Seward Meridian
- 6 Sections 18 - 19
- 7 Sections 29 - 36;
- 8 (51) Township 11 North, Range 33 West, Seward Meridian
- 9 Sections 2 - 11
- 10 Sections 13 - 36;
- 11 (52) Township 11 North, Ranges 34 - 51 West, Seward Meridian;
- 12 (53) Township 11 North, Range 52 West, Seward Meridian
- 13 Section 1
- 14 Sections 11 - 14
- 15 Sections 23 - 26
- 16 Sections 33 - 36;
- 17 (54) Township 12 North, Range 37 West, Seward Meridian
- 18 Sections 19 - 21
- 19 Sections 28 - 36;
- 20 (55) Township 12 North, Range 38 West, Seward Meridian
- 21 Sections 3 - 10
- 22 Sections 15 - 36;
- 23 (56) Township 12 North, Ranges 39 - 49 West, Seward Meridian;
- 24 (57) Township 12 North, Range 50 West, Seward Meridian
- 25 Sections 1 - 4
- 26 Sections 9 - 16
- 27 Sections 21 - 28
- 28 Sections 31 - 36;
- 29 (58) Township 13 North, Range 37 West, Seward Meridian
- 30 Sections 6 - 7
- 31 Sections 17 - 20

- 1                   Sections 29 - 31;
- 2                   (59) Township 13 North, Ranges 38 - 49 West, Seward Meridian;
- 3                   (60) Township 13 North, Range 50 West, Seward Meridian
- 4                   Section 25
- 5                   Section 36;
- 6                   (61) Township 14 North, Range 39 West, Seward Meridian
- 7                   Sections 5 - 9
- 8                   Sections 16 - 23
- 9                   Sections 25 - 36;
- 10                  (62) Township 14 North, Ranges 40 - 47 West, Seward Meridian;
- 11                  (63) Township 14 North, Range 48 West, Seward Meridian
- 12                  Sections 5 - 9
- 13                  Sections 13 - 36;
- 14                  (64) Township 14 North, Range 49 West, Seward Meridian
- 15                  Section 13
- 16                  Sections 24 - 25
- 17                  Section 36;
- 18                  (65) Township 15 North, Range 39 West, Seward Meridian
- 19                  Sections 4 - 9
- 20                  Sections 18 - 19
- 21                  Sections 30 - 31;
- 22                  (66) Township 15 North, Ranges 40 - 46 West, Seward Meridian;
- 23                  (67) Township 15 North, Range 47 West, Seward Meridian
- 24                  Sections 12 - 14
- 25                  Sections 19 - 36;
- 26                  (68) Township 16 North, Range 39 West, Seward Meridian
- 27                  Sections 16 - 21
- 28                  Sections 28 - 33;
- 29                  (69) Township 16 North, Range 40 West, Seward Meridian
- 30                  Sections 3 - 10
- 31                  Sections 13 - 36;

- 1 (70) Township 16 North, Ranges 41 - 45 West, Seward Meridian;  
 2 (71) Township 16, North, Range 46 West, Seward Meridian  
 3 Sections 1 - 3  
 4 Sections 10 - 14  
 5 Sections 23 - 28  
 6 Sections 33 - 36;  
 7 (72) Township 17 North, Range 40 West, Seward Meridian  
 8 Sections 3 - 10  
 9 Sections 15 - 23  
 10 Sections 26 - 35;  
 11 (73) Township 17 North, Ranges 41 - 44 West, Seward Meridian;  
 12 (74) Township 17 North, Range 45 West, Seward Meridian  
 13 Sections 1 - 4  
 14 Sections 9 - 17  
 15 Sections 19 - 36;  
 16 (75) Township 18 North, Range 40 West, Seward Meridian  
 17 Sections 17 - 22  
 18 Sections 27 - 34;  
 19 (76) Township 18 North, Ranges 41 - 42 West, Seward Meridian;  
 20 (77) Township 18 North, Range 43 West, Seward Meridian:  
 21 the land south of the Kuskokwim River;  
 22 (78) Township 18 North, Range 44 West, Seward Meridian:  
 23 the land south of the Kuskokwim River;  
 24 (79) Township 18 North, Range 45 West, Seward Meridian  
 25 Sections 1 - 2  
 26 Sections 11 - 15  
 27 Sections 22 - 27  
 28 Sections 34 - 36;  
 29 (80) Township 19 North, Range 41 West, Seward Meridian  
 30 Section 8: the land south of the Kuskokwim River  
 31 Sections 17 and 18: the land south of the Kuskokwim River

1 Sections 19 - 21

2 Sections 27 - 34;

3 (81) Township 19 North, Range 42 West, Seward Meridian

4 Sections 20 - 36: the land south of the Kuskokwim River;

5 (82) Township 19 North, Range 44 West, Seward Meridian

6 Sections 22 - 36: the land south of the Kuskokwim River;

7 (83) Township 19 North, Range 45 West, Seward Meridian

8 Sections 35 - 36.

9 (b) The Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Reserve is  
10 established to

11 (1) ensure management and protection of fish and wildlife populations  
12 and habitat to perpetuate subsistence, commercial, and sport use of the area's fish and  
13 wildlife;

14 (2) implement maximum use and benefit, sustained yield, and common  
15 use principles by using effective management techniques for conserving and  
16 developing the area's natural resources to regain or maintain historical harvest levels  
17 with human consumptive use of these resources as a priority;

18 (3) maintain and enhance healthy and abundant fish and wildlife  
19 populations commonly used for consumption by humans to provide high levels of  
20 human consumptive use in keeping with amounts determined by the Board of  
21 Fisheries and the Board of Game to be reasonably necessary to provide for subsistence  
22 uses and with other population and use goals or objectives set by the appropriate  
23 board.

24 (c) In order to fulfill the purposes of this section, and notwithstanding any  
25 other provision of law, the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisheries, and  
26 the Board of Game shall manage the fish and game resources of the area to provide for  
27 high levels of human harvest and, as necessary, shall

28 (1) control predation and adjust predator and prey population ratios  
29 through whatever methods or means are considered appropriate to particular  
30 circumstances;

31 (2) conduct management actions designed to further the purposes of

1 this section so long as the appropriate board has not found, based on substantial  
2 evidence, that the challenged management actions are counterproductive or ineffective  
3 in maintaining or enhancing healthy and abundant fish or wildlife populations  
4 commonly used for consumption by humans for food to provide for high levels of  
5 human consumptive use;

6 (3) use the information the department or the appropriate board  
7 considers to be the most credible for conducting management activities, including  
8 historical information, scientific information, and traditional environmental  
9 knowledge.

10 (d) The Department of Natural Resources may not acquire by eminent domain  
11 privately owned land within the Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping  
12 Reserve but may acquire privately owned land by purchase, exchange, or other means  
13 for inclusion in the reserve.

14 (e) Public access to the Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping  
15 Reserve by boat, aircraft, dog team, snow machine, all-terrain vehicle, or other means  
16 consistent with the purposes of this section may not be prohibited but may be  
17 regulated by either the Board of Fisheries or Board of Game as necessary to meet the  
18 purposes of this section.

19 (f) Access to and from private property within the Holitna River Basin  
20 Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Reserve shall be guaranteed through access corridors  
21 established through agreement among the Department of Fish and Game, Department  
22 of Natural Resources, and a private property owner.

23 (g) Entry on the Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Reserve  
24 for purposes of exploration and development of oil and gas resources is subject to final  
25 approval by the Department of Fish and Game and may not be permitted unless a  
26 person fully demonstrates that exploration and development is compatible with the  
27 purpose of this section.

28 (h) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Department of Fish and  
29 Game and the Department of Natural Resources shall exercise each department's  
30 respective authority over the Holitna River Basin Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping  
31 Reserve through a management plan prepared by the Department of Fish and Game in

- 1           consultation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- 2       \* **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).