



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

JUL 14 2017

Memorandum

To: Acting Director, National Park Service

From: Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Subject: NPS Hunting and Trapping Regulations, 80 Federal Register 64325
(October 23, 2015)

I have now been fully briefed on the National Park Service's rulemaking published in the Federal Register on October 23, 2015. This rulemaking amended hunting and trapping regulations on national preserves in Alaska. I have concluded that it would be prudent to reassess the need for the rule and give further consideration to certain elements. I am therefore directing the National Park Service to initiate a rulemaking process to reconsider the rule.

I anticipate that you will focus this reconsideration on certain aspects of the rule that I believe are particularly worthy of additional review. Most notably, these include the various prohibitions that directly contradict State of Alaska authorizations and wildlife management decisions, thereby potentially reducing opportunities for sport hunting and commercial trapping on National Park Service lands.

This focus is not intended to preclude the National Park Service from reconsidering any other aspects of the rule or even the rule in its entirety if, during the rulemaking process, it becomes apparent that such reconsideration is warranted.

You should work with the Office of the Regional Solicitor, Alaska Region, to design a rulemaking process that will ensure that the final outcome of the rulemaking is well-informed, complies with applicable laws, and gives meaningful consideration to the public's input.