



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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Instruction Memorandum No. AK-2006-046  
Expires: 09/30/07

To: Field Managers, DSDs, AFS Manager, SAIC and Rangers

From: State Director, Alaska

Subject: Predator Control by the State of Alaska

The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum (IM) is to update [IM Number AK 2004-12](#), and clarify the Alaska Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) position on state activities related to predator control. All field office personnel are to be reminded of our position immediately.

The Alaska State Board of Game has directed the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to perform predator control activities in a number of game units since 2003. While the program primarily targets wolves, both brown and black bear may be included in the control program, as directed by the Board.

When the Board determines, where regulatory methods of take, such as trapping, are not sufficient to meet game management population objectives, predator control programs may be initiated.

These programs use a controlled permit system allowing aerial or same day airborne methods to remove wolves in designated areas. The on-going and proposed areas for control may include State, State tentatively approved for conveyance, State-selected, public, private, Native corporation lands, and Native allotments. Utilizing the permit system, Alaska is in compliance with the provisions of the Airborne Hunting Act. The State must document to whom the permits are issued, the type and registration of the aircraft involved in the permit program, numbers of predators taken, and location of kill.

Unless control activities conflict with on-going or anticipated BLM authorized actions, land use plan decisions for a given area, or a threat to the public safety exists from the performance of those activities, the BLM's position on the State's predator control program will be as follows:

1. Predator control is a State function.

2. The BLM neither supports nor condemns predator control methods approved by the Board of Game.

If it is determined by a field manager the State's activities do pose a threat to the public safety, or other management conflict, a response will be coordinated at the State Office level.

It is likely field office managers and staff will be questioned by various interest groups and the general public concerning the State's predator control policy. Those questions should be answered following the guidance outlined above. If questions are posed outside the scope of this guidance, please contact John Payne, Wildlife Biologist, at 907-271-3431.

Signed  
Debbie A. Hollen  
Acting, State Director

Authenticated  
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