

**SENATE BILL NO. 273**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY SENATOR MCGUIRE**

**Introduced: 2/10/10**  
**Referred: Resources**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

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

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. Land management by the Board of Game.** (a) When open  
6 and closed seasons and areas are established by the Board of Game under  
7 AS 16.05.255, the board shall manage the game in areas under the Department of Fish  
8 and Game's authority to prevent, to the greatest practical extent, any net loss of  
9 acreage available for sport and subsistence hunting and trapping opportunities.

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

13 (1) were closed to sport and subsistence hunting and trapping the  
14 previous year and the reasons for the closures; and

1                   (2) were opened to sport and subsistence hunting and trapping to  
2                   comply with the no-net-loss-of-acreage provision of (a) of this section.

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

4                   (j) The commissioner shall

5                   (1) keep land managed by the Department of Natural Resources open  
6                   for sport and subsistence hunting and trapping unless the department determines the  
7                   land must be closed for reasons of public safety, fish or game management, or  
8                   homeland security, or as otherwise required by law;

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

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

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

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

20                  (2) opened to sport and subsistence hunting and trapping to comply  
21                  with the no-net-loss-of-acreage provision in (j)(3) of this section.