

Alaska Board of Game  
#85-37-GB

Findings on Lime Village Management Area

The Board of Game finds, based upon public testimony and information provided by the Division of Subsistence, that the residents of the Upper Stony River Lime Village area are extremely dependent on moose and caribou in GMU 19(A). As reported in Kari, 1983, Land Use and Economy of Lime Village, the remoteness and isolation of this area, the extremely limited availability of cash earning opportunities, and the high costs of transportation and of food, make local residents highly reliant on local fish and wildlife. Moreover, use of wild game resources is historically customary in the area. The board further finds that the 40 residents of Lime Village are probably the most geographically isolated and subsistence dependent people in the state. Moose and caribou are particularly important because of the quality of the meat and the large size of the animals. They supply the highest proportion of the food eaten by residents of the area.

The board finds that residents of this area have customarily harvested moose and caribou on an opportunistic basis throughout the year. However, the usual hunting periods include fall (August and September), winter (November - February), and spring (March). Recent short seasons in November and February have not fully accommodated the opportunity for local residents to legally obtain the moose they need. The board finds that the lack of appropriate seasons has discouraged Lime Village residents from reporting their harvests.

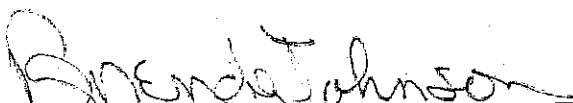
Residents of the Lime Village area customarily harvest moose and caribou within a fairly well defined area around the village, including along the Stony River by boat and on foot in summer, and further away from the river by dogteam and snowmachines in the winter.

The board finds that information provided by the Game Division shows that moose populations in the Stony River area are at moderate density and are relatively stable. Caribou in this area are part of the Mulchatna caribou herd, which is at high levels and has been growing in recent years.

Therefore, the board concludes that the establishment of the Lime Village Management Area will provide a reasonable opportunity for the residents of Lime Village as well as all

other Alaskans to take moose by extending the lengths of the seasons. Restricting the transportation of moose out of the Lime Village Management Area except during September will reduce the potential new demand which might result from these longer seasons and ensure the conservation of the moose population. The board determines it is important that during September, which has been the period of time most used for hunting by all Alaskans and for guided hunting, bull moose can be transported out of the area.

The board further concludes that the establishment of this management area also allows an increase in the caribou bag limit in the area to five, which will provide a reasonable opportunity for customary levels of harvest for the residents of Lime Village as well as other Alaskans. Restrictions on the transport of caribou out of the area will reduce hunting pressure on local caribou and ensure their conservation and availability to residents of the area. The board again determines that it is important that uses by all Alaskans can be provided for by allowing one caribou to be transported out of the area from September to mid-October.



Brenda Johnson  
Brenda Johnson, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Game

Adopted April 04, 1985  
Anchorage, Alaska  
VOTE: 6/0