

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
Subsistence Resource Commission

P.O. Box 439
Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy.
Copper Center, AK 99573

October 27, 2020

Christina Carpenter, Director
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Attention: Shannon Miller
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Submitted via email: shannon.miller@alaska.gov

Subject: Comments on proposed changes to AAC Title 18, Chapter 36: Animal Health

Dear Ms. Carpenter:

The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) met by teleconference on October 5 and 6, 2020. The commission is a federal advisory committee that represents subsistence users of federal lands within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. At this meeting, the SRC learned about proposed changes to the Alaska Administrative Code concerning Animal Health.

The commission supports all the proposed changes to the Alaska Administrative Code regarding Animal Health. Of particular interest to the SRC is the proposed requirement that domestic sheep and goats be tested for *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* prior to being imported into Alaska. The commission recommends a modification to require testing of imported domestic sheep and goats of all ages, not just those animals over two months old. Monitoring imported domestic sheep and goats for *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* is important for protecting the health of Alaska's wild goats and Dall sheep.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Daniel E. Stevens
Chair

cc: NPS Alaska Regional Director
Superintendent, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve

Chair: Daniel Stevens; Members: Mike Christenson, Sam Demmert, Sue Entsminger, Don Horrell, Suzanne McCarthy, Kaleb Rowland, and Gloria Stickwan