

**HOUSE BILL NO. 356**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES PRUITT, Keller, Stoltze, Neuman, Feige, Petersen, Johnson, Fairclough

Introduced: 2/22/12

Referred: Resources

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to land management by the Board of Game and Department of Natural  
2 Resources for trapping and sport and subsistence hunting."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 16.05.839. Game land management.** (a) When open and closed seasons  
6 and areas are established by the Board of Game under AS 16.05.255, the board shall  
7 manage land under the department's authority to prevent, to the greatest extent  
8 practicable, any net loss of acreage available for trapping and sport and subsistence  
9 hunting.

10 (b) Not later than March 31 of each year, the commissioner shall submit a  
11 report to the legislature describing land managed by the department that

12 (1) was closed to trapping or sport or subsistence hunting the previous  
13 year and the reasons for the closures; and

14 (2) was opened to trapping or sport or subsistence hunting to comply

1 with the no-net-loss-of-acreage provision of (a) of this section.

2 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 38.04.065 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

3 (j) The commissioner shall

4 (1) keep land managed by the Department of Natural Resources open  
5 for trapping and sport and subsistence hunting unless the department determines the  
6 land must be closed for reasons relating to public safety, fish or game management,  
7 conservation, development of natural resources, or homeland security;

8 (2) manage land under the authority of the Department of Natural  
9 Resources to support, promote, and enhance trapping and sport and subsistence  
10 hunting to the extent authorized by state law;

11 (3) manage land under the authority of the Department of Natural  
12 Resources to prevent, to the greatest extent practicable, any net loss of acreage  
13 available for trapping and sport and subsistence hunting .

14 (k) Not later than March 31 of each year, the commissioner shall submit a  
15 report to the legislature describing land managed by the Department of Natural  
16 Resources that, during the previous year, was

17 (1) closed to trapping or sport or subsistence hunting, and the reasons  
18 for the closures; and

19 (2) opened to trapping or sport or subsistence hunting to comply with  
20 (j)(3) of this section.