

Introduced: 2/26/79  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MOSS

2 2d SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 31

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Delta Junction Bison Range Area."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 \* Section 1. It is the purpose of this Act to perpetuate free-ranging  
9 bison on the land described in this Act by management of the habitat to pro-  
10 vide an adequate winter range for the bison. It is also the purpose of this  
11 Act to alter seasonal movements of bison herds on the land in order to dimi-  
12 nish the damage caused by the herds to agriculturally developed land.

13 \* Sec. 2. AS 16.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

14 ARTICLE 6. STATE RANGE AREAS.

15 Sec. 16.20.300. DELTA JUNCTION BISON RANGE. The following de-  
16 scribed areas excluding valid existing rights, are established as the  
17 Delta Junction Bison Range Area:

18 (1) Township 11 South, Range 12 East, Fairbanks Meridian

19 Section 26: that portion lying south of the southern  
20 boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way, excluding A.S.L.S.  
21 78-93, Tract A, Units 1 and 2

22 Sections 28, 29: all, excluding A.S.L.S. 78-93, Tract A,  
23 Unit 1, and excluding military withdrawals (P.L. 87-334)

24 Section 32: all, excluding military withdrawals (P.L.  
25 87-334)

26 Sections 33, 34: all, excluding A.S.L.S. 78-93, Tract A,  
27 Unit 1

28 Section 35: that portion lying south of the southern  
29 boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way

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Section 36: that portion lying south of the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way

(2) Township 12 South, Range 11 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 11-14, 22-27, 33-36: all, excluding military withdrawals (P.L. 87-334)

(3) Township 12 South, Range 12 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 1-25, 30, 36: all, excluding military withdrawals (P.L. 87-334)

(4) Township 12 South, Range 13 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 5, 6, 9, 10: that portion lying south of the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way, excluding lands within FO 25785, and excluding lands within USS 4295 and USS 4199

Sections 7, 8, 14-36: all, excluding lands within USS 4199 and USS 4272

(5) Township 12 South, Range 14 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 19, 28-30, 33-35: that portion lying south of the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way Sections 31, 32: all

(6) Township 13 South, Range 13 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 1-5, 9-15, 23-25, 36: all

(7) Township 13 South, Range 14 East, Fairbanks Meridian Section 1: that portion lying south of the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way Sections 2-36: all

(8) Township 13 South, Range 15 East, Fairbanks Meridian Sections 5, 6, 8-10: that portion lying south of the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way

Section 7: all

1                   Section 15: SW 1/4, NW 1/2, that portion lying south of  
2                   the southern boundary of the Alaska Highway right-of-way  
3                   Sections 16-20: all  
4                   Section 21: N 1/2, SW 1/4, NW 1/4 SE 1/4  
5                   Section 22: NW 1/4, NW 1/4  
6                   Section 28: W 1/2, NW 1/4  
7                   Sections 29-31: all  
8                   Section 32: NW 1/4

9                   (9) Township 14 South, Range 14 East, Fairbanks Meridian  
10                   Sections 1 - 6: all

11                   Sec. 16.20.310. GAME MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) The commissioner of  
12                   fish and game shall develop and may amend a game management plan for  
13                   bison in the area described in AS 16.20.300. After holding public  
14                   hearings in accordance with AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312, the commissioner  
15                   shall implement the game management plan.

- 16                   (b) The game management plan shall include, but is not limited to,  
17                   (1) planting grains for bison and planting other wildlife  
18                   forage;  
19                   (2) altering existing plant cover to create additional range  
20                   and year-round habitat for bison and other animal species in the area;  
21                   (3) tilling to produce forage.

22                   (c) The commissioner of fish and game shall develop and amend the  
23                   game management plan to coordinate, as closely as possible, the game  
24                   management plan with the activities of the Agricultural Development  
25                   Authority, Department of Natural Resources, relating to the Big Delta  
26                   agricultural development project.

27                   Sec. 16.20.320. ACTIVITIES ON RANGE AREA. Nothing in AS 16.20.-  
28                   300 - 16.20.320 shall be construed as prohibiting activities on land  
29                   described in AS 16.20.300 which are otherwise permitted in accordance

1 with the laws and regulations of this state, including, but not limited  
2 to, hunting, trapping, engaging in recreational activities and using the  
3 land for access to adjacent areas.  
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