

I am writing to strongly **support proposals 105 and 86**. I am the Executive Director of a wildlife center and conservation education program in New Mexico. I travel to Alaska at least annually and always visit the Denali Park area. As a wildlife professional in New Mexico I work to support the exact same issues these proposals address in Alaska with the exception of Grizzly bears of course. There is no justification for bear snaring given the more humane methods of "take", ample game "take" limits, frequency of non-target animals taken and the cruelty of the method. The number of sportsmen who prefer this method of hunting is small, too small to justify the negative public response generated by this practice.

The re-establishment of the no-trapping buffer zone is not only good for wolves, it is good for Alaska. We few states that are home to large predators hold a particular fascination to the majority of visitors who no longer have any opportunity in their home states to view a natural ecosystem. Alaska makes considerable revenue from visitors who are there because it is still "wild", because there is at least an opportunity to encounter a working ecosystem and be thrilled by the glimpse of the top predators that symbolize healthy systems, wild lands and adventure!

I urge you to pass these proposals.

Katherine Eagleson
Executive Director of The Wildlife Center New Mexico