



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1998

**Source**

HCS CSSB 250(FIN)

**Chapter No.**

76

**AN ACT**

Relating to management of game, to the fish and game fund and federal aid for restoration of wildlife and fish, and to the duties of the commissioner of fish and game; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

**Permitted to become law without signature**

**Actual Effective Date:** July 1, 1999

AN ACT

1 Relating to management of game, to the fish and game fund and federal aid for restoration of  
2 wildlife and fish, and to the duties of the commissioner of fish and game; and providing for  
3 an effective date.

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5 \* **Section 1.** LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that providing for high  
6 levels of harvest for human consumptive use, consistent with the sustained yield principle, is  
7 the highest and best use of big game prey populations in most areas of the state and that big  
8 game prey populations should be biologically managed for abundance.

9 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.050 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (b) The commissioner shall annually submit a report to the Board of Game  
11 regarding the department's implementation during the preceding three years of intensive  
12 management programs that have been established by the board under AS 16.05.255 for  
13 identified big game prey populations.

14 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

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1 (b) Except for money received as fisheries fines or forfeitures in settlement of  
2 a claim or loss caused by damage to the fish resources of the state that is appropriated  
3 to or through the division of commercial fisheries management and development,  
4 appropriations of money from the fish and game fund and of money received by the  
5 state under the federal aid acts described under AS 16.05.140 shall be made to the  
6 division of wildlife conservation or the division of sport fish. The division of wildlife  
7 conservation or the division of sport fish may use money appropriated under this  
8 subsection to acquire administrative and other services from other agencies if the  
9 division acquires the services through reimbursable services agreements. The division  
10 of wildlife conservation and the division of sport fish shall include as part of their  
11 budgets prepared under AS 37.07.050

12 (1) a listing of the reimbursable services agreements that are to be  
13 funded with money appropriated under this subsection;

14 (2) a description of the services to be provided under those agreements;  
15 and

16 (3) a listing of the entities that are parties to those agreements.

17 \* Sec. 4. AS 16.05.255(g)(2) is amended to read:

18 (2) "intensive management" means management of an identified big  
19 game prey population **consistent with sustained yield through active management**  
20 **measures** to enhance, extend, and develop the population to maintain high levels or  
21 provide for higher levels of human harvest, including control of predation and  
22 prescribed or planned use of fire and other habitat improvement techniques.

23 \* Sec. 5. AS 16.05.255(g) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

24 (3) "harvestable surplus" means the number of animals that is estimated  
25 to equal the number of offspring born in a game population during a year less the  
26 number of animals required for recruitment for population maintenance and  
27 enhancement, when necessary, and the number of animals in the population that die  
28 from all causes, other than predation or human harvest, during that year;

29 (4) "high level of human harvest" means the allocation of a sufficient  
30 portion of the harvestable surplus of a game population to achieve a high probability  
31 of success for human harvest of the game population based on biological capabilities

1 of the population and considering hunter demand;

2 (5) "sustained yield" means the achievement and maintenance in  
3 perpetuity of the ability to support a high level of human harvest of game, subject to  
4 preferences among beneficial uses, on an annual or periodic basis.

5 \* Sec. 6. AS 16.05.255 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (h) The Board of Game shall establish population and harvest goals and  
7 seasons for intensive management of identified big game prey populations to achieve  
8 a high level of human harvest.

9 \* Sec. 7. This Act takes effect July 1, 1999.