

Southcentral Region Meeting

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ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Southcentral Region Meeting
Kodiak Marketplace
111 Rezanof Drive, Kodiak, Alaska
March 20 - 25, 2026

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Note: This Tentative Agenda is subject to change throughout the course of the meeting. It is provided to give a general idea of the board's anticipated schedule. The board will attempt to hold to this schedule; however, the board is not constrained by this Tentative Agenda.

Friday, March 20, 8:30 a.m.

OPENING BUSINESS

Call to Order / Purpose of Meeting
Introductions of Board Members and Staff
Board Member Ethics Disclosures

AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

PUBLIC & ADVISORY COMMITTEE TESTIMONY upon conclusion staff reports

THE DEADLINE TO SIGN UP TO TESTIFY will be announced prior to the meeting. Public testimony will continue until persons who have signed up before the deadline, and who are present when called by the Chair to testify, are heard.

Saturday, March 21, 8:30 a.m.

PUBLIC AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORAL TESTIMONY continued

BOARD DELIBERATIONS upon conclusion of public testimony

Sunday, March 22, (Time to be determined)

BOARD DELIBERATIONS upon conclusion of public testimony

Monday, March 23 through Tuesday, March 24, 8:30 a.m.

BOARD DELIBERATIONS continued

Wednesday, March 25, 8:30 a.m.

BOARD DELIBERATIONS conclude

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS, including petitions, findings and policies, letters, and other business

ADJOURN

Agenda Notes

- A. Meeting materials, including a list of staff reports, a roadmap, and schedule updates, will be available prior to the meeting at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo or by contacting ADF&G Boards Support Section in Juneau at 465-4110.
- B. A live audio stream for the meeting is intended to be available at: <https://boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov>.
- C. The State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to participate in this hearing and public meeting should contact 465-6098 no later than two weeks prior to start of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

Regionwide and Multiple Units

PROPOSAL 70

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Restrict hunters who take a nanny in Units 6, 7, 14C, or 15 from hunting goats in Unit 6, 7, 8, 14C and 15 for five regulatory years as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

If a nanny is taken in Units 6, 7, 14C, or 15, the hunter is prohibited from hunting any goats in Units 6, 7, 8, 14C, or 15 for five regulatory years.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Change the penalty for shooting a nanny from only prohibiting the hunter from hunting that area to all of the areas in Southcentral (Unit 6, 7, 8, 14C, and 15).

Currently if you shoot a nanny in Unit 6, you are only prohibited from hunting Unit 6 for five regulatory years. You could still hunt goats in Units 7, 8, 14C, or 15.

If you shoot a nanny in Unit 7 or 15, you are prohibited from hunting goats in Units 7 and 15 for five regulatory years. You could still hunt goats in Units 6, 8, & 14C.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Bradley Golden (OI-F25-153)

PROPOSAL 71

5 AAC 92.106. Intensive management of identified big game prey populations.

Establish an average annual historic human harvest value for sheep to consider if sheep populations are important for providing high levels of human consumptive use as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.106. Intensive management of identified big game prey populations. For purposes of implementing AS 16.05.255(e) - (g), the Board of Game will

(1) consider the following criteria when identifying big game prey populations that are important for providing high levels of human consumptive use:

(A) harvest size: the average annual historic human harvest meets or exceeds values as follows:

(i) caribou: 100;

(ii) deer: 500;

(iii) moose: 100;

(iv) sheep: **XX**

(B) accessibility to harvest;

(C) utilization for meat: a population that is used primarily for food; and

(D) level of hunter demand: as reflected by total hunter effort, number of applications for permits, or other indicators;

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

At the March 2025 Statewide Board of Game meeting in Anchorage the board adopted a proposal to establish sheep as an intensive management species. The board now needs to set an average annual historic human harvest value for sheep for use in considering if sheep populations are important for providing high levels of human consumptive use. Once established, the board can evaluate each individual population and determine if the population has a positive or negative intensive management finding, and if positive, the board can then set a population and harvest objective for each population.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

HQ-F25-046

PROPOSAL 72

5 AAC 92.108. Identified big game prey populations.

Establish intensive management (IM) findings for sheep populations, and population and harvest objectives, in the Southcentral Region as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.108. Identified big game prey populations.

Population	Finding	Population Objective	Harvest Objective
...			
Sheep			
GMUs 7 and 15 (Kenai Peninsula)	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
GMU 14(C) (Chugach Mountains)	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

At the March 2025 Statewide Board of Game meeting in Anchorage, the board adopted a proposal to establish sheep as an intensive management species. This proposal was submitted as a way for the board to codify if the Dall sheep populations in the Southcentral region have a positive or negative IM finding, and if positive, to establish the population and harvest objectives. The department submitted another proposal for the board to consider this cycle to set an average annual historic human harvest value for sheep for use in considering if sheep populations are important for providing high levels of human consumptive use. Once established, the board will need to evaluate each individual sheep population and determine if the population has a positive or negative intensive management finding. If a population is determined to have a positive finding, the board can then set a population and harvest objective for each population.

The proposed sheep populations listed (Units 7 and 15, Kenai Peninsula and Unit 14C, Chugach Mountains) may also be changed by the board. Deer and moose are listed in 5 AAC 92.108 by subunit, and caribou by herd, however the board has never had to address how sheep populations would be captured in 5 AAC 92.108, and there is more than one way to do so. The department will make a recommendation to the board for the best description of each sheep population prior to the board taking action on this proposal.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game HQ-F25-047

PROPOSAL 73

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

Define the terms "permenant dwelling", "publically maintained trail/road", and "developed recreational facility" for the purpose of bear baiting as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Rewording the phrase “ permanent dwelling” as "dwelling"to be defined as: “a structure or part of a structure that is used as a home, residence, or sleeping unit that is publically maintained through use of public funds or privately owned- this includes permitted trapper cabins.

I request the board to define publically maintained trail or road as a trail or road that is maintained with the use of public funding through an agency or private organization and meant for public use.

Define Developed Recreational Facility:

- (A) includes a shooting range, developed boat ramp, campground, picnic area, rest area, visitor information center, swim beach, education center and developed ski area;
- (B) does not include trails or latrines more than one quarter mile from a road;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Currently in the bear baiting regulations in Alaska there are no definitions to permanent dwelling, publicly maintained /road trail or recreational facility.

Rewording the phrase “ permanent dwelling” as "dwelling"to be defined as: “a structure or part of a structure that is used as a home, residence, or sleeping unit that is publically maintained through use of public funds or privately owned- this includes permitted trapper cabins.

I request the board to define publically maintained trail or road as a trail or road that is maintained with the use of public funding through an agency or private organization and meant for public use.

Define Developed Recreational Facility:

(A) includes a shooting range, developed boat ramp, campground, picnic area, rest area, visitor information center, swim beach, education center and developed ski area;

(B) does not include trails or latrines more than one quarter mile from a road

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes many hunters and the board and enforcement all agree these terms need clarified

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-160)

PROPOSAL 74

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.

Count a wounded bear against a hunter's bag limit regionwide as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Make it illegal across all units to wound a brown bear and not cut your tag for the season. Making all uniformity across these units.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Currently only part of Southcentral is it illegal to wound a bear and shoot another. While the Kenai Peninsula has the closest regulation brown bear hunt in Alaska.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-158)

PROPOSAL 75

5 AAC 92.XXX. New regulation.

Require an online trapping education course for trapping in the Southcentral Region as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Requirements for trappers before trapping in Units 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 14C, 15, and 20:

If you were born after January 1, 1986 and are 18 years or older, you must have successfully completed a basic trapper education course in person or on-line before you trap in the unit areas listed above.

If you are under 18 years of age, you must have either successfully completed the basic trapper education course in person or on-line or be under the immediate supervision of a licensed trapper who:

- a) is 18 years of age or older and has successfully completed a basic trapper education course in person or on-line OR
- b) was born on or before January 1, 1986.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There are such minimum standards for trapping in this state that it allows many instances of inappropriate placement of these traps in and around populated areas. Basically, anyone who becomes, or is, a resident, can trap with or without knowledge, experience, or even minimum guidelines for education.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Michael Knapp (OI-F25-078)

Cordova Area - Unit 6

PROPOSAL 76

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Reduce the nonresident bag limit to one deer in Unit 6 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Reduce nonresident bag limit to one deer. August 1 - September 30 bucks only, October 1 - December 31 any deer.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We have heard that transporters with live aboard accommodations working with hunt planning services are going to be moving their operations from Kodiak to Unit 6 due to the nonresident bag limit reduction to one buck on Kodiak. Unit 6 currently allows nonresidents to harvest four deer. This would allow the Department of Fish and Game to be proactive vs. reactive as they were on Kodiak due to excessive harvest from the increased nonresident pressure.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Bradley Golden (OI-F25-152)

Title Correction: The proposal requests changing the nonresident goat hunts in Unit 6D from registration hunts to drawing hunts.

PROPOSAL 77

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Change the nonresident goat hunts in Unit 6D from drawing permits to registration hunts as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Unit 6D

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 goat by registration permit only; however if a nanny is taken, the hunter is prohibited from taking a goat in Unit 6 for five regulatory years: the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited.

Resident Sept. 15 - Jan. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 goat by drawing permit only (up to 100 permits); however if a nanny is taken, the hunter is prohibited from taking a goat in Unit 6 for five regulatory years: the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited.

Nonresident Sept. 15 – Jan. 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Nonresidents are harvesting a significant percentage of the goat quotas in multiple registration hunts within Unit 6D. This is causing the registration hunts to close sooner compared to prior years and decreasing the opportunity for residents.

Going to a draw for nonresidents in Unit 6D would be the same as what is being done in Unit 14C Lake George, DG889. This would allow the Board of Game and ADF&G to allocate quota between nonresidents and residents based on survey data to create a more balanced allocation of the resource between residents and nonresidents.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I worked with another individual on this proposal. We obtained data from the area biologist in Cordova.

PROPOSED BY: Bradley Golden (OI-F25-149)

PROPOSAL 78

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Create a fall season, archery registration permit goat hunt within the RG248 hunt area in Unit 6D, with a bag limit of one billy as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Make an additional registration permit within the RG248 hunt area to include an early season archery hunt. Permits would be available at ADF&G offices and online. The season would be September 10th-20th, with a bag limit of 1 billy. Online goat quiz required to receive a permit. The regular RG248 season would continue unchanged, later in the season. This hunt would provide hunters with a set time frame to hunt, as making it archery only with a billy only bag limit, would greatly decrease the success rate overall and likely, extending the season to its entirety.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Not enough road accessible goat hunts exist outside of drawing permits. Draw permits are getting harder to draw with decreased numbers of tags and increased interest. In addition to limited hunting opportunity, nanny harvest poses a problem when a hunts duration is based on “Goat Points” and harvesting nannies closes a hunt sooner.

This type of management strategy makes it extremely challenging for goat hunters trying to set their schedule months in advance to go on a hunt. Especially goat hunters who are not interested in harvesting a nanny.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Jesse Dunshie (OI-F25-155)

PROPOSAL 79

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Shorten the nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 6A as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.045 (4) Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Shorten the moose hunting season in Unit 6A as follows:

September 1 through **October 31** (November 30) for NONRESIDENTS.

5 AAC 85.045 Unit 6A moose.

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 Bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least 1 side.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The adoption of this regulation change will significantly benefit the moose population in Unit 6A for many reasons. Due to an increase in big game guiding, the moose in Unit 6A have begun to be targeted more than in recent years. Moose are being pursued post-rut in poorer body condition and at a time when there is less enforcement present in this immediate area. As a gig game guide in this immediate area, I have noticed the moose migration routes and behaviors. As moose begin their rut behavior, moose began to migrate closer to the Gulf coast and are easier accessible during the later month of October and November. Moose are observed to be in poorer condition due to rut activity and winter very close to the coastline. Law enforcement during the months of November is all but nonexistent in this area due to extreme deuteriation in weather conditions. I believe much consideration should be taken to consider the preservation of this natural resource in Alaska and Unit 6A.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

After discussions with the Cordova Department of Fish and Game and conversation with other outfitters in the area and increased big game guiding operations in Unit 6A found in the guide use areas section of the big game commercial service board, I have found that an increase in pressure on the moose in Unit 6A has become evident. I believe closing the season to NORESIDENTS on October 31 will significantly relieve the pressure on these moose during the post rut when their conditions are poor.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Semler, Alaska Expediton Lodge (OI-F25-209)

PROPOSAL 80

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Create new archery and any weapons drawing hunts for moose in Unit 6D along the Richardson Highway from Valdez to milepost 25 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Hunt Details

Location and Zones:

Archery-Only Zone: From Valdez (milepost 0) to milepost 12 on the Richardson Highway. Archery hunting reduces noise and disturbance near Valdez, a more populated area.

Any-Weapon Zone: From milepost 12 to milepost 25 on the Richardson Highway. Offers flexibility in a less populated stretch while ensuring safety and access.

Restricted Area: Hunting is limited to within 100 yards of the highway right-of-way on either side. Focuses harvest on moose most likely to cross the highway, enhances accessibility, and aids enforcement.

Season Dates:

October 1 to February 28.

This extended season targets late fall and winter, when moose are most active near the highway due to snow and foraging patterns, coinciding with peak collision risks.

Bag Limit and Restrictions:

Eligible Moose: Harvest is permitted for bull moose and cows without calves.

Protected Moose: Cows accompanied by calves are off-limits to safeguard calf survival and population stability.

Permit Limit: A limited number of draw permits (e.g., 20-30, to be determined by ADF&G based on population data) to maintain sustainable harvest levels.

Hunt Type:

Draw hunt requiring application through ADF&G's permit system.

Limits hunter numbers, prevents overcrowding, and allows precise management of harvest quotas.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Overview

This proposal outlines a new draw hunt for moose in Game Management Unit (GMU) 6D, along the Richardson Highway corridor from Valdez to milepost 25. The hunt aims to mitigate the increasing frequency of moose-vehicle collisions, reduce preventable moose mortality, and offer a sustainable harvest opportunity for hunters. The hunt would be archery-only from Valdez to milepost 12 and any-weapon from milepost 12 to milepost 25, restricted to within 100 yards of the highway. The season would run from October 1 to February 28, allowing the harvest of bull moose and cows without calves, while protecting cows accompanied by calves.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Joseph List

(OI-F25-006)

PROPOSAL 81

5 AAC 85.045(4). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6C as follows.

Seasons and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(4)		
...		
Unit 6(C)		
1 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:		
1 moose by drawing permit only; up to 40 permits for bulls and up to 20 permits for antlerless moose may be issued or	Sept. 1-Oct. 31 (General hunt only)	No open season.
1 moose by registration permit only;	Nov. 1-Dec. 31	No open season.
...		

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually by the Board of Game (board). The department recommends reauthorizing the state antlerless hunt in Unit 6C to achieve the harvest objectives when the federal subsistence hunt is not able to achieve the desired level of harvest.

The population objective in Unit 6C is 600–800 moose. A population estimate completed during March 2023 yielded an estimate of 503 moose, 22% of which were calves. Because the available antlerless harvest quota in Unit 6C is currently harvested under a federal subsistence season administered by the U. S. Forest Service, the department has not held the antlerless hunt since regulatory year 99.

The board approved a registration hunt (RM169) to provide additional hunt opportunity if harvestable surplus existed after the administration of federal subsistence hunts. Without an antlerless moose hunt, this hunt cannot function as intended if it is needed. Continuation of the antlerless hunts may be necessary to manage population growth and keep it within the limits of what the habitat can support.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-033)

PROPOSAL 82

5 AAC 85.015(a)(2). Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Shorten the spring hunting season for black bear in Unit 6D by 10 days as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Current Black Bear harvest season in Unit 6D is Sept. 10th to June 10th.

Proposed new season date as follows:

Open Sept. 10th but closing at the earlier date and time of May 31st at midnight.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

To adress the risks of overharvesting black bears in subunit 6D. Black bear harvest in Unit 6D peaked in 2007 and was a steady decrease over the next eight years. Since 2015 there has been a significant increase year to year. With increased harvest (2024 was third highest ever recorded), and increased efforts (2024 highest recorded since data collection began in 2009). There is probable concern that harvest levels will reach a level that will result in reduced long term hunting opportunity. The current harvest level is not sustainable at this rate.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This is a Prince William Sound - Copper River Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee submitted proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committees (OI-F25-054)

PROPOSAL 83

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Increase the resident bag limit for the RL065 black bear hunt in Unit 6 to two bears as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Make the bag limit for RL065 two bears for Alaskan residents. Nonresidents stays 1 bear.

Even given the option to harvest two bears, the vast majority of black bear hunters in Prince William Sound will not harvest more than one bear a season given the short period of time hunters are in the field for the RL065 open period of September 10th-June 10th and the difficulty at reaching the majority of bears spotted. Most of the bears are not on the beach, rather they are up on the steep hills and cliffs.

Increasing the bag limit for RL065 to two bears will have a negligible effect on overall harvest numbers but it would give resident hunters the added flexibility at hunting other units prior to hunting the RL065 unit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The one bear bag limit for RL065 black bear permit.

The one bear bag limit for RL065 is unnecessary. It prohibits residents from harvesting a black bear earlier in the regulatory year in another unit and still being able to hunt RL065.

If a hunter harvests a black bear in another unit in the fall, they are not able to hunt RL065 in the spring. This is simply not necessary for black bear conservation in Prince William Sound as the only real way to hunt RL065 is by boat and the vast majority of bears spotted are not accessible to hunters.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Jesse Dunshie (OI-F25-157)

PROPOSAL 84

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Shorten the season for black bear hunting in Unit 6D as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.015 Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Shorten the season for black bear hunting in Unit 6D from:

October 1 [September 10] - June 10

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Increased harvest and hunting pressure on black bear in Unit 6D, Prince William Sound, particularly sows.

In 2000, when the tunnel opened to vehicle traffic, hunting in Prince William Sound changed forever. Harvest more than doubled, nearly tripled. Of particular concern was the increase in sow harvest which had a significantly higher percentage of sows in the fall. Over time, fall harvest numbers declined and so did the sow harvest. Fall harvest is increasing again and once again fall harvest has a significantly higher sow harvest percentage than in the spring.

Without more protection on sows it is highly unlikely harvests in the range of 500 are sustainable and increases the chances of a crash.

Closing the season when sows are most vulnerable offers the least amount of additional restriction with the highest reduction of sow harvest.

Other regulation options considered were moving season opening from September 10 to September 25, as most bears are off streams by then.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Collected statistical data and opinions from Cordova Department of Fish and Game office.

Will be presenting this proposal to the Whittier Fish and Game Advisory Committee fall of 2025 for their consideration.

PROPOSED BY: David Pinguoch (OI-F25-060)

PROPOSAL 85

5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions.

Restrict hunters from shooting big game from a boat in Unit 6 without a permit as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Hunters may not shoot big game from a boat in Units 1-6, UNLESS you have obtained a Permit to Hunt from a Boat.

This regulation is already in place for Units 1-5.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There is no need for hunters to shoot at big game from a boat. Due to increased recreational boating, hunters should not be shooting from a boat not knowing what is beyond their target on the shoreline. Hunters are cruising the shorelines looking for game and shooting at them without knowing or confirming what is beyond their target.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Bradley Golden (OI-F25-150)

Kenai Peninsula Area – Units 7 & 15

PROPOSAL 86

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 caribou drawing hunt DC001, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DC001 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DC001.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided non-residents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-068)

PROPOSAL 87

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15B caribou drawing hunt DC608, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DC608 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DC608.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by no-residents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-069)

PROPOSAL 88

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C caribou drawing hunt DC618, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DC618 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DC618.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-070)

PROPOSAL 89

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Open an early season, archery only moose hunt in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Unit 7 remainder: One bull with a spike on at least one side or 50-inch antlers or antlers with three or more brow tines on at least one side by BOW AND ARROW ONLY -HT-

Aug. 22-29

*open only to certified bowhunters

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Most other units in Southcentral Alaska have implemented an early season archery only moose hunt. Directly bordering Unit 7, Unit 15 Remainder has an archery only moose season from August 22-29. From review of harvest statistics it appears that these archery hunts have had no adverse impact on the moose population or regular season hunter success rates but have increased hunting opportunity for all Alaska hunters willing to pick up a bow. This proposal would bring the same opportunity to Unit 7 Remainder.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-205)

PROPOSAL 90

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Change the bag limit for the general season moose hunts in Units 7 and 15 to include 10 legal antler points on at least one side, in addition to the current antler restrictions as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

In addition to the 50-inch, spike, or three brow tine restrictions, I propose that if a moose has an antler with 10 legal points total on one side it would be a legal moose to harvest.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Hunters often have difficulty discerning a legal moose under the current antler restriction regulations of 50-inch, spike, or three brow tines.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I have spoken with several different hunters, previous wildlife troopers, and local biologists in these game management units concerning this proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Kenneth Halpin (OI-F25-014)

PROPOSAL 91

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Shift the moose hunting season and the motorized vehicle restriction in Unit 15C from September to October as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Just move the moose season to Oct. 1 – Oct. 25 with the dates for restriction number three for Unit 15C also moved to Oct. 16-19 and Oct. 22-25 with the rest of the regulations for the season remaining the same.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Move open season for moose from [September 1- September 25] to October 1 to October 25.

Also from restriction number three for Unit 15C change dates for closed to anyone using a motorized vehicle restrictions from [Sept. 16-19 and Sept. 22-25] to October 16-19 and October 22-25.

This would move the open season for moose after the start of the rut. This would allow the dominant bulls to breed some of the cows before the season opens without any hunting pressure. That would pass on the best bulls’ genes which would improve the herd. The October season would also be cooler and most of the leaves would drop from the trees. This would increase visibility which would make identification of legal bulls easier which should minimize the shooting of illegal bulls. The cooler weather would also help with preserving and processing of the meat.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed from conversations with other hunters. Some expressed concerns about shooting bulls during the rut and the effect on the meat. My answer to that is that many of the bulls are currently shot during the rut and that problem may be more a result of how the meat is treated in the field and in the processing. Also, I attended two meetings of the Central Peninsula Advisory Committee. I was asked to give an overview of this proposal and answered some questions. After the presentation I was told to submit the proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Arnold Mason (OI-F25-016)

PROPOSAL 92

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Shift the moose hunting season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B, from August 20–September 20 to September 1-25 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change 5 AAC 85.045 (13) (A) Kalgin Island section to read: (bold text is changed language)

Unit 15(B) Kalgin Island

(Bag limit:) One moose per regulatory year, by registration permit only

(Season:) Residents and Nonresidents : **SEPTEMBER 1-25** [August 20- Sept. 20]

Explained in text, move the season forward on Kalgin Island to new dates of September 1- 25. This mirrors the season dates on the east side of the Inlet in the rest of Unit 15. The Board of Game made an identical change in 2015 via Proposal 157 with the same reasoning for the general bull season in Unit 15. Although weather has always been inconducive in August for moose hunting on Kalgin, now that due to board action the Island is part of Unit 15B, it is even more apparent that the season should shift forward and mirror the general season in the rest of Unit 15. It will tidy up the regulation book and ease enforcement questions. Cooler weather in September will greatly help bringing down the temperature of the hanging meat. The fly problem will lessen some, as it is beginning to frost at night in September. It will perhaps give those Kalgin hunters a bit of time to relax in camp, eating steak and enjoying the camp life, as they are investing significant personal gas or air/water taxi cost to get there. It is doubtful there is a risk to the herd of overharvest by allowing hunters later in September, because Kalgin is consistently over the population objective (latest population survey 11/29/2024 counted 103 moose, and 107 Registration permits were issued) and consistently under the harvest objective with a five-year average of 22 moose taken annually in this hunt. ADF&G has been trying to reduce this herd for years.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

At issue are the poor conditions for meat care during the RM572 moose season on Kalgin Island, Unit 15B. Current season dates are August 20 - September 20. During the first half of this season, temperatures are routinely in the 60's or even higher. Rain has returned in force by then as well. These meteorological conditions of high heat and high humidity, coupled with the abundant blowfly numbers, create an extremely difficult, time and resource-consuming, and high-stress environment in which to properly care for 600 plus pounds of hanging moose meat. Hunters on Kalgin Island will also need time to transport by airplane or boat, then on the road system before they can get their meat to a controlled environment where it can be safely hung to age and subsequently butchered. Having an open season in August is, we believe, unethical. If nothing is done to correct this, much delicious wild meat will continue to be lost to heavy trimming or even outright spoilage.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal, conceived from comments by local hunters, was developed by the Homer Advisory Committee with input from ADF&G.

PROPOSED BY: Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-043)

PROPOSAL 93

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C moose drawing hunt DM549, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM549 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM549.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided non-residents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-133)

PROPOSAL 94

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 moose drawing hunt DM210, to “up to” TO 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM210 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM210.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and nonguided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-120)

PROPOSAL 95

5 AAC 85.045(13). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(13) hunting seasons and bag limits for moose in Unit 15 are as follows:		
...		
Unit 15(B), Kalgin Island		
1 moose per regulatory year, by registration permit only	Aug. 20—Sept. 20	Aug. 20—Sept. 20
...		

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually by the Board of Game (board). The current regulation for hunting moose on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B allows hunters to harvest antlerless moose with the goal of reducing the population to the management objective.

In response to concerns that the moose population on Kalgin Island had exceeded the island’s carrying capacity and deteriorated habitat conditions, the board established a drawing permit hunt for antlerless moose in 1995. In a further attempt to reduce the number of moose on the island, the board established a registration hunt for any moose in 1999. Despite these measures to reduce moose numbers, moose remain abundant on the island and continue to meet or exceed the management objective. Antlerless hunts, such as RM572, provide opportunities for hunter harvest and improved food security while maintaining healthy moose herds and habitat at this time.

During the most recent moose survey (November 2024), department staff counted 103 moose on Kalgin Island. This count is larger than the population objective of 20–40 moose. In the last five years, an average of 109 permits were issued for this hunt, of which 78 permittees hunted, yielding an average annual harvest of 25 moose. Harvest tracks hunter effort, and although effort and harvest have declined in recent years, success rate has remained high with a 5-year average of 32%.

The any moose registration hunt is recommended to provide additional harvest opportunity on this predator-free island population. A registration hunt also allows the department to continue gathering biological information from specimens provided by successful hunters. The difficult hunting conditions and limited access will make over-harvest unlikely.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-034)

PROPOSAL 96

5 AAC 85.045(13). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 15C as follows:

This proposal would reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt for the Homer bench (DM549) and the targeted hunt (AM550).

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(13) hunting seasons and bag limits for moose in Unit 15 are as follows:

...

Unit 15(C), that portion

from the mouth of Deep Creek easterly along the south bank of Deep Creek to N 59° 55.183', W 151° 8.155'; then southeasterly in a straight line to the unnamed creek at N 59° 54.342', W 151° 6.459'; and easterly down the south bank of this stream to Caribou Lake and easterly along the south shore to the outlet of Fox Creek, then south along the west bank of Fox Creek to the mouth of Fox Creek, and along the mean high tide line to the point of origin

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

...

1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; the taking of calves, and females accompanied by calves, is prohibited; up to 100 permits may be issued in combination with the nonresident drawing hunt: or Oct. 20—Nov. 20

...

1 moose by targeted permit only; Oct. 15—Mar. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

...

1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; the taking of calves, and females accompanied by calves, is prohibited; up to 100 permits may be issued in combination with the resident drawing hunt Oct. 20—Nov. 20

Remainder of Unit 15(C)

...

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

...

1 moose by targeted permit only Oct. 15—Mar. 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Antlerless moose seasons must be reauthorized annually, and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (department) recommends reauthorization of the Homer bench hunt (DM549) and the targeted hunt (AM550) along the Sterling Highway in Unit 15C for the 2026-27 hunting season.

In February 2023, a Geospatial Population Estimate (GSPE) census was conducted in the northern portion of Unit 15C (north of Kachemak Bay) and resulted in a population estimate of 5,162 moose (95% CI: range 3,934–6,390), of which 22% (95% CI: 17–27) were calves. This equates to a density of approximately 4.4 moose/mi² in the census area and indicates the population has continued to grow since 2010. However, the spatial distribution of moose during winter is heavily skewed away from elevations > 1000 feet in Unit 15C. This creates high variance of moose abundance in grid cells and removal of a single high density grid cell from the GSPE census reduces the population estimate to 4,486 moose (95% CI: range 5,391–3581), of which 22% (95% CI: 14–28) were calves. Despite this variability in moose distribution influencing precision of GSPE censuses, the population appears to be at or above the upper end of the Intensive Management population objective. Fall 2024 composition counts in core count areas provided a bull ratio of 30 bulls:100 cows. Antlerless hunts, such as DM549 and AM550, provide opportunities for hunter harvest and improved food security while maintaining healthy moose herds and habitat at this time.

The lowlands in Unit 15C, south of Deep Creek and Caribou Lake, which encompasses the hunt boundary of DM549, contain high densities of moose when deep snow drives moose to lower elevations. The human population continues to grow in these areas, having doubled in size since the 1980s according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. In 2023, the hunt area was expanded to reduce hunter conflicts with private property owners. Even without deep snow, some moose die due to malnutrition and negative interactions with humans that occur as moose become more aggressive in their search for food around residences. Fifty permits were issued in each of the last 10 years resulting in an average harvest of 25 cows annually.

The purpose of AM550 is to allow for the harvest of antlerless moose along the Sterling Highway in Unit 15C during deep snow winters to reduce moose and vehicle collisions. On average, 65 known animals are killed each year in vehicle collisions in Unit 15C. The department will decide when and where permits will be issued during the hunt period. Targeted hunts are administered through a registration permit and up to 100 moose may be taken. The number of permits issued each year will depend on conditions, and it is possible no permits will be issued in some years.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-035)

PROPOSAL 97

5 AAC 92.540(4)(B). Controlled use areas.

Eliminate the restriction on motorized vehicles for hunting moose in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Remove the restriction on motorized vehicles for moose hunting in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area (Unit 15C). This change will ensure fair access for hunters, align with current moose population data, and improve regulatory clarity while maintaining responsible land use practices. Additionally, it will support conservation efforts by allowing for better-managed hunting practices that align with ecological sustainability and wildlife management goals.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current regulation prohibiting the use of motorized vehicles (except aircraft and boats) for moose hunting in Unit 15C of the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area during specific dates in September is outdated, ineffective, and unnecessarily restrictive. The rule negatively impacts hunters by restricting access and contains unclear wording. Additionally, it does not effectively serve its intended purpose of protecting critical habitat.

- High Moose Populations: Surveys indicate that the moose population is either stable or increasing, suggesting that current restrictions may no longer be necessary. Including specific population data would further support this conclusion.
- Restricted Hunter Access: The prohibition makes it difficult for hunters, especially those with physical limitations, to access hunting areas and transport harvested moose.
- Ineffectiveness in Protecting Habitat: The seasonal restriction does not significantly contribute to habitat protection, as motorized use occurs outside the restricted dates.
- Unclear Wording: The regulation’s language regarding permitted roads is confusing and creates enforcement challenges.
- Easing of Administrative and Regulatory Burdens: Removing this rule will simplify enforcement and regulatory oversight, reducing the administrative burden on wildlife officials and eliminating confusion for hunters.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes, this proposal was written after a community comment forum with local hunters and wildlife stakeholders.

PROPOSED BY: Joshua Volland (OI-F25-007)

PROPOSAL 98

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Clarify the types of roads motorized vehicles are allowed to drive within the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area of Unit 15C during the moose season, and exclude the south side of Kachemak Bay as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change the wording in the AAC as follows to reflect improved language regarding roads, and the exclusion of the south side Kachemak Bay communities.

5 AAC 92.540

(4) Unit 15

(B) The Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area

(i) the area consists of Unit 15(C) **north of Kachemak Bay, Kachemak Creek, Bradley River, and Bradley Lake;**

(ii) the area is closed to the use of any motorized vehicle except an aircraft or boat for moose hunting, including the transportation of moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose from September 16 through September 19 and September 22 through September 25; however this provision does not apply to the use of a motorized vehicle on **platted and improved (graveled, asphalted, or paved) borough, state, or municipal roads** [A HIGHWAY MAINTAINED BY THE STATE OR BOROUGH OR ON THE GRAVEL PORTIONS OF OILWELL, BRODY, AND TUSTUMENA LAKE ROADS] or a driveway used for direct access to a primary residence or business.

(iii) during the periods specified in (ii) of this subparagraph, a moose hunter who travels off that highway system in that motorized vehicle may not hunt moose, including transporting moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose, or in any other manner initiate or participate in moose hunting activities, until after the hunter returns the motorized vehicle to the Unit 15(C) highway system; upon returning the motorized vehicle to that highway system, the hunter may initiate or participate in legal moose hunting activities so long as the hunter leaves the motorized vehicle on the Unit 15(C) highway system.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current wording for the motorized vehicle closure in Unit 15C during moose hunting season is unclear and does not take into consideration the development of new roads over time. The wording is difficult for hunters to interpret and causes confusion with enforcement. In recent years, hunters have been cited while trying to act within the intentions of the regulation. Wording for the regulation needs to take into account the development of new roads, so that continued rewriting is not needed as development continues on the Peninsula. Additionally, this regulation was never intended to be applied to the south side of Kachemak Bay in the communities of Seldovia, Nanwalek, or Port Graham but as written currently applies in these communities as well, and were it to be enforced as written, restricts access for the Tier II subsistence moose hunt in Unit 15C.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed by the Homer AC in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and members of the communities of Homer and Seldovia. Two public meetings focused on this topic were held in Homer and one in Seldovia to receive input from the local communities. All were popular and filled the rooms, indicating great public interest.

PROPOSED BY: Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-046)

PROPOSAL 99

5 AAC 92.540(4)(B). Controlled use areas.

Allow motorized vehicles to hunt moose in the area south of Kachemak Bay and south of Fox River within the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas. “(i) the area consists of Unit 15(C); (ii) the area is closed to the use of any motorized vehicle except and aircraft or boat for moose hunting, including the transportation of moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose from September 16 through September 19 and September 22 through September 25; however this provision does not apply to the use of a motorized vehicle on a highway maintained by the state or borough or on the gravel portions of Oilwell, Brody, and Tustumena Lake Roads or a driveway used for direct access to a primary residence or business, **and the area south of Kachemak Bay and south of Fox River.** (iii) during the periods specified in (ii) of this subparagraph, a hunter who travels off that highway system in that motorized vehicle may not hunt moose, including transporting moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose, or in any other manner initiate or participate in moose hunting activities, until after the hunter returns the motorized vehicle to the Unit 15(C) highway system; upon returning the motorized vehicle to that highway system, the hunter may initiate or participate in legal moose hunting activities so long as the hunter leaves the motorized vehicle on the Unit 15(C) highway system”

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

This regulation has been in effect for many years without many who live on the south side of Kachemak Bay knowing. It has always been common practice to drive a vehicle or ATV to where you start your hunt. This proposal removes the south side of Kachemak Bay from this regulation and allows the communities to continue to harvest as they have for centuries.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The local advisory committee agreed upon and put this proposal together. The AC worked with a local ADF&G wildlife biologist to learn more about the issue and develop the proposed wording.

PROPOSED BY: Seldovia Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-169)

PROPOSAL 100

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Adjust the Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C to exclude the south side of Kachmak Bay. Additionally, clarify the types of roads motorized vehicles are allowed to be utilized during the moose season; restrict the use of motorized vehicles for all big game hunting; and restrict the use of aircraft to spot game as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

...

(4) Unit 15

...

(B) The lower Kenai Controlled Use Area

(i) the area consists of Unit 15(C) **north of Kachemak Bay, Kachemak Creek, Bradley River, and Bradley Lake;**

(ii) the area is closed to the use of any motorized vehicle except a boat for **big game** hunting, including the transportation of hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of **big game** from September 16 through September 19 and September 22 through September 25; **an aircraft may not be used to spot game in this area during the period,** however this provision does not apply to the use of a motorized vehicle on **platted and improved (graveled, asphalted, or paved) borough, state, or municipal roads.**

(iii) during the periods specified in (ii) of this subparagraph, a **big game** hunter who travels off that highway system in that motorized vehicle may not hunt, including transporting hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of **big game**, or in any other manner initiate or participate in **big game** hunting activities, until after the hunter returns the motorized vehicle to the Unit 15(C) highway system; upon returning the motorized vehicle to that highway system, the hunter may initiate or participate in legal **big game** hunting activities so long as the hunter leaves the motorized vehicle on the Unit 15(C) highway system.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current regulations for the non motorized dates of moose hunting in Unit 15C of September 16-19 and September 22-25 has several areas that are being exploited. Hunters are utilizing the excuse of bear hunting during these periods to travel in this area during the non motorized period. I believe restricting the use of motorized vehicles for all big game hunting during this period would make it easier for the enforcement of the regulation. Another aspect of this period is the use of aircraft to spot moose during the closure. On several occasions I have had aircraft circle over an area I was hunting during this period. The language to include no aircraft may be used to spot or locate big game in the lower Kenai Controlled Use Area during this period would help truly make it a non motorized hunt that the regulation intends to achieve. The new language proposed by the

Homer AC defining roads and removing the south side of Kachemak Bay are also a great improvement to this regulation.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and members of the communities of Homer and Seldovia. Two public meetings focused on this topic were held in Homer and one in Seldovia to receive input from the local communities. The Homer Advisory Committee did not fully support this proposal, instead they adopted a version only better defining the roads and removing the restrictions from the south side of Kachemak Bay.

PROPOSED BY: Dan Miotke (OI-F25-061)

PROPOSAL 101

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Allow motorized vehicles to hunt moose in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

No restrictions on motor vehicle use, other than those already adopted for all other hunting activities. This includes both public and private land.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to see the restriction on the use of motorized vehicles during the last two weeks of moose season lifted. I have not found any such restrictions in any other part of the state. It basically closes off access to land for most people. It definitely closes hunting for the older hunters or those who can't walk far during the best part of the season. Not even landowners or those with access to private ground can drive a motor vehicle or atv as transport so packing an animal out very far from a legal jump off point restricts, severely, the options available for going afield for moose. Again the disabled and aged can't go out to hunt because they can't retrieve the animal if they were successful.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I have talked to numerous individuals with some hunting public ground and some on private ground. I've talked to wildlife troopers also and none, so far, can explain this restriction especially on private lands. No one seems to know why this was ever put in place or why it restricts such access on the last two weeks of the season, arguably the best time to get out.

PROPOSED BY: Don Bumbalough (OI-F25-026)

PROPOSAL 102

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Remove the motorized vehicle restriction for hunting moose within the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I want to recommend that this restriction be removed in its entirety. Having hunted this area for several years I have observed that this restriction is no longer useful.

The new regulation would remain the same except for the removal of the non-motorized restriction language.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to address the non-motorized restrictions in Unit 15 that occur during two separate periods during the last two weeks of moose season.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Robert Mathis (OI-F25-013)

PROPOSAL 103

5 AAC 92.540. Controlled use areas.

Allow the use of motorized vehicles to hunt moose on the weekends only, after the first week of the season within the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area - Unit 15C is closed to anyone using motorized vehicle (except an aircraft or boat)for moose hunting, including the transportation of moose hunters, their gear, and/ or parts of moose, **after the first week in September after moose hunting is opened. Motorized vehicle usage will will not be allowed during the weekdays, motorized vehicle will be allowed on the weekends (Saturday & Sunday) through the open moose hunting season.** However, this does not apply to the use of a motorized vehicle on state or borough maintained highway or on graveled portions of Oil well, Brody and Tustumena Lake roads, or driveways used for direct access to primary residence or business.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The proposal I would like to submit is - that after the first week that moose hunting is open to the general hunt, to restrict the use of motorized vehicle, in Unit 15C to just weekend travel. Motorized vehicle usage to Saturday and Sunday only.

This proposal will give hunters the opportunity to get into the hunting area and establish their camps during the first week of hunting, and would afford the hunters time to hunt, and then on Saturday and Sunday to transport any meat that was harvested during the hunt.

There has been studies on the the damage to the terrain in Unit 15c (which is the head waters too many salmon streams). If we do not become proactive, about limiting the amount of motorized vehicle damage to the environment it could be possible that we lose access to this hunting area.

We have some game cameras and we see motorized vehicle all day, and throughout the night, even during times that it is closed to motorized vehicle.

This would also give hunters, quiet time.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Arn Johnson (OI-F25-148)

PROPOSAL 104

5 AAC 92.540(4)(B). Controlled use areas.

Allow the use motorized vehicles for moose hunting from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. during September 16-19 and 22-25, in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Unit 15C is closed to motorized vehicles (except for aircraft or boat) for moose hunting, including the transportation of moose hunters, their hunting gear, and/or parts of moose, from September 16-19 and 22-25. However this does not apply to the use of motorized vehicles in the night hours of 10 p.m. - 5 a.m. or use on borough maintained highway or gravel portions of Oilwell, Brody, and Tustumena lake roads or driveways uses for direct access to primary residence or business.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I'd like to address the motorized vehicle closure days for moose hunting in Unit 15C.

My proposal is, make it legal or allowable to use motorized vehicles from the hours of 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. on the days of September 16-19 and 22-25.

It will give the hunters that don't have a safe/permanent camp, access at night to their hunting areas. (Without disturbing those that choose to stay in camp for the full four days.)

Those that decide to stay at their permanent camps will have the luxury of transporting their meat back to camp from the kill site on those night hours.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I talked to local hunters that agreed to this proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Basargin (OI-F25-012)

PROPOSAL 105

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Close Dall sheep hunting on the Kenai Peninsula in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.055 should be amended so as to delete those parts of 5 AAC 85.055 which provide for any hunting of Dall Sheep in Units 7 and 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The hunting of Dall Sheep on the Kenai Peninsula should be closed so that a sustainable population of Dall Sheep will be preserved on the Kenai Peninsula for future generations of Alaskans who wish to view these magnificent animals on the Kenai Peninsula. Department comments provided to the Board in 2023 indicated that the average harvest of Dall Sheep on the Kenai Peninsula, including Federal subsistence harvest, was six sheep per year and that the Round Mountain and Crescent Lake areas had not been open to harvest in recent years because of lack of legal rams. Department comments also indicated that the population of Dall Sheep on the Kenai Peninsula had declined by 80% since the 1960's. Nevertheless, the Department authorized continued hunting of the remnant populations of Dall Sheep on the Kenai Peninsula justifying its recommendation on the theory that hunting regulated by full curl management negated any concerns that hunting and harvest might negatively impact sheep population levels. The Department's theory is only a theory and it has not worked to restore the populations of these animals. It is time to try something new, namely no hunting or harvest. Hunters disturb these animals by hunting them. Hunters take the largest and strongest rams from the population. Dall Sheep hunting is trophy hunting, and many more Alaskans treasure these animals for viewing than Alaskans who harvest these animals on the Kenai Peninsula.

When and only if the populations of Dall Sheep on the Kenai Peninsula recover to numbers similar to those seen historically, hunting could be authorized at future Board meetings. It's time to see if the elimination of hunting will have a positive effect.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-055)

PROPOSAL 106

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Change the general season sheep hunts in Units 7 and 15 to registration hunts with hunt areas set by ADF&G as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.055

...

(4)

Remainder of Unit 7 and Unit 15

Resident Hunters:

1 ram with full-curl horn or larger, **per lifetime of a hunter**, by youth hunt **registration permit**; Aug. 1-Aug. 5

or

1 ram with full-curl horn or larger, **by registration permit only**; Aug. 10-Sept. 20

Nonresident Hunters:

1 ram with full-curl horn or larger, **per lifetime of a hunter**, by youth hunt registration permit; Aug. 1-Aug. 5

or

1 ram with full-curl horn or larger every 4 regulatory years, **by registration permit only** Aug. 10-Sept. 20

With registration permit boundaries to be set by ADF&G

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Given the significant decline in the Kenai population of sheep, I believe it is critical to transition from a general harvest ticket hunt to a registration hunt system to better manage and protect the remaining animals. Historically, the maximum sheep count peaked at 2,191 in 1968; however, today the count has plummeted to just 351. Harvest data reflects this troubling trend: the average annual harvest has decreased from 31 sheep between 1985–2004, to 12 sheep from 2005–2014, and now only 7 sheep from 2015–2024. Despite increasingly restrictive regulations — evolving from a $\frac{3}{4}$ curl ram in 1960 to a full curl ram by 1989 — the population has continued to decline. Given these alarming numbers and the clear trajectory of population loss, a registration hunt structure would allow for tighter, more responsive management practices by allowing managers to close certain sub districts/subpopulations with low abundance, ensuring harvest levels are sustainable and aligned with conservation goals to better manage this population.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed with information ADF&G staff provided to the Homer Advisory Committee. The AC had other proposals that were being worked on and this did not make it on the agenda. I still think this is an important issue and should be considered by the board.

PROPOSED BY: Doug Mitke (OI-F25-166)

PROPOSAL 107

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Change the Dall sheep hunts in Units 7 and 15 to drawing hunts with season dates of August 10-September 20 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change Unit 7 and 15 to a draw only hunt unitwide for Dall sheep due to decades long declines with a season from August 10-September 20 until a unit wide survey and information and planning can be provided on the rehabilitation efforts from the recent forest fire and 1970 ADF&G Sheep cull.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Dall Sheep in Units 7 and 15 have some of the steepest declines in the Country. I ask the board to decrease hunting opportunities, request a region wide survey and get information on the effects of the 1970 ADF&G sheep culling that effectively removed large portions of sheep from several mountains and permanently changed the way sheep are surveyed on the Kenai.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-162)

PROPOSAL 108

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Change all or some of the general season sheep hunts in Units 7 and 15 to archery only hunts as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Unit 7 Remainder: **One ram** with full-curl horn or larger by **Bow and Arrow** *only

AND/OR

Unit 15* Remainder: **One ram** with full-curl horn or larger by **Bow and Arrow*** only

*This could also be done for any particular subunit of Unit 15

*Certified Bowhunters only

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

For many years the general season Unit 7 and 15 Remainder sheep harvest was around 20 rams per year but due to permanent and ever worsening habitat changes, the harvest, particularly in Unit 7 has been in the very low single digits. The Kenai sheep population is obviously in decline. Accordingly, hunter interest has generally dropped off as well with few hunters going into the Kenai Mountains each year because they know the chance of finding a legal ram there is quite low especially considering that some of the areas are relatively close to population centers and that rams will often be killed shortly after reaching legal status. Throughout the state various management strategies have been implemented when populations are in decline. In Unit 14 to the north, almost all sheep hunting has been reduced to draw permit only. In Unit 19C we've seen an array of closures proposed and passed in recent years. Sadly, it appears that more such regulation might be on the horizon for other parts of the state and the Kenai sheep population is likely to be one of those areas.

This proposal offers a novel strategy that could both revitalize interest in hunting these areas, maintaining the same hunter opportunity we have now while further reducing actual harvest through the utilization of a weapons restricted hunt. There is strong precedent for this in British Columbia and Alberta where registration/OTC archery only sheep hunts have proven very popular and sustainable. There is a growing interest in the challenge of archery hunting for sheep and I believe strongly that transitioning the sheep hunting in Units 7 and 15 remainder HT hunts to archery only there will be a revival in sheep hunting interest in these areas. After a few years of this management style it's likely that some mature rams who would not have survived a rifle season will grow older and larger, thereby even further increasing the interest and opportunity in this area.

There is essentially no downside to this proposal for sheep hunters because, unlike a draw hunt or a closure, everyone can still hunt every season. They just have to accept a little more challenge in the actual stalk once a legal ram is found (and it's likely that after a few years of this strategy there will be more legal rams on that landscape!)

Those who may claim that this hunt caters to a special interest group of bowhunters are simply wrong. Essentially any person physically capable of sheep hunting can easily learn to shoot a modern bow in just a little more time than it takes to become proficient with a hunting rifle. (For those with medical issues that prevent use of archery equipment the ADF&G regulations already contains provisions allowing them to hunt with alternative means.) No one would be excluded from this hunt and I believe ultimately it will garner attention from around the world as a place to pursue mature rams with archery equipment.

With an already greatly waning interest in hunting this area (single digit hunters have pursued the HT remainder hunt in Unit 15 remainder in recent years and the numbers hunting in Unit 7 remainder has decreased from well over a hundred 20 years ago to the 20's or 30's per year now) creating an exciting new hunt that fosters more mature ram and the challenge of a fair chase archery hunt could revitalize interest in the area during a time when sheep hunting is generally in decline while at the same time reducing the actual harvest. This is a win-win for everyone, especially the sheep.

Based on current surveys, Board of Game discretion and ADF&G input this could be implemented for all of the Units 7 and 15 remainder HT areas or it could be targeted at just one unit or subunit as a proof of concept.

In short, we should change all or some of the harvest ticket hunts in Units 7 and 15 to archery only to increase opportunity/enthusiasm while simultaneously decreasing actual harvest/population impact.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-211)

PROPOSAL 109

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the DS150 sheep drawing hunt in Units 7 and 15A. to to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DS150 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DS150.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-134)

PROPOSAL 110

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Open a drawing permit hunt for goat in an area of Unit 7, east of the Russian River, south of Kenai River and West of Copper River as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I would like to see an additional goat tag for the mountains east of the Russian River, south of the Kenai River, west of Cooper River.

One goat by permit, Aug. 10 – Oct. 15th.

Map shown below for mountain goats.



What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There is a population of goats within this mountain range that has no tag. I would like to see a draw tag for one goat for this area.

One goat by permit, Aug. 10–Oct, 15th.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins

(HQ-F25-004)

PROPOSAL 111

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Create a new registration, archery only hunt for goat in Unit 7 Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Create a new registration hunt for mountain goat by bow and arrow only in Unit 7, Remainder as follows:

Hunt Number: RGXXX

Season Dates: August 16 - 31

Hunt Type: Registration

Species: Mountain Goat

Legal Animal: Either sex, taking of nannies with kids is prohibited; however, if you harvest a nanny you will be prohibited from taking a goat in Units 7 and 15 for five regulatory years.

Open to: Residents and Nonresidents by bow and arrow only

Quota to be set based on latest population data and extrapolated to comparable local draw areas.

Sealing would be required at the local ADF&G office.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Allowing a short, early archery season for mountain goats would afford more hunting opportunity while at the same time limiting harvest. The nature of this being a registration hunt would alleviate any conservation concern as the department would be fully monitoring the take. The early Lake George goat hunt is a great example of an added opportunity limited to archery equipment.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Combined Board of the Alaskan Bowhunters Association

PROPOSED BY: Alaskan Bowhunters Association (OI-F25-203)

PROPOSAL 112

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Create a registration archery only hunt for goat in Units 7 and 15, prior to general registration hunts as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

RG*** 1 goat by Bow and Arrow only, by permit available in Anchorage, Palmer or online

October 25-October 31 may be announced

Alternative date could be November 1-7 which would shift the general registration hunts to November 8-15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to see the Board of Game increase archery goat hunting opportunity by allowing for an archery registration hunt prior to the general registration hunt in situations where registration hunts following the draw hunts are deemed appropriate.

It’s my understanding that if the harvest numbers in DG331-352, DG364, DG365 and DG352-363 are low enough in a given hunt area, corresponding RG hunt(s) will be opened. The DG hunts have an open season from August 10 through October 15 and the RG hunts, if opened, start November 1. The 15 day window between the DG and RG hunts likely allows ADF&G to receive hunt reports (10 day reporting requirement if successful).

This proposal supports creating a short archery-only registration goat hunt between the closure of the DG and the opening of any RG hunts that are deemed appropriate. This could be any time window that ADF&G feels is appropriate but November 1-7 might be a good option that would essentially split the existing registration hunt. Another option, if feasible would be to have it from October 25th until November 1.

Either way, this is similar to how the registration archery hunts in unit 14 precede the registration general hunt. This proposal would follow that precedent by increasing hunter opportunity. At the same time, based on very low archery success rates in existing registration hunts, these archery hunts are very unlikely to have any meaningful impact on goat populations or on the hunting opportunity of the following general season hunt.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-210)

PROPOSAL 113

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG332, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG332 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG332.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-088)

PROPOSAL 114

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG334 to UP TO 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG334 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by non-residents for drawing hunt DG334.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-089)

PROPOSAL 115

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG338, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit non-resident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG338 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG338.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-090)

PROPOSAL 116

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG339, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG339 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG339.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-091)

PROPOSAL 117

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG342 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG342 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG342.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-092)

PROPOSAL 118

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG343 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG343 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least give permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG343.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-093)

PROPOSAL 119

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG344 to “up to”20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG344 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG344.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-094)

PROPOSAL 120

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG345 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG345 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG345.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-095)

PROPOSAL 121

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG346 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG346 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG346.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-096)

PROPOSAL 122

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG347 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG347 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG347.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-097)

PROPOSAL 123

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG351 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG351 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG351.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-098)

PROPOSAL 124

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 7 goat drawing hunt DG352 to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG352 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG352.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-099)

PROPOSAL 125

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG354, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG354 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG354.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by non-residents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided non-residents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-111)

PROPOSAL 126

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG356, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG356 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG356.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-112)

PROPOSAL 127

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG357, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG357 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG357.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-113)

PROPOSAL 128

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG358, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG358 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG358.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-114)

PROPOSAL 129

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG359, to "up to" 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG359 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG359.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by no-residents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-115)

PROPOSAL 130

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG360, to “up to”20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG360 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG360.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-116)

PROPOSAL 131

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG361, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG361 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG361.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-117)

PROPOSAL 132

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG362, to “up to”20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG362 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG362.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-118)

PROPOSAL 133

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 15C goat drawing hunt DG363, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG363 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG363.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-119)

PROPOSAL 134

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Shorten the resident hunting season, reduce the bag limit from three to one, and require registration permits for hunting black bear in a portion of Units 7 and 15. Additionally, close the nonresident season as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

(a) In this section, the phrase "General hunt only" means that there is a general hunt for residents, but no subsistence hunt, during the relevant open season. For those units or portions of units within non-subsistence areas established by the Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game (5 AAC 99.015), there is a general hunt only. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear are as follows:

Units and Bag Limits

Resident

Open Season

(Subsistence and

General Hunts)

Nonresident

Open Season

(3) Unit 7, that portion south of the city limits of Seward at 60° 04' 58" N. lat., and Unit 15, that portion south of Kachemak Creek, Bradley River, and Bradley

RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear by drawing permit only; up to 500 permits may be issued

Sept. 1 - June 30 [3 bears No closed season.]

(General Hunt Only) **NONRESIDENT HUNTER: No open season** [1 bear No closed season.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Nonresident and some resident hunters have been coming from outside of the Unit 15C south of Kachemak Bay area, trespassing on private land, Native Allotment land, and Village Corporation land to hunt for black bears. An excessive amount of black bears are taken every year by nonresidents and residents that live outside of the area. There is an adequate black bear population to hunt in the Kenai Peninsula in Units 15 and 7 outside of hunt in Unit 15C south of Bradley River, Bradley Lake, and Kachemak Creek. The hunt should be reserved for residents only, and the hunt should be reduced to one bear every regulatory year by permit. Resident hunters usually harvest one bear a year and see that as an adequate hunt, and the proposal will reflect that.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed with the Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC).

PROPOSED BY: Quentin McMullen (OI-F25-154)

PROPOSAL 135

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Board of Game Finding #2015-211-BOG: Recommendation to ADF&G Provided during the Southcentral Region meeting

Change the 2015 Board of Game findings to manage the mortality cap in Units 7 and 15 from a calendar year to a regulatory year or split the mortality cap into spring and fall caps as follows.

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change the RB300 brown bear registration hunt to a regulatory year framework.

The 2015-211-BOG Finding (below) directs the Department to manage the RB300 brown bear hunt and mortality caps on a calendar year framework. With the extension of the spring brown bear baiting season, this likely guarantees that the season will close by emergency order prior to June 30th, as it did last year, resulting in a complete loss of fall season hunting opportunity.

Changing the RB300 hunt to a regulatory year framework would start us off on July 1st every year in which mortality caps come into play. This ensures a fall season will take place.

The spring season will likely still be closed by emergency order at some point if the season remains the same due to mortality caps being reached, but moving to a regulatory year framework allows hunting opportunity for both the spring and fall seasons.

We considered recommending shortening the spring season to end on June 15th but believe this is a better option than shortening the spring season as it may allow the spring season to continue beyond June 15th.

Based on discussions with Department biologists, we do not support increasing the mortality caps.

Recommended changes to the Findings for the Alaska Board of Game

New Text **underlined** [DELETED TEXT BRACKETED]

2015-211-BOG

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by Department staff, Alaska residents and other wildlife users:

The Board recommended the Department take the following management action:

Establish a maximum human-caused mortality quota of no more than 50-60 brown

bears, with no more than 8-12 of these adult (at least 5 years old) sows, [PER CALENDAR YEAR] **per regulatory year** beginning after January 1, 2015, for Units 7 and 15.

Other Options

Another option the board could consider is breaking up the mortality caps into separate spring and fall season caps. For example: the spring season could close by EO if eight sows are taken, to include both hunting caused mortality and non-hunting mortality. That leaves four sows left on the cap for the fall season. The total bear harvest cap could also be similarly separated out.

Unit 7 and 15 could also have separate mortality caps.

Again, the primary goal of this proposal is to ensure there is some guaranteed fall brown bear hunting opportunity.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Loss of fall RB300 brown bear hunting opportunity in Units 7 and 15.

At the previous 2023 Region II meeting, the board passed Proposal 134, which extended the RB300 brown bear spring season 30 days and opened the fall season 20 days earlier. The RB300 brown bear season is currently August 10 – June 30.

These are the Department’s comments on Proposal 134: *“The proposed increased season length, which will allow hunters to harvest brown bears over bait, will likely increase spring brown bear harvest and adult female harvest based on previous harvest trends. This additional harvest in the spring will likely result in seasons closing by Emergency Order when mortality caps are reached, which will reduce fall harvest opportunities.”*

The extension of the spring baiting season by 30 days led to exactly what the Department said in their comments would likely happen: brown bear harvests overall increased and the sow mortality cap was reached, resulting in the RB300 hunt being closed by emergency order on June 27, 2024. While the spring 2025 harvest is yet unknown, it seems likely the longer RB300 spring season will continue to result in an emergency order to close the hunt down due to either reaching the maximum human caused mortality of brown bears or the maximum human caused mortality of sows.

Below is a chart from ADF&G showing the hunting mortality and non-hunting human caused mortality of all brown bears in Units 7 & 15 for calendar years 2023 and 2024:

Table 1. Annual occurrences of known human-caused mortalities of brown bears in Game Management Units 7 & 15 in Alaska.

Calendar Year	Hunting Mortality	Non-Hunting Human Caused Mortality	Total
2023	41	7	48
2024	56	9	65

As you can see, more bears overall were taken by hunting after the season was extended in 2023.

The next chart below includes only sows, showing that more sows were taken by hunting after the season was extended in 2023.

Table 2. Annual occurrences of known human-caused mortalities of adult female brown bears in Game Management Units 7 & 15 in Alaska.

Calendar Year	Hunting Mortality	Non-Hunting Human Caused Mortality	Total
2023	7	3	10
2024	10	4	14

The next chart below shows sow hunting harvest dates in Units 7 and 15 for the 2024 spring season, showing that 60% of the sow harvest occurred during the June extension of the spring season:

Table 3. Date of Kill and bait usage of adult female brown bears harvested in Game Manager Units 7 & 15 in Alaska.

DOK	Bait
5/9/2024	Y
5/13/2024	N
5/16/2024	Y
5/23/2024	Y
6/15/2024	Y
6/17/2024	Y
6/21/2024	Y
6/21/2024	Y
6/24/2024	Y
6/25/2024	N

The goal of this proposal is to ensure that there is an opportunity to harvest a brown bear under the RB300 registration hunt during the fall season in Units 7 and 15.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

RHAK always contacts department biologists when working on proposals. Thanks to department staff for answering questions and providing harvest information!

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (OI-F25-186)

PROPOSAL 136

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Change the management of the RB300 brown bear mortality cap in Units 7 and 15 from a calendar year to a regulatory year as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

“In Units 15 and 7 change the management year for brown bear from the calendar year to the regulatory year.”

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current management year for brown bears in Units 7 and 15 is the calendar year, whereas all other big game is managed by regulatory year.

Changing the management plan to regulatory year would simplify the regulations and improve predictability of open season for hunters hoping to harvest brown bears during moose season in the fall.

This should be considered as housekeeping.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Discussed with regional area biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Dave Lyon (OI-F25-185)

PROPOSAL 137

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Remove the current harvest cap for the RB300 hunt in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Remove the current quota on Kenai bears unless there is conservation concern.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Currently, there is no conservation concern with Kenai brown bears and the majority of the bears are in hard to reach and in accessible or unhuntable places by federal regulation. Survey data shows the large majority of Kenai bears are in Unit 15B and only accessed by two major lakes, covered by federal management and restrictions to access. Over regulation of this hunt is limiting opportunity when no unit-wide survey having been done in over a decade. Even the previous surveys were done on the protected refuge after two plus months of baiting was done out of the area leading to a lower population survey. Hunters can currently hunt a very low portion of the bear habitat on the Kenai and a fraction of the area can be hunted over bait. The point being now matter how many bears are taken in huntable areas, hunters with currently federap regulations couldn't hunt out the Kenai bear.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-161)

PROPOSAL 138

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Reduce the brown bear hunting season in Units 7 and 15 by 15 days as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Units 7 and 15 One bear every regulatory year by RB300 permit.

Resident and Nonresident season: August 10 to **June 15** [June 30]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Reduce the season length for brown bear hunting by 15 days.

When Board of Game adopted a proposal to extend brown bear hunting season from September 1 through May 31st to August 10th to June 30th in Units 7 and 15, some hunters and biologists believed the longer spring season would result in exceeding the quota and a closure of the fall season. Since this extended season has only been in place since RY24, only one year of complete is available. Fish and Game data reveals 10 females, five years old or older, were reported during spring of 2024. Chronology of harvest indicates five were taken from May 9th to June 15th (50%) and five from June 17th to June 25th (50%).

Allowable harvest of brown bear in Units 7 and 15 is managed on a quota system to assure a sustainable level of annual harvest is not exceeded. Fifty to sixty brown bear can be taken, from all causes of mortality, or 8-12 females five years old or older. Prior to the extended season, that has been in place since 2014, the season has only been closed one time by the state in late October, after fall hunting was essentially over. Following the harvest of 10 adult females during the spring 2024 season plus four non-hunting adult female mortalities, the 2024 fall season was closed in Units 7 and 15 because the 14 adult females taken exceeded the quota of 8-12.

Since few brown bear are taken during the fall, a reduction of 15 days in June will likely reduce adult female harvest and allow for a fall season. After last fall's closure, there was widespread complaining, primarily from moose hunters, that they could not hunt for brown bear. This sentiment added to the conflict between bear hunters using bait sites and those that didn't use the method.

If adopted, this will be a reduction in hunting opportunity by 15 days in the spring. However, it will still allow two months of hunting using bait in the spring and hopefully avoid the closure of the fall season.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes with many local hunters.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Spraker (OI-F25-031)

PROPOSAL 139

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Shorten the brown bear hunting seasons in Units 7 and 15, and divide the RB300 hunt into spring and fall hunts, with each having separate caps as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I suggest to provide for both fall and spring opportunities. We reset the dates to October 1 which was originally used to prevent incidental take during moose season and a spring date of June 15. Then break RB300 into two separate hunts including a RB301 hunt for Unit 7. Then each having their own quota of 10 breeding age sows in a calendar which includes DLP and roadside incidents.

I would support the board using discretion on a change on the quota numbers here based on recent department data, but only if it doesn't decrease below 10 for both units

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

RB300 brown bear hunt. In 2024, the hunt closed just a few days early in the spring and closed entirely for the fall. This was due to the sow limit of ten bears based on data that is over 15 years old.

The problem with this hunt is that one quota is used for two entire game units and the survey data used did not include the majority of the areas currently baited but rather in the refuge areas, this survey also was done after bears were baited out of the area for the three previous months at a time when food sources were low. We are currently treating two entire game units as one population of animals, when the bears of the Hope and Girdwood are not traveling to Homer. The best bear habitat on the Kenai is around Russian River to Tustamena and a large part of this area is inaccessible or very difficult to spot and stalk. Which is why 80 percent of the baits in the State are in these units.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I have spoken with many hunters, biologists and subject matter experts on this.

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-004)

PROPOSAL 140

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Restrict hunters who take a sow brown bear in Units 7 and 15 from hunting RB300 for two to four years as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

My solution to the harvest of sow brown bears in Uunits 7 and 15 would be to make whoever harvest a brown bear sow ineligible to register for the RB300 tag for two – four years

This would perhaps make it like mountain goats where very minor consequence for failing to ID bear but enough to catch people attention and might make people be more picky and target male bears thus making our seasons stay open longer with the lower number of sows getting shot overall.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The harvesting of too many sow brown bears on the peninsula and closure of seasons due to going over the quota of sows

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I'm a new guide myself but have hunting this area for a few years now but after listening and experiencing season closures seeing people not care about identifying bears or just not knowing there's a quota on sows I and others I've talked to feel that we either need to get rid of the quotas all together or as get people to pay attention alittle more so our season may be open longer for everyone.

PROPOSED BY: Garrett Becker (OI-F25-063)

PROPOSAL 141

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

When the lynx trapping season is open in Units 7 and 15, season dates will be December 15 through the last day of February as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change the wording/add language in 5 AAC 84.270 (5) as follows: (Bold text is addition)

5 AAC 84.270 (5) Lynx; Units 7 and 15: **Dec 15** [NOV 10] through the last day of February, Season may be closed by Emergency Order, **Season dates shall not change by Emergency Order**

Other possible solutions: Other dates giving a longer season, such as Dec. 1- end Feb., or Jan. 1- March 15.

If the Board of Game is unwilling to add the bolded text, perhaps consider directing the Department to offer a longer season.

Another idea would involve a seasonal limit per trapper in conjunction with longer season.

This change will provide fair opportunity for Unit 7 and 15 trappers, and provide a little breathing room to just pull traps during poor weather weeks and re-set when conditions improve, without having to rush around during the current six week season, shortened by EO annually. We will be better able to closely follow the Trappers Code of Ethics with regard to proper humane methods, loss prevention, fur care, concentrating in abundant areas only (cant see tracks on ice crust or rain wash), all promoting sound management and good ethics.

Thank you for your service and thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I'd like to address the limited opportunity for lynx trapping in Units 7 and 15. The regulation booklet states the season runs from January 1 through February 15, which has been done by Emergency Order (EO) annually for 20 plus years. The codified language reads differently: 5 AAC 84.270 states November 10 - end February, unless closed by EO. It seems the Department is using this EO authority to shorten the season every year, even during high abundance. This gives only a six week season for trapping lynx in Units 7 and 15. Most of the state offers a several month season, even in Southeast where lynx are scarce.

Hares and lynx are both plentiful in cycle on the Kenai Peninsula. Lynx trapping involves many miles of travel and much distance between sets as they are solitary animals. The Kenai Peninsula is subject to extended freeze/thaw and heavy snow/rain cycles, making it difficult to maintain viable sets and to keep checking in a timely fashion in these typical weather conditions. Most trappers in this area are, while numerous, are casual in nature or “hobby trappers.” Lynx fur primes up here in early December and remains good through early March.

It is noted that the lynx- hare cycle is the most cited and reliable predator- prey cycle in nature. I fully support the season closure during a few years of low abundance at the bottom of the lynx population cycle, but I’d like to see more opportunity when plentiful, like the rest of the state.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

To address these two problems of minimal opportunity and annual management by EO, I offer the the solution which has been vetted extensively with the Homer Advisory Committee, local trappers, and ADF&G, along with some alternative ideas.

PROPOSED BY: Douglas Malone (OI-F25-190)

PROPOSAL 142

5 AAC 84.270 (5). Furbearer trapping.

5 AAC 85.060. Seasons and bag limits for fur animals.

Lengthen the trapping and hunting seasons for lynx in Units 15 and 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 84.270 (5) Lynx. Trapping and Hunting seasons for Lynx

Lengthen season for trapping and hunting lynx in Unit 15 and 7 as follows:

December 15 [JANUARY 1] through February 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Currently lynx trapping seasons in Units 7 and 15 are January 1-February 15 opened by emergency order. The season is managed to coincide with the snowshoe hare cycle only opened in times of abundance. The current season is very restrictive compared to the rest of the state. With the season closed in times of low abundance over-harvest of the resource is not a concern. In times of abundance the management strategy is to harvest from the larger population, with this strategy a slightly lengthen season would optimize sustained yield practices. With time getting gear in the field and sometimes harsh weather conditions some sets only operate for 2-3 weeks. I propose a December 15- February 15 trapping season for lynx in times of abundance. It would allow a greater utilization of the resource in times of significant spikes in lynx numbers.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Spoke with other trappers and wildlife biologists about the proposed changes.

PROPOSED BY: Tom Nelson (OI-F25-062)

PROPOSAL 143

5 AAC 84.270(5). Furbearer trapping.

Lengthen the trapping season for lynx in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Lynx Trapping Units 7 and 15

Open Season: December 1st - February 15th

Limit: No Limit

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Lynx trapping season is currently out of alignment with wolf and coyote trapping seasons in Units 7 and 15. Lynx caught incidentally in wolf and coyote sets prior to season opening need to be turned over to the state. I'm hesitant to set traps for wolf and coyote prior to lynx season opening to avoid incidental take of lynx. I feel this is a handicap. I also feel it should be up to the trapper to determine when they would like to start targeting lynx based on pelt primness. Southeast Units currently open December 1st and I do not believe lynx in that area become prime prior to those on the Kenai Peninsula. I believe lynx are being caught prior to the season and not being reported. The agency would get more information on harvested cats if the season was open earlier.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: John and Debbie Dahman (OI-F25-015)

PROPOSAL 144

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Lengthen the trapping season for lynx in Units 7 and 15 to align with Units 6 and 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Lynx Units 7 and 15.....Nov 10 - Feb 28thNo limit

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Increase season dates for lynx to in Unit 7 and 15 to match Units 6 and 14C, Nov. 10 – Feb. 28th.

The trapping data for reported harvest shows increased harvest, which indicates increase population: Region 2: 2018- 15, 2019- 15, 2020- 49, 2021- 141, 2022- 233, 2023- 250

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

With an increase in Lynx numbers on the kenai, please increase the trapping dates to be more liberal.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins (HQ-F25-006)

PROPOSAL 145

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Establish trapping and snaring buffers along specific roads and pullouts in and around Cooper Landing in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

ADD Regulatory Language for Unit 7: “Trap and snare setback of 100-yards on both sides of roads and all sides of pullouts listed, unless the traps are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed roads and pull-outs if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below-listed roads and pullouts, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the trail.

- Quartz Creek Road - Quartz Creek Road from its intersection with the Sterling Highway to the powerline crossing at approximately mile 2.5
- Quartz Creek Road - From powerline crossing to Crescent Creek Trailhead at mile 3.5 (used in winter for skiing)
- East Quartz Creek and Williams Road - Entire East Quartz Creek Road from its intersection with Quartz Creek Road and Williams Road
- Old Sterling Highway (unmaintained portion of Quartz Creek Road) - Old Sterling Highway from the Crescent Creek Trailhead to Tern Lake Rest and Picnic area
- Snug Harbor Road - The first 2.8 miles of Snug Harbor Road from its intersection with the Sterling Highway to the entrance of the Chugach Electric Power Station

- Bean Creek Road - The entire distance from the Sterling Highway to the end.
- West Juneau Bench Road/Chunkwood Rd - Pullout at mile 53.25 Sterling Highway to its intersection with Resurrection Trail.
- All DOT designated vehicle pullouts along 18 miles of the Sterling Highway, from Tern Lake to the Russian River Ferry and Boat Launch

The precedent for establishing trapping and snaring buffers for public safety along multi-use trails in the State of Alaska has already been set, most recently, in the Mat-Su Valley, where 50-yard setbacks were established for nine trails that both recreational users and the ATA mutually agreed on. The Alaska Supreme Court upheld Valdez’s trapping ordinance, confirming the city’s authority to regulate trapping within home rule municipality for safety reasons. In 2023, Cordova created a special use map that closed trapping in part of the municipality and created trap setbacks of 200 yards from publicly maintained roads for traps larger than a 120 conibear, and a 200-yard setback for a popular trail. Juneau has trap setbacks of 1/4 mile. The Municipality of Anchorage, parts of Chugach State Park, and other areas in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough have existing trap setback laws. While these municipalities and boroughs have approved trapping regulations on lands they manage, they have not issued regulations for state- managed trails in deference to the regulatory powers of the Board of Game. We are requesting the Board of Game to modify this situation in our area.

Unit	Road or Pullout Name:	Description	Winter Uses
7	Quartz Creek Road	Quartz Creek Road from its intersection with the Sterling Highway to the powerline crossing at approximately mile 2.5. Borough maintained.	Walking, hiking, fat tire biking
7	Quartz Creek Road	From powerline crossing to Crescent Creek Trailhead at mile 3.5; winter groomed by Cooper Landing Nordic Ski Club	Cross-country skiing, skijoring, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, and access to backcountry skiing
7	East Quartz Creek and Williams Road	Entire East Quartz Creek Road from its intersection with Quartz Creek Road and Williams Road	Walking, hiking, fat tire biking,

7	Old Sterling Highway (unmaintained portion of Quartz Creek Road)	Old Sterling Highway from the Crescent Creek Trailhead to Tern Lake Rest and Picnic area	Cross-country skiing, access to backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, skijoring, snowmachining
7	Snug Harbor Road	The first 2.8 miles of Snug Harbor Road from its intersection with the Sterling Highway to the entrance of the Chugach Electric Power Station	Walking, hiking, fat tire biking
7	Bean Creek Road	The entire distance. This road is mainly surrounded by private property, but traps can be set unless posted.	Walking, hiking, fat tire biking
7	Russian Gap Road	The entire distance. This road is mainly surrounded by private property, but traps can be set unless posted.	Walking, hiking, and fat-tire biking
7	All DOT designated vehicle pullouts along 18 miles of the Sterling Highway	Pullouts along the Sterling Highway from its junction with the Seward Highway at Tern Lake to the entrance of the Russian River Ferry and Boat Launch	People use these pullouts to let their animals and children take bathroom breaks, stretch their legs, take in the views, and gear up for backcountry activities
7	West Juneau Bench Road/Chunkwood Rd. USGS Maps Seward B8, C8 and D8	From the Sterling Highway pullout at mile 53.25 just west of the southern Resurrection Trail trailhead, continuing to its intersection with the Resurrection Trail.	Skiing, snowshoeing, skijoring, fat tire biking, snowmachining walking, new access to parcel 395, cabin access

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We are requesting that the Board of Game amend Alaska Administrative Code No. 5 AAC 92.550 to establish a 100-yard trapping and buffers along both sides of roads and all sides of pullouts listed and described in the table provided, unless they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed areas if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under

ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below-listed areas, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the roads or pullouts.

The purpose of this proposal is to create a solution to the growing conflict between recreational land use and trapping in a manner that protects the safety of individuals, families, and pets when using the most popular roads and pullouts in the Cooper Landing area. Reports of dangerous encounters are considered incomplete because land managers and law enforcement do not track trap injury incidents, and there is no database for community documentation. As of late February 2022, seven dogs had been caught in traps throughout Southcentral Alaska, and two dogs were killed, as reported via the Alaska Press. Bird dogs are typically well-behaved and respond to strict voice commands. However, there was a fatality where a trap had been placed 50 feet from the road. Search and rescue dog owners have expressed concerns about the safety of their dogs during emergency missions. Incidents of abandoned or “ghost traps” found at the Russian River Falls Trailhead and Williams Beach increase the community’s fear of risk.

Why should this regulation be amended?

The District Ranger for the Chugach National Forest supports proposals for regulatory measures of 100- yard setbacks and trapline signage. It is the intention of the NFS to allow all user groups to utilize multi- use public lands safely, and to balance the opportunities for all. *See attachment*

The community of Cooper Landing supports trap and snare setbacks to create a safe buffer in and around popular areas utilized for winter recreation. A 2021 survey by the Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee resulted in 90% support for trap setbacks. Many respondents requested setbacks of ¼ to 1 mile. This was an increase from 83% in 2015, which favored setbacks from a similar survey. Many commented on the emotional stress and fear when taking their families, children and pets to favorite recreational places due to the danger of encountering a trap. This safety concern grows as Cooper Landing residents' demographics change to a younger, more outdoor enthusiast-oriented population.

This proposal targets several roads and pullouts in our area used by those who cross-country ski, snowshoe, hike, fat tire bike, skijor, snow machine, and train search-and-rescue dogs. Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of Cooper Landing’s economy. Cooper Landing’s primary economy is based on summer recreation and tourism; however, year-round recreational activity is expected to increase with the anticipated bypass highway completion and the addition of Three Bears grocery store in the future. Local businesses desire to extend their seasonal offerings to encourage the increasing number of family- friendly, active, outdoor recreational pursuits (e.g. winter biking, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail running, ice fishing, bird hunting, and backcountry cabin rentals). The proposed trapping setback benefits business owners who market Cooper Landing as a fun, safe, and uniquely beautiful area for visitors to enjoy with family and pets.

What other support do you have for developing your proposal?

- The Precautionary Principle is widely recognized in international law and policy. It suggests that if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the public or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically. We are seeking trapping regulations that will be preventative and ensure the safety of all area user groups reducing the risk of accidental encounters.

- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback is not significant enough to limit a trapper’s opportunity to trap near roads and pullouts. Proposing setbacks for *only the most popular and heavily used roads and pullouts* leaves all other areas unrestricted. Trappers who follow the Trapper’s Code of Ethics’ third tenet to “promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching non-target animals,” presumably set traps back from heavily used roads and pullouts.
- A former Cooper Landing trapper and trappers from other nearby Units have endorsed a 100-yard setback as reasonable and logical. The proposed 100-yard setbacks do not present an undue burden on trappers. The average backpacking speed is 1 to 2 miles per hour. Assuming trappers are walking between one and two miles per hour, the setback distances requested would require an additional two to three minutes of walking to place and check traps. Since many trappers use snow machines, the 100-yard setback could be crossed in less than 1 minute.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback would also align with the “Our Values Statement” set out by the U.S. Forest Service, which includes the intention of managing for “*Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social.*”
- The proposed 100-yard setback distance will not impact the Board of Game’s ability to manage wildlife along the listed roads and pullouts, though trapping nuisance wildlife may be required within the setback and environmentally necessary.
- The proposed trap setbacks have increasing community support in Cooper Landing. A 2015 survey indicated that 83% of the respondents supported trap setbacks; in 2021, a similar survey was conducted of property owners and residents of Cooper Landing, and the results showed an increase to 90% who felt that trap setbacks were necessary.
- As of the 2019 census, there are 741,147 residents of the state of Alaska. Based on sealing records, license sales, and the annual "Trapper Questionnaire," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates the number of trappers in the state between 2,500 to 3,500, meaning only .4% of the Alaskan population is actively trapping. By adopting this safe trapping regulation in Unit 7, the Board of Game would better represent the majority of constituents and the current area's recreational uses.

Note: The proposal submission included attachments which are available on the proposal book website at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook .

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several members of our Cooper Landing AC endorse this proposal and two members of the Cooper Landing Safe Trails have been trappers.

The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee met in April 2025 with members of the Southcentral Trappers Association to work together on solutions to reduce trap/pet conflicts; during the discussion, we gained a better understanding and appreciation of the trappers' concerns. Advocating for pet owner responsibility and not overreaching with more setback requests in the future were two concerns we heard clearly.

We took careful consideration of all land users while drafting this proposal, which will reduce conflicts between all user groups of shared recreational areas. We value the preservation, history, and tradition of trapping in Alaska for current and future generations. Providing a safe buffer along roads and pullouts will reduce conflicts and potentially improve trappers' public image for those opposed to the activity.

PROPOSED BY: The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee (HQ-F25-018)

PROPOSAL 146

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Establish trapping and snaring buffers along specified trails and trailheads in and around the Cooper Landing Area in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

ADD Regulatory Language for Unit 7: “Trap and snare setbacks of 100 yards on both sides of the trails and trailheads listed unless the traps are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed trails if they are elevated three feet above hard ground, enclosed, underwater, or under ice

- Crescent Creek Trail
- Lower Russian Lake Trail
- Bean Creek Trail
- Russian Gap//Historic Quartz Creek/Coyote Notch Trail System
- Resurrection Trail, South End
- Devil’s Pass Ski Loops
- Stetson Trail parking area and the first 400 yards

The precedent for establishing trapping and snaring buffers for public safety along multi-use trails in the State of Alaska has already been set, most recently, in the Mat-Su Valley, where 50-yard setbacks were established for 9 new trails that both recreational users and the ATA mutually agreed on. The Alaska Supreme Court upheld Valdez’s trapping ordinance confirming the city’s authority to regulate trapping within city limits. In 2023, Cordova created a special use map that closed trapping in part of the municipality and created trap setbacks of 200 yards from publicly maintained roads for traps larger than a 120 conibear, and a 200yd. setback for a popular trail. The Municipality of Anchorage, parts of Chugach State Park, the City/Borough of Juneau, and along six other trails, and surrounding all schoolyards in the Matanuska Susitna Borough have existing trap setback laws. While these municipalities and boroughs have approved trapping regulations on lands they manage, they have not issued regulations for state-managed trails in deference to

the regulatory powers of the Board of Game. We are requesting the Board of Game to modify this situation in our area.

Unit	Trail Name	Description	Winter Uses
7	<p>Crescent Creek Trail</p> <p>USGS Map Seward B7, C7 and C8</p> <p>USFS, Chugach National Forest Map for Crescent Creek Trail</p>	<p>Begins at Crescent Creek Trailhead parking area at mile 3.5 of Quartz Creek Road and ascends 6.5 miles to the Crescent Lake Cabin at the west end of the lake.</p>	<p>Backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, backpacking, fat tire biking, and access to public-use cabins</p>
7	<p>Lower Russian Lake Trail</p> <p>USGS Map Seward B8, Kenai B1</p> <p>USFS, Chugach National Forest Map for Russian Lakes Trail</p>	<p>Lower Russian Lake Trail from the trailhead parking located in the Russian River Campground about 1.0 miles from the campground entrance to both the Barber Cabin on the shore of Lower Russian Lake and to the Russian River Falls Overlook.</p>	<p>Backcountry and cross country skiing, skijoring, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, backpacking, and access to public-use cabins</p>
7	<p>Bean Creek Trail</p>	<p>Bean Creek Trail starting at its trailhead to its intersection of the main Resurrection Pass Trail above Juneau Falls.</p>	<p>Backcountry and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, snow machining, dog mushing, backpacking, and access to public-use cabins</p>

7	Russian Gap Trail/Historic Quartz Creek/Coyote Notch Trail System	<p>On the 2004 plat approved by the Kenai Peninsula Borough for the Russian Gap Subdivision, this trail is referred to as the Quartz Creek Trail. It ascends behind the west side of KPB parcel 11912507 and continues through parcel 11912513, connecting with the Russian Gap Trail and heading north-easterly along a bench below Russian Gap.</p> <p>Coyote Notch Trail intersects with this trail. RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY CLOSE BY.</p>	Backcountry and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, snowmachine use.
7	Resurrection Trail, South End USGS Maps Seward B8, C8 and D8	From the southern Resurrection Trail trailhead on the Sterling Highway, continuing to the Swan Lake public use cabin	Backcountry and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, backpacking, and access to public-use cabins
7	Devil's Pass Ski Loops USGS Map Seward C7 and C8 USFS, Chugach National Forest Map for Devil's Pass Trail	These trails begin at the far end of the parking area for Devil's Pass Trailhead at mile 39.5 of the Seward Highway. They loop along the cleared area northeast of the parking lot between Quartz Creek and the Seward Highway.	Backcountry ski access, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, fat-tire biking, skijoring

7	Stetson Creek Parking area and Trail	Stetson Trail parking area at milepost 50.7 of Sterling Highway. Setback of 100 yards around the clearing beyond the gate under the power line and the first 400 yards up the trail.	Cooper Landing EMT training, search and rescue dog training, hiking, and snowshoeing
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What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We are requesting the Board of Game amend Alaska Administrative Code No. 5 AAC 92.550 to establish 100- yard trapping and snaring buffers along both sides of the trails and all sides of the trailheads listed and described in the table below, unless they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed trails if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below-listed trails, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the specified trails and trailheads.

The purpose for this proposal is to create a solution to the growing conflict between recreational uses of land and trapping in a manner that protects the safety of individuals, families, and pets when utilizing the most frequently used trails in the Cooper Landing area. Dangerous encounters between user groups and traps in recreational areas continues, unfortunately, reports are considered incomplete because land managers and law enforcement do not track trap injury incidents nor is there a database for community documentation. As of late February 2022, seven dogs had been caught in traps throughout Southcentral Alaska, and two dogs were killed, as reported via the Alaska Press. Bird dogs are typically well-behaved and under strict voice command, however, there was a fatality where a trap had been placed 50 feet from the road. Search and rescue dog owners have voiced concern about the safety of their dogs in emergency missions. The Stetson Trail parking area and the first 400 yards have been used for training search-and-rescue dogs. Fears of abandoned or “ghost traps” found at the Russian River Falls Trailhead and Williams Beach increase the community’s fear of risk.

Why should this regulation be amended?

The District Ranger for the Chugach National Forest supports proposals for regulatory measures of 100-yard setbacks and trapline signage. It is the intention of the NFS to allow all user groups to utilize multi-use public lands safely, and to balance the opportunities for all. *See attachment.*

The proposed trap setbacks have increasing community support in Cooper Landing. A 2015 survey indicated that 83% of the respondents supported trap setbacks, but in 2021, when a similar survey of property owners and residents of Cooper Landing was conducted, results showed an increase to 90% who felt that trap setbacks were necessary. The community of Cooper Landing clearly supports traps and snare setbacks for a safe, trap- free zone in and around areas utilized for winter recreation. Surveys and meetings have highlighted the emotional stress and apprehension

experienced by residents and visitors when bringing their families, children, or pets to popular recreational areas due to the risk of encountering traps. This safety concern grows as Cooper Landing residents' demographics change to a younger, more outdoor enthusiast-oriented population. This proposal targets trails in our area used by those who cross-country ski, snowshoe, hike, fat tire bike, skijor, snow machine, and train search-and-rescue dogs. Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of Cooper Landing's economy.

Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of Cooper Landing's economy. Easily accessible by road, Cooper Landing is located only 100 miles south of Anchorage, the largest city in the state. Cooper Landing's primary economy is based on summer recreation and tourism; however, year round recreational activity is expected to increase with the anticipated bypass completion and the addition of Three Bears grocery store in the future. Local businesses desire to extend their seasonal offerings to encourage the increasing number of family-friendly, active, outdoor recreational pursuits (e.g. winter biking, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail running, ice fishing, bird hunting, and backcountry cabin rentals). The proposed trapping setback benefits business owners who market Cooper Landing as a fun, safe, and uniquely beautiful area for visitors to enjoy with family and pets.

What other support do you have for developing your proposal?

- The Precautionary Principle is widely recognized in international law and policy. It suggests that if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the public or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically. We are seeking trapping regulations that will be preventative and ensure the safety of all area user groups reducing the risk of accidental encounters.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring buffer is not significant enough to limit a trapper's opportunity to trap near trails. Proposing setbacks for *only the most popular and heavily used Trails* leaves all other areas unrestricted. Trappers who follow the Trapper's Code of Ethics' third tenet to "promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching non-target animals," presumably set traps back from heavily used trails.
- A former Cooper Landing trapper and trappers from other nearby Units have endorsed a 100-yard setback as reasonable and logical. The proposed 100-yard setbacks do not present an undue burden on trappers. The average backpacking speed is 1 to 2 miles per hour. Assuming trappers are walking between one and two miles per hour, the setback distances requested would require an additional two to three minutes of walking to place and check traps. Since many trappers use snow machines, the 100-yard setback could be crossed in less than 1 minute.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback would also align with the "Our Values Statement" set out by the U.S. Forest Service, which includes the intention of managing for "*Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social.*"
- The proposed 100-yard setback distance will not impact the Board of Game's ability to manage wildlife along the listed trails, though trapping nuisance wildlife may be required within the setback and environmentally necessary. A similar proposal requesting a 100-yard setback from trails has been submitted and endorsed by the Homer AC. Having regulations that are consistent will make management, education, and enforcement easier in Units 7 and 15.

• As of the 2019 census, there are 741,147 residents of the state of Alaska. Based on sealing records, license sales, and the annual "Trapper Questionnaire," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates the number of trappers in the state between 2,500 to 3,500 meaning only .4% of the Alaskan population is actively trapping. By adopting this safe trapping regulation in Unit 7, the Board of Game would better represent the majority of constituents and the current area's recreational uses.

Note: The proposal submission included attachments which are available on the proposal book website at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook .

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several members of our Cooper Landing AC endorse this proposal and two members of the Cooper Landing Safe Trails have been trappers.

The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee met in April 2025 with members of the South Central Trappers Association to work together on solutions to reduce trap/pet conflicts; during the discussion we gained a better understanding and appreciation of the trappers' concerns. Advocating for pet owner responsibility and not overreaching with more setback requests in the future were two concerns we heard clearly.

We took careful consideration of all land users while drafting this proposal, which will reduce conflicts between all user groups of shared recreational areas. We value the preservation, history, and tradition of trapping in Alaska for current and future generations. Providing a safe buffer on the trails listed will reduce conflicts and potentially improve trappers' public image for those opposed to the activity.

PROPOSED BY: The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee (HQ-F25-019)

PROPOSAL 147

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Establish trapping buffers along two areas of Kenai Lake beaches near Cooper Landing, in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

ADD Regulatory Language for Unit 7: “Trap and snare setback of 100-yards from mean high-water mark of Kenai Lake on the north side from the Kenai River Bridge to 1 mile past the end of Williams Road and on the south side from the Kenai River Bridge to ¼ mile past the powerline crossing (The powerline is at mile 2.8 Snug Harbor Road), also, Kenai Lake Beach (Locally known as Waikiki Beach) ¼ mile north to ¼ mile south of the lake access road at mile 5.8 Snug Harbor Road, unless the traps are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed beaches if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would still be allowed near the below listed beaches, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the trail.

- Cooper Landing, Kenai Lake Beach- north side, Kenai River Bridge to 1 mile past end of Williams Rd.

- Cooper Landing, Kenai Lake Beach -south side, Kenai River Bridge to 1/4mile past powerline at mile 2.8 Snug Harbor Rd.
- Cooper Landing, Kenai Lake Beach-west side (Waikiki Beach)

The precedent for establishing trapping and snaring buffers for public safety along multi-use trails in the State of Alaska has already been set, most recently, in the Mat-Su Valley, where 50-yard setbacks were established for 9 trails that both recreational users and the ATA mutually agreed on. The Alaska Supreme Court upheld Valdez’s trapping ordinance, confirming the city’s authority to regulate trapping within city limits. In 2023, Cordova created a special use map that closed trapping in part of the municipality and created trap setbacks of 200 yards from publicly maintained roads for traps larger than a 120 conibear, and a 200-yard setback for a popular trail. The Municipality of Anchorage, parts of Chugach State Park, the City/Borough of Juneau, and surrounding all schoolyards in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough have existing trap setback laws. While these municipalities and boroughs have approved trapping regulations on lands they manage, they have not issued regulations for state- managed trails in deference to the regulatory powers of the Board of Game. We are requesting the Board of Game to modify this situation in our area.

Unit	Beach Area	Description	Winter Uses
7	<u>Cooper Landing Kenai Lake Beaches north side</u>	Kenai Lake Beaches: on the North side from the Kenai River Bridge to 1 mile past the end of Williams Road	Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, skijoring, snow machining
7	<u>Cooper Landing Kenai Lake Beach south- side</u>	Kenai Lake Beaches: from the Kenai River Bridge to ¼ mile past the powerline crossing (powerline is at mile 2.8 Snug Harbor Road). <i>Area from the mean high water mark to 100yds back.</i>	Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, skijoring, snow machining
7	<u>Cooper Landing- Kenai Lake Beach-west side (Waikiki Beach)</u>	Kenai Lake Beach (Locally known as Waikiki Beach) ¼ mile north to ¼ mile south of the lake access road at mile 5.8 Snug Harbor Road. <i>Area from the mean high-water mark to 100yds back.</i>	Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, fat tire biking, skijoring, snow machining

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We are requesting that the Board of Game amend Alaska Administrative Code No. 5 AAC 92.550 to establish a 100-yard trapping and snaring buffer in two small areas in Cooper Landing listed and described in the table provided, unless they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted in the areas listed below if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below-listed beaches, provided they are placed farther than 100 yards from the trail.

The purpose of this proposal is to create a solution to the growing conflict between recreational uses of land and trapping in a manner that protects the safety of individuals, families, and pets when utilizing the most popular beaches in the Cooper Landing area. As dangerous encounters between user groups and traps in recreational areas increases, reports are considered incomplete because land managers and law enforcement do not track trap injury incidents nor is there a database for community documentation. As of late February 2022, seven dogs had been caught in traps throughout Southcentral Alaska, and two dogs were killed, as reported via the Alaska Press. Bird dogs are typically well-behaved and under strict voice command, however, there was a fatality where a trap had been placed 50 feet from the road. Search and rescue dog owners have voiced concern about the safety of their dogs in emergency missions. Incidents of abandoned or “ghost traps” found at the Russian River Falls Trailhead and Williams Beach increase the community’s fear of risk.

Why should this regulation be amended?

The District Ranger for the Chugach National Forest supports proposals for regulatory measures of 100-yard setbacks and trapline signage. It is the intention of the NFS to allow all user groups to utilize multi-use public lands safely, and to balance the opportunities for all. *See attachment*

The proposed trap setbacks have increasing community support in Cooper Landing. A 2015 survey indicated that 83% of the respondents supported trap setbacks, and in 2021 when a similar survey was conducted of property owners and residents of Cooper Landing, results showed an increase to 90% who felt that trap setbacks were necessary. The community of Cooper Landing clearly supports trap and snare setbacks in and around areas utilized for winter recreation.

Indicated in the surveys and local meetings was people's emotional stress and fear when taking their families, children or pets to their favorite recreational places due to the danger of encountering a trap. This safety concern grows as Cooper Landing residents' demographics change to a younger, more outdoor enthusiast-oriented population. This proposal targets several beaches used by those who cross-country ski, snowshoe, hike, fat tire bike, skijor, snow machine, and train search-and-rescue dogs.

As the community evolves, there is an increasing call for measures that protect all residents and visitors. This proposal aims to create a safer environment for winter recreation by implementing trap setbacks, which will help reduce the risks and alleviate the fears associated with accidental encounters. Families can enjoy outdoor activities with peace of mind, knowing that the areas they frequent are secure from hidden dangers.

Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of Cooper Landing's economy. Easily accessible by road, Cooper Landing is located only 100 miles south of Anchorage, the largest city in the state. Cooper Landing's primary economy is based on summer recreation and tourism; however, year round recreational activity is expected to increase with the anticipated bypass completion and the addition of Three Bears grocery store in the future. Local businesses desire to extend their seasonal offerings to encourage the increasing number of family-friendly, active, outdoor recreational pursuits (e.g. winter biking, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail

running, ice fishing, bird hunting, and backcountry cabin rentals). The proposed trapping setback aims to benefit business owners who promote Cooper Landing as an area for visitors to enjoy with family and pets.

What other support do you have for developing your proposal?

- The Precautionary Principle is widely recognized in international law and policy. It suggests that if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the public or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically. We are seeking trapping regulations that will be preventative and ensure the safety of all area user groups reducing the risk of accidental encounters.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback is not significant enough to limit a trapper's opportunity to trap near beaches. Proposing setbacks for *only the most popular and heavily used beaches* leaves all other areas unrestricted. Trappers who follow the Trapper's Code of Ethics' third tenet to "promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching non-target animals," presumably set traps back from heavily used beaches.
- A former Cooper Landing trapper and trappers from other nearby Units have endorsed a 100-yard setback as reasonable and logical. The proposed 100-yard setbacks-do not present an undue burden on trappers. The average backpacking speed is 1 to 2 miles per hour. Assuming trappers are walking between one and two miles per hour, the setback distances requested would require an additional two to three minutes of walking to place and check traps. Since many trappers use snow machines, the 100-yard setback could be crossed in less than 1 minute.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback would also align with the "Our Values Statement" set out by the U.S. Forest Service, which includes the intention of managing for "*Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social.*"
- The proposed 100-yard setback distance will not impact the Board of Game's ability to manage wildlife along the listed beaches, though trapping nuisance wildlife may be required within the setback and environmentally necessary. A similar proposal requesting a 100-yard setback from trails has been submitted and endorsed by the Homer AC. Having regulations that are consistent will make management, education, and enforcement easier in Units 7 and 15.

- As of the 2019 census, there are 741,147 residents of the state of Alaska. Based on sealing records, license sales, and the annual "Trapper Questionnaire," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates the number of trappers in the state between 2,500 and 3,500, meaning only .4% of the Alaskan population is actively trapping. By adopting this safe trapping regulation in Unit 7, the Board of Game would better represent the majority of constituents and the current area's recreational uses.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several members of our Cooper Landing AC endorse this proposal and two members of the Cooper Landing Safe Trails have been trappers.

The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee met in April 2025 with members of the Southcentral Trappers Association to work together on solutions to reduce trap/pet conflicts; during the discussion we gained a better understanding and appreciation of the trappers' concerns. Advocating for pet owner responsibility and not overreaching with more setback requests in the future were two concerns we heard clearly.

We took careful consideration of all land users while drafting this proposal, which will reduce conflicts between all user groups of shared recreational areas. We value the preservation, history, and tradition of trapping in Alaska for current and future generations. Providing a safe buffer on the two beach areas indicated will reduce conflicts and potentially improve the public image of trappers for those who are opposed to the activity.

PROPOSED BY: The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee (HQ-F25-020)

PROPOSAL 148

5 AAC 92.550(9). Areas closed to trapping.

Require signs be posted at all access points to active trapping in Unit 7, as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

1) SOLUTION:

We request that the Board amend 5 ACC 92.550(9) to add a subpart (C), adding a requirement that signs be posted by trappers at all access points to active trapping. This change will reduce conflicts with trappers and increase safety among the rising number of multi-use groups in Game Management Unit 7.

2) REGULATORY LANGUAGE:

Areas Closed to Trapping The following areas are closed to the trapping of furbearers as indicated: (1-6) No change requested.

ADD Regulatory Language for Unit 7: 5AAC 92.550(9)(C) “Trappers setting traps in Unit 7 are required to post signs at all access points to operating traplines. Signs must be:

- 1) at least 8”x11”, 2) brightly colored (orange or yellow), 3) waterproof/tear-proof, and 4)**

posted at eye level denoting active trapping in the area. Must include Alaska Public Safety Information Network (ASPIN) ID number or contact information for the trapper. If the trapper's sign uses the ASPIN ID no, the trapper's identity would be held confidential and released only to law enforcement.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

ISSUE:

We request that the Board amend 5 ACC 92.550(9) to establish a requirement that signs be posted at all access points to active trapping. This change will reduce conflicts with trappers and increase safety among the rising number of multi-use groups in GMU 7.

Mandatory posted signs are in line with the Alaska Trappers Association's Official Position Statement "Trapline Signs" that was adopted on September 27th, 2016, and states:

"The Alaska Trappers Association encourages trappers in road-accessible regions of the State to post signs near major points of access to their personal trapline trails. These signs should explain that there are traps and/or snares on or near the trail. The signs could also include the trapper's name and contact information. These signs are intended to alert other trail users of the purpose of the trail, so that they can avoid conflict with the trapper. This approach of posting signs should be beneficial for everyone involved."

"Active Trapping" informational signs aligns with the Forest Service's Our Values Statement, which includes the intention of managing for "Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social."

The District Ranger for the Chugach National Forest supports proposals for regulatory measures of 100-yard setbacks and trapline signage. It is the intention of the NFS to allow all user groups to utilize multi-use public lands safely and to balance the opportunities for all. *See attachment*

This is a low-cost, low-maintenance way to reduce conflicts between trappers and recreational users, create a shared responsibility, and support trappers' rights.

WHY:

Posted trapping signs would alert user groups to the presence of trapping in the area and allow them to take safety precautions. Trapping signs would also alert safety personnel to additional dangers if they were called to respond to an emergency requiring the use of Search and Rescue Dogs to find injured, lost, or buried victims. Ten other states have set a precedent for signage regulations; *see attachment*. A former local Cooper Landing trapper posted signs warning of his traplines and supports a regulation to add "active trapping" signs, as do several of the Cooper Landing AC members and members of the ATA.

Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of the Cooper Landing area's economy. Cooper Landing's primary economy is based on summer recreation and tourism; however, as winter recreation in the area increases, Cooper Landing businesses want to extend their seasonal offerings. With the anticipated bypass completion and the addition of Three Bears grocery store in the future, year-round recreational activity is expected to increase. To encourage the increasing number of family-friendly, active, outdoor recreational pursuits (e.g., winter biking, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail running, ice fishing, bird hunting, and

backcountry cabin rentals) in the area, it would benefit business owners to be able to accurately market Cooper Landing as a fun, safe, and uniquely beautiful area, for visitors to enjoy with their family and pets.

Signage is a valuable precaution to avoid conflicts. The Precautionary Principle is widely recognized in international law and policy, especially in environmental and public health contexts. It suggests that if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the public or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically. This puts the onus on dog owners to be aware of potential risks around a legal trapline. We seek regulations to ensure the safety of all area user groups to reduce the risk of accidental encounters.

As of the 2024 census, there are 741,147 residents of Alaska. Based on sealing records, license sales, and the annual "Trapper Questionnaire," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates 2,500 to 3,500 trappers in the state, meaning only .4% of the Alaskan population traps. By adopting this trapping regulation in GMU 7, the Board of Game would better represent the majority of its constituents and better align with current area residents' recreational use.

Note: The proposal submission included attachments which are available on the proposal book website at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook .

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several members of our Cooper Landing AC endorse this proposal and two members of the Cooper Landing Safe Trails have been trappers.

The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee met in April 2025 with members of the Southcentral Trappers Association to work together on solutions to reduce trap/pet conflicts; during the discussion we gained a better understanding and appreciation of the trappers' concerns. Advocating for pet owner responsibility and not overreaching with more setback requests in the future were two concerns we heard clearly.

We took careful consideration of all land users while drafting this proposal, which will reduce conflicts between all user groups of shared recreational areas. We value the preservation, history, and tradition of trapping in Alaska for current and future generations. Providing a safe buffer on the trails listed will reduce conflicts and potentially improve trappers' public image for those opposed to the activity.

PROPOSED BY: The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee (HQ-F25-021)

PROPOSAL 149

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Establish trapping and snaring buffers along highway pullouts, backcountry access points, and winter trails in the Summit Lake Recreation Area in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

ADD Regulatory Language for Unit 7: “Trap and snare setback of 100-yards along the perimeter of highway pull outs accessing backcountry areas along the Seward Highway, and on both side of the winter trails listed within the Summit Lake Recreational Area, unless the traps are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted in the described areas if the traps are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below listed areas, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the trail.

- Japan Woods - The west side of the Seward Highway from the southernmost tip of Summit Lake (MP44.5) north to Colorado Creek (MP 46.5).
- Tenderfoot Campground - Ski Area - MP 46 of the Seward Highway.
- Park N Poke - The west side of the Seward Highway from the southernmost tip of Lower Summit Lake (MP 47) to the gravel pit at (MP 49).
- Manitoba Mountain - MP 48 of the Seward Highway, pullout on the east side of the highway for the Alaska Mountain Huts (non-profit organization), following the established .7-mile trail to the Manitoba Cabin, and up the Polly Mine Trail (1 mile) to where it meets with the Manitoba Mountain Trail and continuing up to tree line at the summit of Little Manitoba Mountain.

The precedent for establishing trapping and snaring buffers for public safety along multi-use trails in the State of Alaska has been set, most recently, in the Mat-Su Valley, where 50-yard setbacks were established for 9 trails that both recreational users and the ATA mutually agreed on. In January 2025, the Alaska Supreme Court upheld Valdez’s trapping ordinance, confirming the city’s authority to regulate trapping within city limits. In 2023, Cordova created a special use map that closed trapping in part of the municipality and created trap setbacks of 200 yards from publicly maintained roads for traps larger than a 120 conibear, and a 200yd. setback for a popular trail. The Municipality of Anchorage, parts of Chugach State Park, the City/Borough of Juneau, and surrounding all schoolyards in the Matanuska Susitna Borough have existing trap setback laws. While these municipalities and boroughs have approved trapping regulations on lands they manage, they have not issued regulations for state-managed trails in deference to the regulatory powers of the Board of Game. We are requesting the Board of Game to modify this situation in our area.

	Trail Name	Description	Winter Uses
7	Japan woods	The west side of the Seward Highway from the southernmost tip of Summit Lake (MP 44.5) north to Colorado Creek (MP 46.5).	Backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, bird hunting, hiking
7	Tenderfoot Campground – Ski Area	MP 46 of the Seward Highway.	Backcountry skiing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, bird hunting, hiking, snow machine use
7	Park N Poke	The west side of the Seward Highway from the southernmost tip of Lower Summit Lake (MP 47) to the gravel pit at (MP 49).	Backcountry Skiing, snowshoeing, bird hunting, hiking
7	Manitoba Mountain	MP 48 of the Seward Highway, pullout on the east side of the highway for the Alaska Mountain Huts (non-profit organization), following the established .7-mile trail to the Manitoba Cabin, and up the Polly Mine Trail (1 mile) to where it meets with the Manitoba Mountain Trail and continuing to tree line at the summit of Little Manitoba Mountain.	Backcountry and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bird hunting, hiking, backpacking for camping and cabin use

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We are requesting that the Board of Game amend Alaska Administrative Code No. 5 AAC 92.550 to establish 100-yard trapping and snaring buffers along the perimeter of all highway pull outs, backcountry access points, and winter trails in the Summit Lake Recreation Area, described in the table below, unless they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. Trapping would still be permitted on the below-listed areas if they are elevated three feet above ground or snow level, enclosed, underwater, or under ice. All other forms of lawful trapping would also still be allowed near the below-listed areas, provided they are placed farther than 100-yards from the specified recreational areas.

The purpose of this proposal is to create a solution to the growing conflict between recreational uses of land and trapping in a manner that protects the safety of individuals, families, and pets when utilizing the Summit Lake Recreation Area. Reports of dangerous encounters between user groups and traps in recreational areas are considered incomplete because land managers and law enforcement do not track trap injury incidents nor is there a database for community documentation. As of late February 2022, seven dogs had been caught in traps throughout Southcentral Alaska, and two dogs were killed, as reported via the Alaska Press. Bird dogs are typically well-behaved and under strict voice command, however, there was a fatality where a trap had been placed 50 feet from the road. Search and rescue dog owners have voiced concern about the safety of their dogs in emergency missions. Incidents of abandoned or “ghost traps” found at the Russian River Falls Trailhead and Williams Beach increase the community’s fear of risk.

Why should this regulation be amended?

The District Ranger for the Chugach National Forest supports proposals for regulatory measures of 100- yard setbacks and trapline signage. It is the intention of the NFS to allow all user groups to utilize multi-use public lands safely, and to balance the opportunities for all. *See attachment*

This conflict of user groups has been an issue for almost 20 years in the Cooper Landing area. It is getting more attention as the demographics change to a more recreational population. The community of Cooper Landing supports trap and snare setbacks. In 2021, the Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee sent a survey to every post office box, landowner, and business in Cooper Landing to get a precise gauge of what people wanted. With a 35% return rate, 90% wanted trap setbacks established, and many requested up to a mile. This represents a 7% increase from a 2015 survey where 83% supported setbacks. The surveys and community meetings highlight people's concerns about taking their families, children, and pets to recreational areas due to past incidents and the risk of encountering traps. This proposal targets several roads and pullouts in our area used by those who cross-country ski, snowshoe, hike, fat tire bike, skijor, snow machine, and train search-and-rescue dogs.

Year-round outdoor recreation is a significant and growing segment of Cooper Landing’s economy. The Summit Lake Recreational Area is about 1.5 hours south of Anchorage and 30 minutes north of Cooper Landing. Winter recreational activity is expected to increase with the anticipated bypass completion and the addition of Three Bears grocery store in the future. Local businesses desire to extend their seasonal offerings to encourage the increasing number of family-friendly, active, outdoor recreational pursuits (e.g. winter biking, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail running, ice fishing, bird hunting, and backcountry cabin rentals). The proposed trapping setback benefits business owners who market Cooper Landing as a fun, safe, and uniquely beautiful area for visitors to enjoy with family and pets.

What other support do you have for your proposal?

- The Precautionary Principle is widely recognized in international law and policy. It suggests that if an action or policy has the potential to cause harm to the public or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully

established scientifically. We are seeking trapping regulations that will be preventative and ensure the safety of all area user groups reducing the risk of accidental encounters.

- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback is not significant enough to limit a trapper's opportunity to trap near Summit Lake Recreation Area. Proposing setbacks for *only the most popular and heavily used Summit Lake Recreation Area* leaves all other areas unrestricted. Trappers who follow the Trapper's Code of Ethics' third tenet to "promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching non-target animals," presumably set traps back from the popular areas of the Summit Lake Recreation Area.
- A former Cooper Landing trapper and trappers from other nearby Units have endorsed a 100-yard setback as reasonable and logical. The proposed 100-yard setbacks do not present an undue burden on trappers. The average backpacking speed is 1 to 2 miles per hour. Assuming trappers are walking between one and two miles per hour, the setback distances requested would require an additional two to three minutes of walking to place and check traps. Since many trappers use snow machines, the 100-yard setback could be crossed in less than 1 minute.
- The proposed 100-yard trapping and snaring setback would also align with the "Our Values Statement" set out by the U.S. Forest Service, which includes the intention of managing for "*Safety. In every way: physical, psychological, and social.*"
- The proposed 100-yard setback distance will not impact the Board of Game's ability to manage wildlife along the listed Summit Lake Recreation Area, though understandably, trapping nuisance wildlife may be required within the setback and environmentally necessary.
- The proposed trap setbacks have increasing community support in Cooper Landing. A 2015 survey indicated that 83% of the respondents supported trap setbacks, and in 2021 when a similar survey was conducted of property owners and residents of Cooper Landing, results showed an increase to 90% who felt that trap setbacks were necessary.
- As of the 2019 census, there are 741,147 residents of the state of Alaska. Based on sealing records, license sales, and the annual "Trapper Questionnaire," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates the number of trappers in the state between 2,500 to 3,500 meaning only .4% of the Alaskan population actively traps. By adopting this safe trapping regulation in Unit 7, the Board of Game would better represent the majority of constituents and the current area's recreational uses.

Note: The proposal submission included attachments which are available on the proposal book website at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook .

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several members of our Cooper Landing AC endorse this proposal, and two members of the Cooper Landing Safe Trails have been trappers.

The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee met in April 2025 with members of the Southcentral Trappers Association to work together on solutions to reduce trap/pet conflicts; during the

discussion we gained a better understanding and appreciation of the trappers' concerns. Advocating for pet owner responsibility and not overreaching with more setback requests in the future were two concerns we heard clearly.

We took careful consideration of all land users while drafting this proposal, which will reduce conflicts between all user groups of shared recreational areas. We value the preservation, history, and tradition of trapping in Alaska for current and future generations. Providing a safe buffer on the trails listed will reduce conflicts and potentially improve trappers' public image for those opposed to the activity.

PROPOSED BY: The Cooper Landing Safe Trails Committee (HQ-F25-022)

PROPOSAL 150

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require identification tags on traps and snares in Unit 7 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.095 should be amended to add a provision stating as follows:

In Unit 7, a person may not set a trap or snare unless there is attached to the trap or snare an identification tag.. Identification tags must provide either the person's name, or personal identification number (PIN) The PIN for residents is the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (ASPIN) ID. For residents, the Department shall upon request of a person intending to set traps or snares that person's ASPIN ID. For nonresidents the Department will assign a PIN when a trapping license is issued. PINs will be kept confidential by the Department with the exception with the exception that the identities of trappers shall be released to Law Enforcement when requested by Law Enforcement.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Tags on traps and snares should be required in Unit 7 to provide a deterrence to individuals who might be tempted to trap illegally.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Law Enforcement supported a statewide proposal for tags on traps which was considered by the Board at its statewide meeting in March, 2025, but was rejected. This proposal incorporates the technical changes and recommendations made by Law Enforcement.

For that reason it can be said that this proposal is being made in coordination with Law Enforcement.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-053)

PROPOSAL 151

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Close all beaver trapping within the Deep Creek and Anchor River drainage south to but excluding the Fox River drainage in Unit 15C, for five years as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

The Deep Creek and Anchor River drainage south to but not including the Fox River drainage in Unit 15C should be closed to beaver trapping for five years with a population assessment before reopening. Closing trapping for this length of time with an ADF&G assessment before reopening will provide the time needed to evaluate the re-establishment effort.

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

The following areas are closed to trapping as indicated:

...

(4) Unit 15

...

(E) That portion of Unit 15(C) within the Deep Creek and Anchor River drainage south to the northern boundaries of the Fox River Drainage and all tributaries is open to trapping under Unit 15(C) seasons and bag limits, except that the trapping of beaver is not allowed.

(i) This closure will remain in effect for approximately five years from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031 a review of population levels will be conducted by ADFG before reopening.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Beaver are no longer a functional part of the ecosystem in the Anchor River drainage. As a keystone species, the loss of beaver from the system is negatively impacting wildlife such as moose, salmon, songbirds and other species that rely on the habitat that beavers create. Trapping opportunities have been lost and flood control and water retention naturally provided by beaver impoundments is absent, which negatively impacts human infrastructure in the Anchor River Drainage.

The Homer Soil and Water District proposes to work with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to promote the restoration of beaver populations in this watershed. A trapping moratorium during these restoration efforts are likely to increase the success of the program. Unit 15C's harvest of beaver in 2023 was five animals with a five year average of four being taken,

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was created out of concern for the beaver population by the Homer Advisory Committee in close cooperation with the Homer Water and Soil Conservation District and ADF&G.

PROPOSED BY: Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-044)

PROPOSAL 152

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Close all beaver trapping in the Anchor River drainage in Unit 15C for five years as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

The Anchor River drainage in Unit 15C is closed to all beaver trapping for five years with a required review before reopening. Closing trapping for this length of time with a required review before reopening will provide the time needed to begin a re-establishment effort. Homer Soil and Water Conservation District, under the direction and assistance of ADF&G, will conduct animal surveys and reviews as needed.

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

The following areas are closed to trapping as indicated:

...

(4) Unit 15

...

(E) That portion of Unit 15(C) within the Anchor River drainage and its tributaries is open to trapping under Unit 15(C) seasons and bag limits, **except that the trapping of beaver is not allowed.**

(i) This closure will remain in effect for approximately five years from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031 unless renewed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Beavers are no longer a functional part of the ecosystem in the Anchor River drainage. As a keystone species, the loss of beaver from the system is negatively impacting wildlife such as moose, salmon, songbirds and other species that rely on the habitat that beavers create. Trapping opportunities have been lost and flood control and water retention naturally provided by beaver impoundments is absent, which negatively impacts human infrastructure in the Anchor River Drainage.

The Homer Soil and Water Conservation District proposes to work with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to promote the restoration of beaver populations in this watershed. Without a trapping moratorium restoration efforts are unlikely to be successful.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed with consultation and support from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Homer Advisory Committee, the Alaska Trapper’s Association and members of the community of Homer.

PROPOSED BY: Matthew James, Homer Soil and Water Conservation District (OI-F25-032)

PROPOSAL 153

5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.

Close the Anchor River drainage in Unit 15C to beaver trapping as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

The Anchor River drainage is closed to beaver trapping.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Beaver trapping in the Anchor River drainage should be closed. Department of Fish and Game comments provided to the Board of Game regarding a proposal to close beaver trapping in the Anchor River and Deep Creek drainages indicated that there were virtually no beaver active in the Anchor River drainage at that time; and that beaver trapper had reported low number and poor recruitment in 2017. In addition, comments and testimony regarding other proposals to reduce Beaver trapping on the Kenai Peninsula indicated area-wide over-trapping with resulting reductions in beaver populations at many places on the Kenai Peninsula. Closure for at least three years, or until at least the next meeting of the board, should be implemented to see if this important species repopulate this drainage and provides information for analysis by the department as to how to remedy the decline of beaver population elsewhere on the Kenai Peninsula .

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-056)

PROPOSAL 154

5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Change the bag limits for sea ducks in Unit 15C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

In the waterfowl regulations:

GULF COAST Units 5-7, 9, 10 (Unimak Is. only), 14-16

Ducks 18 per day, 24 in possession

Sea Ducks 2, 3, 4

Residents.....10 per day, 20 in possession

Nonresidents.....8 per day, 20 per season

Special Bag Limit Restrictions

1 DUCKS: General duck limits may include no more than 2 canvasback per day, 6 in possession.

2 SEA DUCKS:

- Steller’s and spectacled eiders are closed statewide.
- Residents may take no more than 6 per day, 12 in possession of harlequin ducks and no more than 6 per day, 12 in possession of long-tailed ducks.
- Nonresidents may not take or possess more than 20 sea ducks per season, including no more than 4 each of any sea duck species.

~~3. Units 7 and 15, limits for residents and nonresidents may include no more than 1 per day, 2 in possession of long-tailed ducks.~~

~~4. Unit 15C, that portion of Kachemak Bay east of a line from Point Pogibshi to Anchor Point, limits for residents and nonresidents may include no more than 2 per day, 4 in possession of harlequin, and no more than 1 per day, 2 in possession of eiders (king or common). In addition, nonresidents may not take or possess more than 4 each of any sea duck species.~~

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Uniformity for migratory waterfowl regulations for sea ducks among all Alaska regions for the same migratory sea duck species.

Weather patterns determine where the ducks go with much of Unit 15’s coastline not hunted and holds birds most cannot access or survey through the designated duck season.

People tend to hunt the protected waters of Seldovia Bay or China Poot. There are nine large bays beyond Port Graham that are too remote to observe duck populations as well as the continuing shoreline. There are other open areas where there are mussel beds that are difficult to hunt due to open water and distance from the shoreline.

The number of birds vary due to weather being the primary factor of finding open water. Wind strength, direction and tide cycles are daily factors on finding sea ducks. Time of year for observing any ducks also determines the density. Fall flocks of family groups verses winter flocks of higher density feeding groups versus spring when mature birds begin pairing off. It is wrong to assume ducks are in the same place and have the same social structure year-round.

Sea duck hunting in Unit 15C is light pressure and shows with the lack of operating sea duck guides/transporters compared to other areas in the Southcentral Alaska region. The duck population is healthy and to say that it is not would risk the entire state's sea duck population, since they are migratory.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

With waterfowl hunters on social media regarding previous years' Unit 15C proposals.

PROPOSED BY: Ethan Waldvogel (HQ-F25-005)

Anchorage Area - Unit 14C

PROPOSAL 155

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C goat drawing hunt DG852, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG852 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG852.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-107)

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C goat drawing hunt DG854, to ”up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG854 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG854.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-108)

PROPOSAL 157

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C goat drawing hunt DG856, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG856 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least 5 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG856.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-109)

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C goat drawing hunt DG858, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG858 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG858.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-110)

PROPOSAL 159

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Create archery only, registration permit hunts for goat in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Create an archery registration hunt that corresponds to DG852-858 and otherwise adheres to the same regulations.

RG***-*** **One goat by bow and arrow only*** *by permit available online at*

*http://hunt.alaska.gov or in person in Anchorage,
Palmer, and Soldotna beginning Aug 1
November 1-14 (May be Announced)*

*certified bowhunters only

- Taking of nannies with kids is prohibited. Taking of males is encouraged.
- Information on sex identification available with permit.
- Nonresident hunters must be accompanied by a guide, see page 10.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The goal of this proposal is to create registration archery goat hunts that correlate with DG 852-858 that are opened if game management professionals determine that the population can sustain additional harvest after the draw hunt harvest reports are submitted.

In Units 7 and 15 there are registration goat hunts that follow the correlating draw hunt seasons. These hunts are carefully managed and when post-draw hunt populations can sustain additional harvest registration hunts are opened and have proven popular with many local hunters who otherwise would not have the opportunity to hunt mountain goats in this region.

Creating something similar in Unit 14C would have the same benefit of expanded opportunity and because of the nature of the hunt would not create a risk of over harvest. These hunts would only open if it was determined that the area could sustain additional harvest and a strict quota could be created for the new registration hunt. Making these hunts archery only would further reduce the chance of over harvest while still maintain opportunity for all. (Virtually any hunter capable of hunting mountain goats can do so with a bow and arrow and would just be accepting additional challenge of a true fair chase hunt.)

Similar to the Unit 7 and 15 hunts, at least a 10 day buffer should be applied after the existing draw hunt to accommodate for receipt and analysis of DG harvest reports. The draw hunts end on 10/15 and the new archery registration hunt would start on 11/1.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-219)

PROPOSAL 160

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM422, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM422 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM422.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-124)

PROPOSAL 161

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM423, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM423 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM423.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-125)

PROPOSAL 162

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM424, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM424 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM424.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-126)

PROPOSAL 163

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM427, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM427 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM427.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-127)

PROPOSAL 164

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM428, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM428 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM428.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-128)

PROPOSAL 165

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM430, to "up to" 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM430 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM430.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-129)

PROPOSAL 166

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM446, to "up to" 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM446 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM446.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-130)

PROPOSAL 167

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM447, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM447 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM447.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-131)

PROPOSAL 168

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C moose drawing hunt DM448, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DM448 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DM448.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-132)

PROPOSAL 169

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

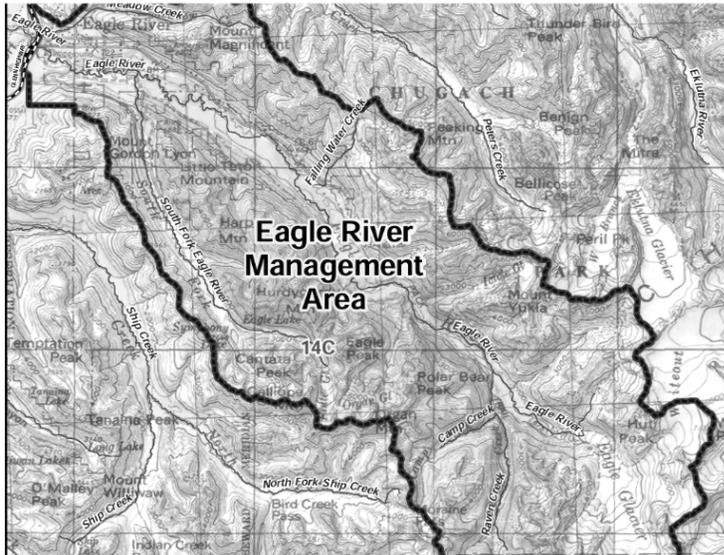
Create a moose drawing permit hunt within the Eagle River Management Area in Unit 14C, with additional restrictions as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

One bull by bow and arrow only by permit Sept 15th- Oct 15th.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to see a moose draw tag within the Eagle River management area, but with additional restrictions; South of Eagle River Road, North of Highland loop road, south east of the confluence of the south fork of Eagle River and Eagle river. (Highlighted area below) This will keep user conflict with housing at minimum. I would like to see this one bull by bow and arrow only by permit Sept. 15th-Oct. 15th. These dates will keep multi-user conflicts to a minimum.



A color version of this map is available at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook>

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins (HQ-F25-002)

PROPOSAL 170

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Close the RM445 moose hunt in Unit 14C to nonresidents as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

R: RM445 One bull by Bow and Arrow only (Resident hunters only)

N: No open season

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The RM445 is increasingly one of the best opportunities for Southcentral Alaska hunters to hunt moose with archery equipment without having to worry about the safety hazards of hunting in open rifle areas during the general season. In most years the average moose killed are young bulls indicating that this is primarily a meat focused hunt that is easy access to major population centers.

The hunt is usually closed when a harvest goal of about six bulls is achieved and almost every year in recent history at least one of the moose harvested has been by a nonresident. It is important for nonresidents to have hunting opportunities but with upwards of 100 local hunters vying for meat in this area each year, this is not the appropriate place for nonresident hunting opportunities.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-206)

PROPOSAL 171

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Create a new registration archery moose hunt in Unit 14C, East Fork Eklutna area as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Create a new registration archery hunt in the East Fork Eklutna with regulation and season that matches RM445.

RM*** *One bull by bow and arrow only by permit online*

at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> or in person available in

Anchorage, Palmer, and Soldotna beginning Aug. 1

Sept. 1 – Oct. 20



A color version of this map is available at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook>

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

This proposal advocates for creating a new registration hunt in the East Fork Eklutna that would correspond with RM445. This proposal differs from the proposal that advocates including the East Fork in RM445 by creating a new registration hunt that would allow for more nuanced control of the harvest in that area.

RM445 is an archery only registration moose hunt in the Eklutna lake area. Over 200 hunters routinely register for the hunt and over 100 of those actually go hunting there each year. While the area appears relatively large, there are access issues (private land and limited parking along the northeastern portion that surrounds the eklutna river) most of the hunting pressure is confined to the more accessible area surrounding Eklutna lake and the access trail. During the hunting season the ATV traffic on the trail can be intense with many hunters and non-hunting users packed into this very popular hunting and non-hunting recreation area. I believe that the initial RM445 area map was designed to mirror the Eklutna Lake Management area. Unfortunately, this map does not include the East Fork Eklutna drainage which is a natural geographic extension of the hunt area. The inclusion of the East Fork as an archery registration hunt would allow hunters to spread out a little from the heavily used trail and I believe this change would little to no effect on other hunters or the moose population management goals.

Currently the East Fork Eklutna falls under the Chugach State Park Management area therefore falls under the spike/fork/>50” regulation and allows rifle hunting. It’s hard to tease out the numbers but based on extensive personal experience in the area this is not a well utilized area for moose hunters largely due to the lack of easy motorized access that many eklutna area hunters prefer. Allowing the archery hunters who are already committed to the area to hunt the East Fork would help spread out hunters and would allow those who prefer to walk off the ATV trail more opportunity to spread out from the relatively narrow corridor at that end of the current hunt area.

A concern of increasing the size of RM445, as proposed separately might be that doing so would simply allow the killing for more bulls in the existing, more easily accessible area and thereby inadvertently overhunt the area. In that proposal I discussed that keeping the harvest quota unchanged would be a conservative approach unless wildlife professionals thought that the increased area could sustain a higher harvest. With this proposal of a second hunt there would be more nuanced control of the area with a second hunt. The allocation for the East Fork hunt might only be one bull moose some year.

Based on extensive experience hunting this area (I spent 29 days in there in 2023 and have spent almost that much time in there during other seasons) I think this would be a well-received addition that would increase opportunity and safety and would have very little impact on the current management goals of the registration hunt.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-220)

PROPOSAL 172

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.

Include wounded moose to count towards bag limits for all hunts in the Joint Base Elmendorf Richards Management area in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.

JBER proposes to include wounded animals be counted towards bag limits for all Unit 14(C), JBER Management Area moose hunts: DM421, DM422, DM423, DM424, DM426, DM427, DM428, and DM430.

Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM421, DM422, DM423, DM424, DM426, DM427, DM428, and DM430): **If you wound a moose, it counts towards your bag limit for the regulatory year.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) would like to include wounded game count towards bag limits, as it is for bears in Units 1-5 and bear and elk in Unit 8. Recreation on military land is subject to safety, security, and military mission. It is the policy of JBER to provide public access for outdoor recreation and the harvest of fish and wildlife when compatible with the military mission and natural resource management objectives. The 10 year annual average reported wounded, not recovered is eight moose. Wounded moose not recovered present a safety risk to military missions and other recreators. They may draw in large predators to the training areas and increase in human-wildlife conflicts. For example, during the fall of 2024, during a military training exercise a brown bear with cubs on a cached moose was encountered, delayed training and increased risk to training. When a moose is wounded, every effort to track and completion of taking the moose that was attempted, rather than pursuing another moose.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The concerns and proposal were discussed with the ADF&G Anchorage area biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Colette Brandt, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (OI-F25-225)

PROPOSAL 173

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Shift the season dates of the DM211 antlerless moose hunts in the Twentymile/Placer River drainages in Units 7 and 14C to October 1-30, to avoid overlap with the DM210 bull hunt as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Move the 20-Mile/Placer Rivers antlerless moose drawing hunt DM211 dates to October 1-30 so that they do not coincide with the bull hunt DM210.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Move the 20-Mile/Placer Rivers antler less moose drawing hunt DM211 dates to October 1-30 so that they do not coincide with the bull hunt DM210.

This area is very congested and is a popular river system for other recreation. having 75 moose hunters along with all the other user groups is diminishing the quality of the bull hunt DM210 which is very difficult to draw.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-121)

PROPOSAL 174

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

5 AAC 92.057. Special provisions for Dall sheep and mountain goat drawing permit hunts.

Reduce the resident sheep harvest to one ram every other year in the general harvest hunt areas in Units 7 and 14C. Additionally, limit the application period to every other year and change the nonresident permit allocation as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Reduce resident Dall Sheep harvest to one ram every other year in the general harvest areas.

Reduced draw tags from being allowed to apply for a tag every year in 14C and 7 to every other year only regardless of harvesting a ram or not.

Reduce nonresident tag allocation to 5% for 14C and 7.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Populations are ever dwindling and this would still allow for maximum resident hunter opportunities while reducing overall harvest.

Change the Units 14C and 7 draw unit applications to an every other year system for residents.

You can currently technically get a tag in the draw and harvest a ram and apply for the sub unit next to the same area and harvest another ram if you get another tag the next season. By changing the draw to only allow for one tag to be drawn every other year and not allowed to apply for another tag the next year again the overall harvest of the fewer numbers of sheep available will be reduced while at the same time still allowing for hunter participation and harvest.

We need look no further than current ADF&G research and observation to know that change needs to be made to increase conservation. This conservation can be done while still allowing resident hunter participation.

An available tag reduction for nonresidents would further increase resident hunter opportunities and participation, which is identified in the state constitution, residents first.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

One other individual.

PROPOSED BY: Jerry Herrod (OI-F25-017)

PROPOSAL 175

5 AAC 85.045(5). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C.

Seasons and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
-------------------------------	---	------------------------------------

(5)

...

Unit 7, the Placer River drainages, and that portion of the Placer Creek (Bear Valley) drainage outside the Portage Glacier Closed Area, and that portion of Unit 14(C) within the Twentymile River drainage

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 moose by drawing permit only; up to 60 permits for bulls will be issued in combination with nonresident hunts, and up to 70 permits for antlerless moose will be issued

Aug. 20—Oct. 10
(General hunt only)

...

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by drawing permit only; up to 60 permits for bulls will be issued in combination with resident hunts

Aug. 20—Oct. 10

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why

Antlerless moose seasons must be reauthorized annually, and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (department) recommends reauthorizing the antlerless hunt in Units 7 and this portion of 14C. The moose population in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer area has a history of rapid increase following mild winters and sharp reductions during severe winters. In 2009, antlerless permits were issued for the first time since 2004. The number of permits issued depends on the current population estimate, bull:cow ratios, and estimated winter mortality. A November 2024 aerial composition count of moose in the Twentymile, Portage and Placer River drainages found 203 moose with a bull:cow ratio of 33 bulls per 100 cows and a calf:cow ratio of 30 calves per 100 cows.

The harvest of antlerless moose provides the department with a management tool to maintain the number of moose in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer area at an abundance level that reduces the possibility of over-browsing of winter habitat, moose-vehicle collisions, and significant mortality events during severe winters. This hunt, in previous years, has been successful in creating additional moose hunting opportunity with little or no controversy among resource users.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-036)

PROPOSAL 176

5 AAC 85.045(5). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14(C).

Seasons and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(12)		
...		
Unit 14(C), Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Management Area	Sept. 1—Mar. 31 (General hunt only)	Sept 1.—Mar. 31
1 moose by regulatory year by drawing permit, and by muzzleloading blackpowder rifle or bow and arrow only; up to 185 permits may be issued		
Unit 14(C), that portion known as the Birchwood Management Area	Sept. 1—Sept. 30 (General hunt only)	Sept. 1— Sept. 30
1 moose by drawing permit, by		

bow and arrow only; up to 25 permits may be issued

Unit 14(C), that portion known as the Anchorage Management Area

Sept. 1—Nov. 30
(General hunt only)

No open season

1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only, and by bow and arrow, shotgun, or muzzleloading black powder rifle only; up to 50 permits may be issued

Unit 14(C), that portion of the Ship Creek drainage upstream of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Management Area

1 moose by drawing permit only; up to 50 permits may be issued; or

Sept. 1—Sept. 30
(General hunt only)

Sept. 1—Sept. 30

1 bull by registration permit only

Oct. 1—Nov. 30
(General hunt only)

Oct. 1—Nov. 30

...

Remainder of Unit 14(C)

1 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:

...

1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; up to 60 permits may be issued; or

Sept. 1—Sept. 30
(General hunt only)

No open season

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why

Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) recommends reauthorizing the antlerless moose hunts in Unit 14C. The harvest of antlerless moose provides the department with a management tool to maintain the number of moose in Unit 14C at the desired population objective (1,500 moose). This population size has been demonstrated to reduce over-browsing of winter habitat, moose-vehicle collisions, moose-human conflicts in urban areas, and significant mortality events during severe winters. These hunts have also

been successful in providing additional moose hunting opportunities in the state’s human population center with little or no controversy among resource users.

Moose in Unit 14C are managed intensively for a population objective of 1,500–1,800 moose and an annual harvest objective of 90–270 moose (5AAC 92.108). The number of antlerless permits issued depends on the current population estimate, bull:cow ratios, and estimated winter mortality. In 2013, the department estimated that the moose population contained approximately 1,533 moose in Unit 14C based on a combination of population censuses, composition surveys, and extrapolation to areas not surveyed. A combined 2024 aerial composition count of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area and the Ship Creek drainage found 233 moose with a bull:cow ratio of 44 bulls per 100 cows and a calf:cow ratio of 14 calves per 100 cows. In 2021, a survey of the same area found a total of 301 moose with ratios of 44 bulls per 100 cows and 20 calves per 100 cows, respectively. The persistent, deep snowpack during the winter of 2022 likely resulted in additional winter mortality and an increase in the late winter energetic demands on pregnant cows, potentially reducing both the bull:cow and calf:cow estimates for the population. However, harvest numbers continue to remain relatively steady, and at this population level, there have been fewer reports of human-moose conflicts and moose-vehicle collisions.

Harvesting cow moose is paramount to maintaining the population at the low end of the objective while providing harvest opportunity.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-037)

PROPOSAL 177

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Extend the season for the DS140 and DS240 sheep hunts in Unit 14C by five days as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Extend the dates for DS140 and DS240 by five days to October 1-15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Extend the dates for DS140 and DS240 by five days to October 1-15.

This time of the year inclement weather limits the amount of days a hunter can hunt effectively. Ten days is a very short amount of time to hunt with archery equipment for sheep and weather adds to this.

An additional five days may add some additional opportunity to hunters on some years and on others heavy snow will fall and the additional days will not be utilized.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-122)

PROPOSAL 178

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Split the DS141 sheep drawing hunt in Unit 14C into two hunt periods as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

DS141 Sept 1st- Sept 15th

DSXXX Sept 16th- Sept 30th

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Decrease the number of tags for DS141 from 24 to 12. Split the tag into two separate tags of six and six, with season dates of Sept. 1st- Sept. 15th and Sept. 16th – Sept/ 30th.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

With the current situation of DS141, 24 tags is too many users in one area at a time. This tag should have tags cut to 12, with two separate seasons. I have hunted this tag five times and each time there is extended pressure on sheep from too many hunters at one time.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins (HQ-F25-007)

PROPOSAL 179

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Remove the East Fork Eklutna from the sheep hunt area for DS124, DS125, DS126 and DS224 in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Option 1) Remove the East Fork Eklutna from the hunting areas of DS124, 125, 126, 224 and revert back to the previous situation with the East Fork being open for sheep hunting only as part of DS140/240.

Option 2) Remove the East Fork Eklutna from the hunting areas of DS124,125, 126, 224 and include that area both within DS140/240 as well as DS141 and DS241.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

We need to remove the Eklutna East Fork from the hunt areas for DS124, 125, 126 and 224 and add them to the hunt area for DS141 and 241 to increase opportunity, safety and equity for draw permit winners in these areas.

In the 2022/2023 proposal cycle Proposal 82 was carried by the BOG. This proposal, submitted by a hunting guide, expanded DS124, DS125, DS126 and DS224 to include the East Fork Eklutna drainage that had, at one time had it's own draw tag, and the in subsequent years was included in DS140 and DS240. While the effort to expand hunting opportunity in a sustainable way should be commended, this proposal has the opposite affect. DS124, DS125, 126 and 224 include a vast area that only has 3 tags/hunters for each of the allowed seasons. This is an uncrowded hunt with plenty of terrain and opportunity for a DS recipient to hunt safely and enjoyably away from the two other hunters who are allowed to be in the area.

On the other hand, recipients of DS141 and 241 (I've had 141 twice myself) find themselves in a much smaller more easily accessible area competing with 23 other tag holders each season. Furthermore, many of the rams that can be pursued in the DS141 area often travel back and forth across the hunt boundary into the east fork Eklutna making them vulnerable to DS124, DS125, 126 and DS224 who, at times, could almost shoot those rams from the popular hiking trail that ascends the east fork. This unfortunate result of Proposal 82 results in not just a lower quality experience for the 25 hunters who draw DS141 and DS241 but also puts in them in potential danger if they find themselves stalking rams near the hunt border where an errant shot from a rifle hunter just the other side of the border could be in their direction. I have many times seen rams residing right on the divide between the two hunting areas. Essentially, the 22/23 Proposal 82 has greatly increased decreased the hunt quality, stalking opportunity and physical safety of up to 25 hunters per year just to allow additional area for a much smaller group of tag holders who already have a large area with very little competition.

Furthermore, prior to Proposal 82, DS 140 and DS240 hunters could already hunt in the East Fork. For those 40 tag holders the East Fork Eklutna provided one of the only areas of their entire hunting area that had not been previously hunted by other hunters during earlier seasons and was a small refuge for those looking to hunt less disturbed sheep. Now that is no longer a reality after at least 10 hunters have been able to rifle hunt the relatively small area during the preceding ~2 months.

A quick view of the map will show that geographically it makes much more sense to either revert have to the previous situation of having the East fork included in the other hunts that include the Eklutna lake area. DS124, 125, 126 and 224 hunters are unlikely to access that area via any other terrain in their area and would rather use a completely different access and be isolated from the other hunting areas of their tag. DS140,141,240 and 241 hunters however, could venture up in the East Fork easily from the areas they are already hunting, making this a much more natural option. Geographically including the east fork Eklutna with the other Eklutna drainage tags is intuitive.

It should also be noted that during the 22/23 cycle ADFG staff wrote that it would make sense to include the East Fork in the already somewhat crowded DS141/241 hunts and mentioned that as an alternative. Personal conversations with local ADFG staff have confirmed that sentiment.

Finally, the mandate of the Board of Game is to increase opportunity for hunters. The recently adopted Proposal 82 creates increased hunting area for about 10 hunters per year while adding this area into DS141/241 or reverting back to having it open only for DS140/240 would increase opportunity for up to 65 hunters each season. At the same time, restricting the area to archery only

would provide this greatly increased hunting opportunity while likely decreasing the overall harvest in the area due to the dramatically decreased success rates of bowhunters for sheep.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes, through discussion with area biologists and through review of ADF&G comments from the 22/23 proposal cycle documents and meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (OI-F25-212)

PROPOSAL 180

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Expand the DS123 sheep hunt area in Unit 14C, available to resident and nonresident hunters. Additionally, exempt the nonresident quota; issue only one permit for any ram, and lengthen the season as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Expand DS123 - Central's hunting area to include all of the other four any weapon hunt areas. Make it available to all hunters and exempt it from the nonresident hunter quotas.

Issue only one permit and make it a any ram bag limit.

Season dates: August 1st to September 30th.

Unit 14C - Central - DS123- Resident and Nonresident 1 permit

August 1st to September 30 - Any ram

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to have a super tag for Unit 14C. There is very limited access to all hunting areas in Unit 14C for Dall sheep and this would create a super tag for all hunters. I want to expand the hunting area for DS123- Central to every area in the park and make it available to all hunters, both residents and nonresidents. It will be exempt from the nonresident quotas. The season dates will be August 1st to September 30th. There will only be one permit still. The guides will not put their hunters in for this permit because the odds are already astronomical and they can apply their hunters for the nonresident permits already available that have much better odds. DS123 has only been drawn by a nonresident one time and that was the first year it was offered.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Myself.

PROPOSED BY: Daniel Montgomery (OI-F25-241)

PROPOSAL 181

5 AAC 92.057. Special provisions for Dalls heep and mountain goat drawing permit hunts.

Allow 2nd degree kindred sheep hunters to hunt under their relative's permit for sheep in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Resident Dall sheep permit holders in Unit 14C are allowed to take a second degree of kindred relative hunting and take their Dall sheep under the resident's permit. The second degree of kindred nonresident hunter must purchase a hunting license and a nonresident sheep locking tag and obtain a separate additional permit from ADF&G before going into the field to hunt. Both the resident permit holder and the 2DK nonresident hunter have to be in the field together as required. Both permit tags have to be notched if there is a sheep harvested.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There is almost no opportunity for sheep permits for second degree of kindred nonresident hunters in Unit 14C. There is only one floating 2DK permit for rifle hunters and none for archery hunters. Under the current allocation percentages of 5% of permits for nonresident archery hunters and 13% for nonresident rifle hunters, one is all there can be. No more that 20% of the total nonresident permits can go to 2DK nonresidents. There have been seven total nonresident permits issued in each of the last two years. 2DK nonresident success is the same as resident success around 20%. I'm proposing allowing 2DK hunters to hunt under their relative's permit for sheep in Unit 14C.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I wrote it myself.

PROPOSED BY: Dan Montgomery (OI-F25-222)

PROPOSAL 182

5 AAC 92.057. Special provisions for Dalls sheep and mountain goat drawing permit hunts.

Change the nonresident sheep permit allocation in Unit 14C so that at least one permit is issued for each of four hunts areas as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I'm proposing allocating at least one nonresident guided Dall sheep permit for each of the four hunt areas in Unit 14C that have nonresident permits in them. There had been nonresident permits issued in these areas every year since the early 1980's, until 2023. The permit dates I'm advocating for are some of the same ones that were issued in 2010 when the first separate draws for nonresidents were put in place. If there is not enough nonresident permits to issue at least one in each area (minimum four) then at the department discretion they can decide which ones not to offer. If any area is closed to all hunters the department does not have to issue any nonresident permits in it.

The Department shall issue nonresident guided permits for the following areas unless there is less than four to issue.

Unit 14C- Northeast - DS224 August 10th to August 22

Unit 14C- Northwest- DS230 August 10th to August 22

Unit 14C- Upper Eagle River August 23rd to Sept. 4th

Unit 14C- Southwest DS237 August 23rd to Sept. 4th

Thank you for this opportunity.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Modify the nonresident drawing permit allocation for Dall sheep in Unit 14C. Nonresidents are allocated 13% of the total number of any weapon sheep permits in Unit 14C and second degree of kindred hunters are allocated up to 20% of those permits.

The issue: In the 2023 permit drawing period, no guided nonresident permits were offered in the Unit 14C-Northeast area or the Unit 14C- Upper Eagle River area. This was the first time ever that guided nonresident hunters had not had access to apply hunters for these areas since they went to draw permits in the 1980's. In 2024 there was no nonresident permit offered in the Unit 14C- Upper Eagle river area (DS233). In 2025 there was no nonresident permit offered in Unit 14C- Northwest (DS224). The Department offered three permits in some of the areas during this period. Guides did not even apply anyone for two of the permits offered in 2024 for lack of mature rams in the areas. Not having access to these permits has a big financial impact on the guides that operate in Unit 14C.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Myself.

PROPOSED BY: Daniel Montgomery (OI-F25-240)

PROPOSAL 183

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

5AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Extend all hunting seasons for black and brown bear in Unit 14C to June 15 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Extend the black bear and brown bear seasons in Unit 14C including all draw tags to June 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Due to later winters in the Southcentral area, it makes it increasingly more difficult to harvest black and brown bears on years with heavy snow.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-021)

PROPOSAL 184

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Create a resident, black bear hunt for Highland Mountain in Unit 14C, October 1 - October 31 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I would like a draw tag added for the Highland Mountain. One bear by bow and arrow, shotgun or muzzleloader only by permit, Oct. 1- Oct. 31.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like a season opening for black bear on Highland Mountain in Eagle River. There is an abundance of bears on this mountain and a hunting season would help alleviate user/bear conflicts

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins (HQ-F25-001)

PROPOSAL 185

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Increase the number of drawing permits for the DL455 black bear hunt in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 85.015(4). Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Increase the number of available permits to 50 for Unit 14(C), JBER Management Area DL455 as follows: up to 50 [25] permits may be issued.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) would like to increase the number of draw permits available for the JBER black bear hunt (DL455) from 25 to up to 50. Since the hunt began in 2016, 25 hunters are drawn but only an average of 11 (44%) hunt and only 1-4 bears are taken each year. With the low participation and harvest of the hunt, we'd like to increase the available permits to up to 50, that way potential participation and harvest may increase and allow the Department of Fish and Game to adjust annually as needed to better meet harvest goals.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The proposal was discussed with the ADF&G Anchorage area biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Colette Brandt, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (OI-F25-223)

PROPOSAL 186

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.

Include wounded black bear to count towards the bag limit for the DL455 hunt as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.

JBER proposes to include wounded animals be counted towards bag limits for the 14C JBER Management Area, black bear hunt (DL455).

Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DL455): **If you wound a black bear, it counts towards your bag limit for the regulatory year.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) would like to include wounded game counted towards bag limits, just as it is considered for bears in Units 1-5 and bear and elk in Unit 8. The definition of “take” already includes wounding described as “attempting to take”.

The use of military land for recreation is subject to safety, security, and military mission. It is the policy of JBER to provide public access for outdoor recreation activities and the harvest of fish and wildlife when compatible with the military mission and natural resource management objectives. A wounded black bear presents safety risks to the hunter, soldiers that may be performing land navigation and maneuvering exercises or occupying bivouac sites, as well as any other individuals in the vicinity, both on and off installation. Since the hunt began, there have been 3 reports of hunters wounding and not recovering bears shot at. By including wounded game in the bag limit for the regulatory year, it will incentivize accuracy.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The concerns of wounding and not recovered animals and proposal were discussed with the ADF&G Anchorage area biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Colette Brandt, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (OI-F25-224)

PROPOSAL 187

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Increase the bag limit for black bear to three, in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

The proposed solution is **Three** [ONE] bear, harvest tag and no closed season.

The new regulation would read **Three** [ONE] bear, harvest tag and no closed season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The issue the MatSu Valley AC would like to have addressed is the bag limit for black bears in 14C Remainder from one black bear, harvest tag and no closed season to three black bears, harvest tag and no closed season.

Individual observations suggest a surplus harvest to support this proposal.

At times, local pilots are reporting seeing 40 to 60 black bears in Colony, George, Troublesome, and Whiteout Glacier drainages during a single flight. In addition, black bears have been seen moving from the Unit 14A drainages of Friday Creek, Metal Creek and Grasshopper into Unit 14C Remainder. The other areas within Unit 14C have a harvest of one black bear as either a draw or registration and may have a limits for the method and means. The abundance of bears throughout Unit 14C has the black bears moving into Unit 14C remainder.

Unit 14C Anchorage and Eagle River							
Unit 14C: That portion of Unit 14 south of Unit 14A. See map page B2 for state restricted areas in Unit 14C.							
OPEN TO:		R = RESIDENTS ONLY		B = RESIDENTS AND NONRESIDENTS			
OPEN TO:		N = NONRESIDENTS ONLY					
OPEN TO:	UNIT/ AREA	BAG LIMIT AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS			PERMIT/ HUNT #*	OPEN SEASON	
Black Bear							
* See pages 24-27 for bear information and salvage requirements. * Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached as required.							
B	14C	Lower Eagle River Valley	One bear by bow and arrow, crossbow, or muzzleloader only by permit available online at http://hunt.alaska.gov or in person in Anchorage and Palmer beginning Aug 1			RL450	Sept 1-May 31
B	14C	Upper Eagle River Valley	One bear by permit available online at http://hunt.alaska.gov or in person in Anchorage and Palmer beginning Aug 1			RL460	Sept 1-June 15
B	14C	a portion of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	One bear by shotgun only by permit			DL455	Sept 1-June 15
B	14C	McHugh Creek	One bear by bow and arrow, shotgun or muzzleloader only by permit			DL457	Oct 1-Oct 31
B	14C	remainder of Eagle River, remainder of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Birchwood, and Anchorage Management Areas, excluding McHugh Creek					no open season
B	14C	Eklutna Lake Management Area	One bear by bow and arrow only			HT	Sept 1-May 31
B	14C	Chugach State Park Management Area	One bear			HT	Sept 1-May 31
B	14C	remainder	One bear			HT	no closed season

The access to Unit 14C Remainder is accessible mostly by aircraft with limited access by boat, ATV or UTV.

If approved, this proposal will align with the Unit 14A/B black bear bag limits.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The advisory committee met to review this proposal and the ADF&G biologist was present to answer AC questions.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-049)

PROPOSAL 188

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 14C brown bear drawing hunt DB468, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for DB468 UP TO 20% of the available permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DB468.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents. No other state in the union allows such an allowance to nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-065)

PROPOSAL 189

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the brown bear drawing hunt DB470, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DB470 to UP TO 20% of the available permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DB470.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even

where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-066)

PROPOSAL 190

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the brown bear drawing hunt DB477, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DB477 to UP TO 20% of the available permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DB477.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-067)

PROPOSAL 191

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Create an archery only, drawing permit hunt for brown bear in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Create an additional drawing permit hunt in Game Management Unit 14C by bow and arrow only as follows:

DBXXX

GMU, Area

Unit 14C, Chugach State Park Management Area

Season Dates: 09/01 - 05/31

Residency Restrictions

Hunt available to Nonresidents

Hunt available to Alaska Residents

Certified Bowhunters Only

Up to 25 permits

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

With an average of only one bear per year taken from the current hunt, I believe more opportunity is warranted. Over the past several years, I have personally witnessed a ton of brown bear in the area covered by DB470. In one afternoon, I witnessed six different brown bears on one side of a single valley. I have also hunted moose several different years in the area and during the season of 2023, I witnessed more bears, wolves and less moose and sheep than ever. I believe that creating a drawing permit hunt for archery only would allow for that additional opportunity, while only maybe averaging one more bear taken per year. There should be no conflict with user groups as there is already almost unlimited harvest ticket black bear hunting in the same area.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Myself and other avid hunters of Unit 14C.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Harris (OI-F25-184)

PROPOSAL 192

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Establish an archery only, registration brown bear hunt in the Chugach State Park Management Area in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

RB470 Chugach State Park Management Area and that portion of Eagle River Management Area above Icicle Creek: One bear every regulatory year by bow and arrow only. By registration permit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Establish RB470 registration tag to mirror draw tag DB470. Archery restrictions of bow and arrow only for the registration tag, season dates remain the same September 1 - May 31. Starting a registration rather than a harvest ticket still allows the department control to alleviate concerns of over harvest by establishing a sow quota for the area, if such concerns even exist. This area is a popular area for moose hunting in the fall, draw sheep hunting, and harvest ticket black bear hunting. Given the extremely low harvest rate of the 15 draw tags open to any weapon, there should

be no biological concern of establishing a registration hunt for archery only and creating more opportunities for those afield in this area. This additional registration opportunity also does not take away or limit the any weapon opportunities already in place. Conflicts with other user groups for the area should not be a concern as it is already open to harvest ticket black bear hunting during these season dates.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Trevor Embry (OI-F25-195)

PROPOSAL 193

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Change the DB468 brown bear draw hunt for the Eklutna Lake Management Area in Unit 14C to a registration hunt as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change DB468 from a drawing permit hunt to a registration permit hunt as follows:

[DB468] **RB468** Chugach State Park within Eklutna Lake Management Area One bear every regulatory year by bow and arrow only by registration permit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Switching to a registration rather than a harvest ticket still allows the Department of Fish and Game control to alleviate concerns of over harvest by establishing a sow quota for the area, if such concerns even exist. This area is a popular area for registration moose hunting in the fall, draw permit sheep hunting, and harvest ticket black bear hunting. Given the extremely low harvest rate of the 20 draw permits, there should be no biological concern of converting to registration for this hunt and allowing more opportunities for those already afield in this area. Conflicts with other user groups for the area should not be a concern as it is already open to harvest ticket black bear hunting by bow and arrow only.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Combined board of the Alaskan Bowhunters Association

PROPOSED BY: Alaskan Bowhunters Association (OI-F25-202)

PROPOSAL 194

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Unit 14C Remainder to June 30 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Extend the brown bear season in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

Unit 14C remainder

One bear every regulatory year

Sept. 1- **Jun 30** [Jun 15]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Lengthening the season in Unit 14C Remainder to June 30th would align the end date with Units 14A, 14B, 7 and 15. An additional two weeks should pose no biological concern and will add additional hunting opportunity.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Mike Harris (OI-F25-204)

PROPOSAL 195

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

Allow same day airborne take of black and brown bears at a bait stations in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

In Units 7, 9, 11-13, 14A, 14B, **14C Remainder**, 15-21, 23-25, 26B, and 26C black bears may be taken at permitted bait stations the same day you have flown, provided you are at least 300 feet from the airplane. Same day airborne take is not allowed on National Park Service lands.

In Units 7, 11-13, 14A, 14B, **14C Remainder**, 15-16, 18, 19, 20A, 20B, 20C, that portion of 20D north of the Tanana River, 20E, 20F, 21, 23, 24B, 24C, 24D, and 25D, brown bears may be taken at permitted bait stations the same day you have flown, provided you are at least 300 feet from the airplane. Same day airborne take is not allowed on National Park Service lands.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The issue the MatSu Valley Advisory Committee would like to have addressed is increasing the bear baiting opportunities in Unit 14C Remainder by allowing same day airborne hunting for black and brown bears at a bait station.

A large portion of Unit 14C Remainder is only accessible by aircraft. The current regulation requires hunters to overnight or camp until 3AM before legally hunting. Although bears move

throughout the day or 24-hour period, the bears seem to visit bait stations in the evening and tend to be nocturnal.

Allowing hunters to hunt bears the same day airborne provided the hunter is 300 feet from the airplane will increase the opportunity for harvesting bears over bait in 14C Remainder.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The advisory committee met to review this Proposal and ADF&G biologist was present to answer AC questions.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-050)

PROPOSAL 196

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

Restrict bear baiting within five miles of the Knik River Road in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

At Page 27 of the Regulation Book there is language stating that bear baiting is prohibited in the Glacier Creek drainage. This language should be added so that the Regulation Book would state as follows: "Bait may not be used and bait stations may not be registered. Unit 14 Remainder, the Glacier Creek drainage outside of Chugach State Park, and within five (5) miles of the Knik River Road."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Bait stations for both black and brown bear habituate some bears to human food and humans, and these bears pose a threat to people and property when bait stations are permitted near to populated areas. Bear baiting is currently authorized within a mile of the numerous cabins, home, and lodges along and near the Knik River Road; and a single mile separation is inadequate to provide for public safety. Furthermore, allowing bear bait near a populated area sends the wrong message contradicting the efforts of public authorities to persuade residents to handle their garbage responsibly.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I discussed this with the Anchorage Advisory Committee, but support was not unanimous and it was recommended that I submit it as an individual. I spoke with the area biologist about it and he referred me to Page 27 of the Regulation Book and suggested using the language concerning Glacier Creek drainage as a form.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-151)

PROPOSAL 197

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require identification tags on traps and snares in Unit 14C as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

A person may not set a trap or snare in Unit 14C unless there is attached to the trap or snare an identification tag. Identification tags must provide either the person's name, or a personal identification number (PIN). The PIN for residents is the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (ASPIN) ID. For residents, the Department shall upon request of a person intending to set traps or snares that person's ASPIN ID. For nonresidents the Department will assign a PIN when a trapping license is issued. PINs, will be kept confidential by the Department with exception that the identities of trappers shall be released to law enforcement when requested by law enforcement.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The Anchorage Municipal Code requires at AMC 14.70.200 C that all game traps and snares set with in the Municipality of Anchorage shall be marked with a trapper identification number issued by the State or with contact information for the owner of the trap or snare. However, the state currently has no regulation providing for the issuance of confidential I D's to trappers. This proposal would enable the ADF&G to issue confidential ID tags so that trappers who intend to set traps in the municipality could comply with AMC 14.70.200 C without using tags which contain their names.

Another purpose of this proposal to require tags is to provide. a deterrent to individuals who might be tempted to trap illegally

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Law enforcement supported a statewide proposal for tags on traps which was considered by the Board of Game at its Statewide Meeting in March, 2025, but was rejected. This proposal incorporates all the technical changes and recommendations made by law enforcement.

PROPOSED BY: Kneeland Taylor (OI-F25-052)

Kodiak Area – Unit 8

PROPOSAL 198

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Shorten the nonresident hunting season for deer in Unit 8 Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Sitka blacktail hunting season in UNIT 8 Remainder

August 1-November 25 for Nonresidents and Aliens

August 1st-December 31st for Residents

Kodiak Road zone stays the same as its been.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

My proposal addresses the clashing of nonresident deer hunters on Kodiak Island with resident hunters during our hunting season. There are flat out too many people hunting especially during November and December every year. Resident hunters utilize deer as a major source of subsistence in Unit 8, nonresident hunters utilize deer as a source of hunting and adventure and to a vastly lesser degree, eating. They are not dependent on it as a means of survival and subsistence like residents hunters. Nonresident harvest has steadily increased since 2016 while resident deer harvest has stayed steady or dropped. The increase in nonresident hunting for deer is perpetuated by the internet and DIY videographers and opportunistic transporters. Quality of hunting has gone way down for all user groups. It is getting so bad I now wear a bright orange gummy suit when out hunting so I don't get smoked with a stray bullet. There needs to be a reasonable season in place for different user groups.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I have formulated this proposal with the input of many Kodiak Island, Unit 8 residents and village residents as well as input from other continental Alaskans residents

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-176)

PROPOSAL 199

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8 Remainder as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Increase the limit for Sitka blacktail deer on Kodiak Island for nonresidents from 1 buck to 2 deer or 3 deer (bucks only before October 1).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The limit for nonresidents was changed from three Sitka blacktail deer to one buck starting in the 2023 season. From what I can tell, this was due to “user-conflict issues” with villages on the ferry system rather than deer population concerns. The Department of Fish & Game opposed the reduction finding no biological reason for it. The population remains high and healthy.

Very few nonresidents ever harvested more than one deer. However, they did book 4-7 day trips wherein they harvested the first decent buck they saw and spent the remaining time in the field trying to beat the size.

The unintended consequence of this reduction is additional pressure put on waterfowl hunting and fishing. When hunters harvest deer at the beginning of their trip, instead of staying in the field looking for a bigger buck, they are now waterfowl hunting and fishing to fill the rest of the days of their trip. I have lived in Larsen Bay my whole life and have never seen so much winter charter fishing and waterfowl hunting.

There are also far fewer nonresidents booking hunts. This is for at least two reasons. First, the reduction in limit gave the impression that the population of deer on Kodiak was low. That is not the case. Second, hunters did not want to devote the time and expense to a hunt that could be over in one day. This harms lodges, transporters, air taxies, outfitters, and other Alaskan businesses.

If this were a population issue or an issue that effected the health of the deer on Kodiak Island, I would be fully supportive. My father was a guide here, my son is guiding too, and we want this area healthy and productive for generations to come. However, the deer population in my area, Larsen Bay/Uyak Bay, is high and healthy. There were 42 deer in my yard last week. Winter conditions effect deer population far more than hunters. We have had mild enough winters, without sheets of ice that block deer food sources, and the population is thriving.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Carlson (OI-F25-182)

PROPOSAL 200

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8 Remainder from one to two bucks for as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change the nonresident Unit 8 deer limit to two bucks to allow hunters that are successful early in their hunt to continue their time in the field.

“Nonresidents Unit 8 Remainder two bucks HT Aug 1 - Dec 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The one deer limit in Unit 8 for nonresidents is a deterrent to nonresident hunters, and a detriment to Kodiak Island businesses and State of Alaska revenue for a negligible reduction in harvest.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

In consultation with Kodiak Island businesses catering to hunters.

PROPOSED BY: Roark Brown (HQ-F25-003)

PROPOSAL 201

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8, Remainder to two bucks as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8, Remainder as follows:

Unit 8: Remainder

Nonresidents

Bag Limit: Two Bucks

Season dates: Aug. 1 — Dec. 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

In 2023, the Alaska Board of Game adopted a proposal (Proposal 73) which decreased the nonresident bag limit in Game Management Unit 8, Remainder from three deer to only one buck. This decrease was drastic and was not supported by data or opinions offered by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I believe that if a bag limit change were needed, the board should have taken a more gradual approach (two deer or two bucks). As an Alaska resident, I personally have several nonresident friends and family members who would buy two deer tags when coming to Kodiak. In the off chance that they filled one early, they would have the rest of the hunt to pursue a bigger buck. Most of these hunts would still only result in one deer killed but the department still made money on that second tag. Most of my friends and family now cannot justify coming to hunt Kodiak when limited to only one tag. I also know of Alaskan transporter businesses that lost money to the bag limit decrease.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Myself and various friends and family.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Harris (OI-F25-183)

PROPOSAL 202

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 8 for Guide Use Areas 08-01, 02, 26, 27 and 28, to two bucks only through December 1, and antlerless deer after December 1 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Bucks only until December 1st, One antlerless deer after December 1st in Guide Use Area's 08-01, 08-02, 08-26, 08-27 and 08-28.

Bucks can only be harvested until December 1st; after December 1st, does and antlerless deer may be harvested.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Proposal: Bucks only until December 1st; one antlerless deer after December 1st - Unit 8.

The harvest limit would not be affected in this proposal. This proposal would take affect in Guide Use Area's 08-01, 08-02, 08-26, 08-27, and 08-28. With ease of transportation and todays technology, it is more accessible to these area's causing higher harvest of does and does with fawns. With the harvest of does with fawns, the fawns are left alone to survive without the added protection from their mother. With the health of the population in mind, and the mating season being in the prime of the hunting of the species, this would protect does with fawns as well as the does that become pregnant and give them a chance to reproduce the population. Enriching the biological diversity of these areas, to grow the population of mature animals and increase the sustainability of the population is the goal behind this proposal.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was not developed in coordination with the local advisory committee. There has been conversation within the City of Port Lions.

PROPOSED BY: Brandon Bartleson (OI-F25-198)

PROPOSAL 203

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8 Remainder from one to three as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

The limit for Sitka blacktail deer in Unit 8 should be raised back to three for nonresident hunters.

Nonresident hunters in Unit 8 Remainder deer bag limit **3 deer total** [ONE BUCK]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to address the recent change for nonresident hunters in Unit 8 from three Sitka blacktail deer of any sex to one buck only. This change has negatively affected me and my family and according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game had no biological reason to be implemented.

Thank you.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Zachary Porter (OI-F25-005)

PROPOSAL 204

5 AAC 85.030(a)(6). Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Increase the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8 Remainder to two bucks as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Remainder of Unit 8

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

Three deer; however, only bucks may be taken before Oct. 1
Aug. 1 - Dec. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

Two bucks [One buck]
Aug. 1 - Dec. 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current regulation restricts nonresident hunters to harvesting only one buck deer annually on Kodiak Island, while Alaska residents may harvest up to three deer of either sex. This regulation lacks biological justification, as the Sitka blacktail deer population on Kodiak is stable, productive, and resilient. There is no data indicating that nonresident harvest poses a conservation concern. The regulation should be updated to reflect actual population dynamics and to align with the sustainable yield principles guiding Alaska’s game management.

Nonresidents are an important stakeholder group in Alaska’s wildlife management system. They contribute significant revenue through license/tag sales, transport, lodging, and guiding services. Limiting them to one buck per year—despite healthy deer numbers—artificially restricts opportunity and economic benefit to the region.

Recent harvest data and field reports show that the deer population on Kodiak Island has rebounded strongly from previous harsh winters and continues to produce strong fawn recruitment and mature buck age classes. There is no indication that increasing the nonresident limit from one to two bucks would pose a conservation threat, especially as the regulation would still prohibit doe harvest by nonresidents.

The proposed two-buck limit maintains a conservative and biologically sound approach:

- It allows increased opportunity while continuing to protect breeding-age does.
- It better reflects the productivity of the unit and brings nonresident opportunity closer to that of residents (who are allowed three deer, including does).

If the regulation remains unchanged, nonresident opportunity remains artificially limited, economic contributions to local businesses will remain suppressed, and the management framework will continue to be misaligned with the actual status of the deer herd on Kodiak Island.

This proposal is a modest, biologically justified increase in harvest opportunity. It helps align regulation with current herd conditions, better serves the hunting public, and increases the economic benefit to Kodiak communities—all while remaining within a sustainable framework.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Austin Atkinson (OI-F25-048)

PROPOSAL 205

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Change the season dates and bag limits for deer hunting in Unit 8, Ugak Bay, Saltery Cove and Rough Creek as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Proposed Regulation – Kodiak Off-Road Accessible Areas (Ugak Bay, Saltery Cove, Rough Creek)

Season Dates and Bag Limits:

August 1 – October 31

Bag Limit: Three (3) bucks

Antler Restrictions: Any size

Legal Weapons: All legal hunting methods permitted

November 1 – November 30

Bag Limit: Three (3) adult deer

Antler Restrictions for Bucks: Minimum spike length of 3 inches

Harvest Restrictions: Harvest of nursing does and fawns prohibited

Legal Weapons: All legal hunting methods permitted

December 1 – December 31

Bag Limit: Three (3) adult deer

Antler Restrictions for Bucks: Minimum spike length of 3 inches

Legal Weapons: Muzzleloader or primitive weapons only

Youth and Hunters with Disabilities:

Bag Limit: Three (3) deer, any sex or age

Season Dates: August 1 – December 31

Legal Weapons: All legal hunting methods permitted

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I'm writing to raise concern about the declining deer population in Kodiak's Ugak Bay, Saltery Cove, and Rough Creek—areas accessible by ATVs and UTVs. Since 2015, the rise of side-by-sides has allowed more hunters to access these regions, stay longer in colder months, and transport more gear and game. These small areas remain open to extended seasons and motorized access, resulting in increased harvest pressure. As mature deer become scarce, younger deer are being taken, reducing reproductive success and long-term sustainability. I urge the Board of Game to review regulations in these off-road accessible zones to help protect and restore the deer population yet maintain the season bag limits and duration so that residents and no and preserve the quality of hunt for the residents and nonresidents.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I've spoken with many hunters who use this area in the fall after the road system closes. While opinions vary on the best approach, there is broad agreement that action is needed to preserve the deer population and maintain quality hunting opportunities.

PROPOSED BY: Lucas Smith (OI-F25-199)

PROPOSAL 206

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Change the road system boundary for deer hunting in Unit 8, from the mouth of the Saltry River to the mouth of Wild Creek as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

For deer hunting in Unit 8, move the on road system line from the mouth of the Saltry River to the mouth of Wildcreek. Leaving the other end of the line in Sharatin Bay the same.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Overhunting of deer of the Saltry River Drainage due to increased access of the off-road system area directly adjacent to the on-road system area by large side-by-sides

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes, after talking to a lot of the other local hunters about what to do about the overhunting of this area this was the solution.

PROPOSED BY: John Neff (OI-F25-064)

PROPOSAL 207

5 AAC 85.030(a)(6). Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Change the bag limit for deer in Unit 8 for Guide Use Areas 08-01, 02, 026, 027, and 028, to require a fork on at least one side as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Proposal: Spike/Fork Restriction - Unit 8

This restriction would take place in Guide Use Areas 08-01, 08-02, 08-26, 08-27 and 08-28. Bucks must have a fork on at least one side of their antlers in order to be harvested.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

This restriction would allow bucks to age past their first year and help the biological diversity of these areas. The mortality rate, when we have hard winters, the first age group of deer to die off are the younger age groups, thus this proposal would give the younger animals a chance of maturing if they make it through the harder winters. The younger age group of bucks and does has been substantially decreasing in these area's due to the increased pressure and ease of access.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was not developed in coordination with the local advisory committee. Their has been conversations within the City of Port Lions.

PROPOSED BY: Brandon Bartleson (OI-F25-193)

PROPOSAL 208

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Prohibit the take of fawns or does with fawns in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Taking of fawns or does with fawns is prohibited.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Decline in deer population in easy to access hunting areas and unethical harvest of young deer.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Jessie Juhlin (OI-F25-238)

PROPOSAL 209

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Require nonresidents to hunt elk with a guide in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

All aliens and nonresidents regardless of degree of kindred relatives as Alaska resident must have a guide for Kodiak brown bear, Roosevelt elk and mountain goat in Unit 8.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There is a gross abuse of hunting resources in our state by degree of kindred nonresident hunters hunting like Alaskan residents. Many Alaskans as the degree of kindred link are not experienced or qualified enough to hunt big game animals in Unit 8 like Mountain goat or brown bear, but they act like it, and thus a father or mother or brother or sister nonresident can legally hunt with them unguided. This is a major source of exploitation by Coast guard people in Unit 8, especially with bears. WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE RESOURCE and we are not in this case. Many of these hunters shoot barely legal sows or not legal cub bears because they are not experienced enough to know better. If you are any kind of nonresident, Alaska degree of kindred relative or not, a guide should be mandatory for Kodiak brown bear or mountain goat hunting.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Nope.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-194)

PROPOSAL 210

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

5 AAC 92.050. Required permit hunt conditions and procedures.

Reallocate elk permits in hunt areas DE715, DE717, DE721, DE723 and RE706 and limit RE706 tags issued in Port Lions and Ouzinkie to one per household as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Return the 16 tags to the DE715, DE717, DE721, and DE723 pool of permits and assign four registration tags from RE706 for in-person release in Ouzinkie and four registration tags from RE706 for in-person release in Port Lions.

Designate these tags for in-person release in Ouzinkie and Port Lions as one per household.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The allocation of 16 registration elk permits (RE752 and RE756) that can only be picked up in the extremely difficult and costly to access communities of Port Lions and Ouzinkie is excessive and negatively impacts highly competitive draw hunts for the rest of Alaska residents. The creation of

RE753 and RE756 registration permits removed 16 tags from the DE715, DE717, DE721, and DE723 draw hunts, reducing the overall number of draw tags by 9.4% for those areas.

Removing 9.4% of the total tags from the DE715, DE717, DE721, and DE723 pool of tags, which have a 2-3% draw success rate, is punitive to Alaskans who do not live in these communities.

This inequity to fellow Alaskans is heightened by the fact that a registration hunt for Alaska residents exists on Raspberry Island (RE706) which provides an abundant resource for subsistence elk hunting. Raspberry Island is closer by distance to both Ouzinkie and Port Lions in comparison to the current East Afognak and Remainder hunt areas.

In addition, RE752 and RE756 are not limited to one permit per household. This resulted in three households receiving two permits during the 2024 permit issuance.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Brooks Horan (OI-F25-180)

PROPOSAL 211

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Extend the elk registration hunt in Unit 8, to December 31 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Elk Registration on Kodiak Island until December 31st.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Allow for elk registration be extended beyond the closure for Raspberry Island and Afognak Island for the remainder of Kodiak Island.

Elk move from Raspberry or Afognak Island on occasion to the main Island of Kodiak. During registration season you may harvest an elk on Kodiak if you see one. The refuge does not elk to establish a population on Kodiak.

I would like to see Eek registration to be allowed on Kodiak Island until December 31/

If poaching is a concern require verifiable proof of kill and gut pile with GPS coordinates included in a photo to be submitted with your registration to ADF&G upon return to town.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several people have expressed interest in hunting elk late in the fall on Kodiak Island.

Not run through Kodiak Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Alexis Kwachka (OI-F25-229)

PROPOSAL 212

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE702, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE702 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE702.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black Bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-075)

PROPOSAL 213

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE704, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE704 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE704. There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska

requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-076)

PROPOSAL 214

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE711, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE711 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE711.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-079)

PROPOSAL 215

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE713, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE713 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE713.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-080)

PROPOSAL 216

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE721, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE721 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE721.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-081)

PROPOSAL 217

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE723, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE723 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE723.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-082)

PROPOSAL 218

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE715, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE715 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE715.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-083)

PROPOSAL 219

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for Unit 8 elk drawing hunt DE717, to “up to” 10% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DE717 to UP TO 10% of the available permits. If at least 10 permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DE717.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-084)

PROPOSAL 220

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Extend the subsistence goat hunting season in Unit 8 to March 31 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

One goat available by permit RG471-474, 476 season November 1-March 31st.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I want to address subsistence mountain goat hunting in draw hunt areas on Kodiak Island. Currently there is a subsistence hunt available in 471, 472, 473 and 474 and 476 Unit 8 goat hunts. This subsistence tag becomes available to hunt November 1st. I would like to see the season extended to March 31st for subsistence hunts to mirror the same season as RG480. It would give people more time to utilize the resource and harvest goats at lower elevation in winter months. ADF&G still would have emergency order power to close a hunt if the harvest quota was met.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-191)

PROPOSAL 221

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Lengthen the season for the RG480 goat hunt in Unit 8, to start August 1 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Open season for RG480 runs from August 1-March 31.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I propose that the start date of RG480 be modified from August 20 to August 1. To begin, according to a AF&G biologist I spoke with, there is no biological evidence for the start date to be later than August 1.

In addition, an August 1st start date would provide an amazing opportunity for young hunters and parents to hunt goat prior to the start of a new school year. I imagine many Alaskans would appreciate the expansion of a quality hunt option prior to the start of the school year so that young hunters can enjoy the experience of a mountain goat hunt without missing school and sporting events.

Lastly, this change would align with the start of deer season in Kodiak, which would give hunters more options for harvesting goat or deer on an early season hunt.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I developed the proposal in coordination with the many parents of young hunters who are always looking for high quality hunting opportunities prior to the start of the school year. An early season mountain goat hunt in Kodiak that would not require stude

PROPOSED BY: Daniel Olson (OI-F25-018)

PROPOSAL 222

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

5 AAC 92.171. Sealing of horns and antlers.

Change the bag limit for hunting goat in Unit 8 to one billy only, and require horns be sealed as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

I recommend changing the hunts in Unit 8 to billy only and reducing RG480 back to one male goat with requirements to seal so we can have better harvest information on this population.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current mountain goat strategy on Kodiak Island is shifting the nanny/billy ratio across the Island. We currently have a long season on the South end to reduce population by 20% and due to federal managers not wanting the animals there, over harvest of billys and lack of sealing

requirements, it has been left open despite low abundance of mature males. This has left a disproportionate amount of young goats and nannys to mature males. Even though these were an introduced population, these animals provide value to the economy, one of the only reliable over the counter opportunities and subsistence to locals.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Caleb Martin (OI-F25-022)

PROPOSAL 223

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG471, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG471 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG471.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-100)

PROPOSAL 224

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG472, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG472 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG472.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-101)

PROPOSAL 225

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG473, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG473 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG473.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-102)

PROPOSAL 226

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG474, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG474 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG474.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-103)

PROPOSAL 227

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG476, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG476 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG476.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-104)

PROPOSAL 228

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG478, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG478 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG478.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-105)

PROPOSAL 229

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Limit the nonresident permit allocation for the Unit 8 goat drawing hunt DG479, to “up to” 20% of the available permits as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Limit nonresident permit allocation for drawing hunt DG479 to UP TO 20% of the available permits. If at least five permits are not issued a nonresident permit will not be available.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit the number of tags that may be drawn by nonresidents for drawing hunt DG479.

There is currently no cap on how many tags may be drawn by nonresidents.

If nothing is changed residents will continue to lose opportunities to hunt in easier accessible areas that are limited to drawing hunts because of said access issues. The nature of many hunts in Alaska requires that hunters use expensive modes of transportation to access an area to hunt. Many of the drawing hunts are only restricted to drawing because they are in easier accessible areas. Even where access is not the primary limiting factor Alaskan residents are being out competed by guided nonresidents in the draw by outfitters and license application services. Additionally caribou, moose, bison, muskox, black bear and elk do not require a guide and non-guided nonresident interest in these species is increasing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-106)

PROPOSAL 230

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Extend the season for the RG480 goat hunt in Unit 8, to start August 1st as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Extend the dates for RG480 from August 20-March 31 to August 1st to March 31st.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Extend the dates for RG480 from August 20-March 31 to August 1st to March 31st.

Add additional opportunity to hunt goats while hunting deer from August 1st to August 19th.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Craig Van Arsdale (OI-F25-123)

PROPOSAL 231

5 AAC 92.057. Special provisions for Dall sheep and mountain goat drawing permit hunts.

Limit nonresident permit allocation to 10%, for the Unit 8 goat drawing permit hunts DG471, DG472, DG473, DG474, DG476, DG478, and DG479 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Nonresident allocation for goat draw permits DG471, DG472, DG473, DG474, DG476, DG478, and DG479 should be capped at 10% of the total number of permits issued.

This would not only limit the competition in the field for resident hunters, but it will also increase the odds of drawing a permit by taking excess applications out of the drawing pool if/when the 10% cap is reached for nonresident permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The Issue:

Nonresidents are drawing upwards of 20% of the goat drawing permits for hunts DG471, DG472, DG473, DG474, DG476, DG478, and DG479.

Why it matters:

These hunts offer residents of Alaska a great opportunity to hunt goats with a healthy population and high odds of success at a decreased overall cost due to these units being a shorter flight from the city of Kodiak or accessible from the road system.

Bush plane flights have risen astronomically over the last several years and a flight to the south end of Kodiak to hunt RG480 is running over \$4,000 round trip. The draw units are half the cost

for a flight and two of them can be hunted off the Kodiak road system. Goats are big animals and yield a decent amount of meat. Deer can also be harvested concurrently on these hunts, giving residents more opportunity to fill their freezers.

Goat hunts statewide are strictly monitored and are managed exclusively via registration and drawing permits. Registration permits on the mainland are prone to small quotas and early closures. Draw permits on the mainland typically see less than a dozen permits issued making them extremely hard to draw.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

No

PROPOSED BY: Jesse Dunshie (OI-F25-156)

PROPOSAL 232

5 AAC 92.057. Special provisions for Dall sheep and mountain goat drawing permit hunts.

Establish an allocation for resident and nonresident goat drawing permits for North Kodiak Island in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

If this moves forward:

Board of Game established appropriate ratio of opportunity for residents and nonresidents to access North Kodiak Islands goat populations.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Kodiak has a very unique situation. We live on a road system adjacent to two goat areas. residents can fly into town and stay in a hotel and take a cab to access hunting area's. This option is available for residents and nonresidents. It's becoming extremely important to guides as well. I feel it's time to explore either a set aside for guides or a ratio of permits available to residents / nonresidents. Draw areas 471, 472, 478 and 479 should be considered for this actions.

These four area's can be accessed by vehicle or 4-wheeler and should have a priority for resident hunters who can access goat country at a reasonable cost. I feel like establishing a criteria of allocation will eliminate potential conflict between guides and resident hunters in the future.

If this proposal moves forward the data will be helpful in narrowing in the proper proportions.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Several people have spoken to me about this and what is felt like declining opportunity because of guides loading up the drawing with potential hunters. I feel like it's good policy to try and be ahead of a cure versus behind and trying to catch up. Kodiak is one of a handful of places where you can access goats at a reasonable cost. We should be aware of this and regulate accordingly. I believe most of these are's fall outside of guide area's and are appealing to access for nonresident hunters

through the use of a guide. If this is the case we should definitely recognize this and regulate it. Known numbers for each user will establish stability and provide the most opportunity to access goats.

I did not run this through the local advisory Board, but i'm sure a robust conversation from the submittal of this proposal will ensue.

PROPOSED BY: Alexis Kwachka (OI-F25-226)

PROPOSAL 233

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Change the boundary for the Unit 8 brown bear drawing hunts DB 106/206/136/236 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Change the boundary of Kodiak bear drawing DB 106/206/136/236. Change the northeast boundary of this bear area to follow the ridgeline to Cape Kasiak (The point that separates Three Saints Bay from Kaiugnak Bay; rather than come down Avnulu Creek.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The boundary for DB 106/206/136/236 is in a bad place. For some reason, unknown to anyone at ADF&G the boundary goes down Avnulu Vreek. This is contrary to almost every other Kodiak bear hunt boundary which follow the ridgelines or high ground. It makes this area very difficult to hunt because the only practical access is from Kaiugnak Bay but only half of the valley is in that unit, making it very frustrating to hunt. The side that is in the opposite area is good to hunt also but virtually inaccessible for anyone with that tag because float planes can't pull up to the rocky/wavy beach. It is more than 10 miles of very rough ocean from any place in that unit where a floatplane could land. It is only practical via inflatable from Kaiugnak. I asked the staff in Unit 8, they were not opposed, but they wanted the Board of Game to weigh in. As far as we can tell staff has the authority to move the line. I also talked to the bear guide in the adjacent unit and he is not opposed.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Developed with the adjacent area guide (his area will be slightly smaller. Also Unit 8 ADF&G staff and USF&WS staff for Kodiak Refuge.

PROPOSED BY: Aaron Bloomquist (OI-F25-035)

PROPOSAL 234

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Shorten the spring brown bear season on Kodiak Island in Unit 8, to start April 20 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Kodiak Brown Bear

Spring season April 20 - May 20th

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The issue I want to address is spring bear season on Kodiak Island. It begins April 1st. There is VERY LITTLE actual bear harvest or bear activity in early April, so most people never start until around April 20th, every year, guided and Alaskan. We have had a lot of late springs where nothing is happening at all for successful hunting until the very end of April til the end on May 15th. I believe shortening the season and changing dates would still allow for everyone, resident and nonresident and alien to have a high quality experience and harvest more boars, thus growing a healthier and more uniform bear population. All vendors and airplane and boat transport services would not lose business, if anything it would increase for everyone being able to operate during warmer better weather.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I collaborated with Alaskan and Kodiak Island residents as well as some guides and nonresidents on this matter.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-178)

PROPOSAL 235

5 AAC 92.132. Restrictions to bag limit.

Count a wounded bear against a hunter's bag limit in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Bag limit for Kodiak brown bear in Unit 8 in any draw or registration hunt is 1 KODIAK BROWN BEAR wounded or harvested every 4 REGULATORY YEARS.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The issue my proposal addresses is wounded bears and a lack of ethics hunting with Kodiak brown bear. Current regulations allow for a bear hunter to LEGALLY WOUND A BEAR in Unit 8, on any SPRING kodiak brown bear hunt (APRIL 1st - MAY 15th) and hunt again that same calendar year fall hunt (October 25th - November 30th). The reason for this is a new ADF&G management year begins in July every year, thus allowing a hunter to hunt again because it is a "new" year by the fish and game management calendar. This to me promotes gross and negligent mismanagement of a very finite and unique resource, Kodiak brown bear. A wounded bear is a

wounded bear, and it should be treated the same as a harvested bear for the magnitude of putting a bullet (or arrow) in that animal. IT IS WRONG MORALLY AND ETHICALLY speaking, that a person can potentially wound/kill two bears in one calendar year. This needs to change. It has been happening for far too long and is an overlooked example of bad management.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

NOPE. ALL MYSELF

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-175)

PROPOSAL 236

5 AAC 92.052. Discretionary permit hunt conditions and procedures.

5 AAC 92.061. Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Remove the sow restriction and penalties for resident hunters in Kodiak brown bear hunt areas 8 thru 16, and institute a sow skull size restriction for resident hunters as follows.

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Remove the sow restrictions and penalties for resident hunters in hunt areas 8-16.

Institute a skull size component to where the elimination of any permits only happens if a sow is harvested with a skull size less than 15 inches in length or 9 inches in width.

From the 2024/2025 draw hunt supplement: “The bag limit is one bear every four years, and a legal bear is any bear except cubs or females with cubs. A wounded bear counts against your bag limit for the regulatory year.”

Including resident brown bear hunters in the sow harvest restrictions in these hunt areas will lead to many more permits being taken away from resident hunters than nonresident guided hunters.

A resident bear hunter who draws a once-in-a-lifetime Kodiak brown bear permit wants to take a trophy (male) bear but also doesn’t want to come away without harvesting a bear in what will likely be the only chance he or she gets the opportunity for this coveted hunt. Taking a sow in these areas does not affect that hunter, so there is no real incentive to not take a sow. The loss-of-permit penalty falls on future resident hunters.

A guided nonresident hunter is after a trophy brown bear, and most guides will not let a client take a sow. Guides have far more knowledge than most resident bear hunters on judging sows vs boars. Guides in the areas where these sow restrictions are in place have a monetary incentive to avoid taking sows because the penalty (loss of a permit) applies to that guide with that concession area. So, guided nonresident hunters are much more likely to avoid taking a sow.

The previous RY94-RY06 sow harvest restrictions in these hunt areas only applied to nonresident drawing permits and according to the Department, “it was widely believed this prior regulation (RY94-RY06) had a positive effect on the population.”

Going back a few years, the ADF&G chart below shows that in hunt areas 8-16, from RY 21 – 24, nonresidents harvested 10 sows, and residents took 26 sows. Resident hunters took about 73 percent of the sows, with nonresidents taking 27 percent.

1	Area	Sex	Residency	SKTOTAL	Regulatory Year	cert
2	111	F	Nonresident	24.5625	2021	1807985
3	112	F	Nonresident	24.3125	2021	1808011
4	113	F	Nonresident	21.8750	2021	1807995
5	143	F	Nonresident	23.0000	2021	1805763
6	113	F	Nonresident	22.5625	2022	1806351
7	116	F	Nonresident	20.1250	2022	1806333
8	146	F	Nonresident	19.8125	2022	1806233
9	238	F	Nonresident	23.9375	2022	1806286
10	240	F	Nonresident	23.1250	2022	1806212
11	113	F	Nonresident	20.8125	2023	1807341
12	208	F	Resident	20.1875	2021	1808002
13	211	F	Resident	20.9375	2021	1808012
14	211	F	Resident	22.1875	2021	1808028
15	212	F	Resident	21.3750	2021	1807982
16	214	F	Resident	23.1875	2021	1808078
17	215	F	Resident	22.6875	2021	1808021
18	240	F	Resident	22.3750	2021	1805784
19	244	F	Resident	22.8125	2021	1805752
20	210	F	Resident	23.6250	2022	1806336
21	211	F	Resident	23.0625	2022	1806386
22	212	F	Resident	21.1250	2022	1806352
23	213	F	Resident	23.7500	2022	1806368
24	213	F	Resident	25.0000	2022	1806330
25	215	F	Resident	21.6250	2022	1806360
26	238	F	Resident	22.5000	2022	1806298
27	241	F	Resident	22.5625	2022	1806277
28	243	F	Resident	22.3750	2022	1806223
29	212	F	Resident	21.1875	2023	1807316
30	214	F	Resident	20.5000	2023	101188
31	214	F	Resident	22.6250	2023	1807333
32	241	F	Resident	22.6875	2023	1807291
33	243	F	Resident	21.9375	2023	1807210
34	208	F	Resident	19.5625	2024	1813379
35	211	F	Resident	20.6875	2024	1813363
36	213	F	Resident	22.4375	2024	1813389
37	214	F	Resident	21.6875	2024	1813378

If only including nonresidents (who take a quarter of the sow harvests) in the previous sow restrictions had a positive effect on the population to the point those restrictions were rescinded, why are we including residents in these sow restrictions now? Again, without a penalty to the individual resident hunter who takes a sow, there is no real incentive not to take a sow when that hunter won't be affected by future loss of permits. This will continue to result in a significant loss of permits to residents.

We'd like the Department of Fish and Game to only include nonresident drawing permits for these sow harvest restrictions in these hunt areas. Start out just like we did the last time when we had bear conservation concerns in these areas, put the emphasis on guided hunters whereby the guide has a clear incentive not to harvest sows.

Including a skull size component places no burden on Department staff because skulls are already required to be sealed and skulls are measured when sealed. There should be no penalty for any hunter for taking older class sows with a skull size larger than 15 inches in length or 9 inches in width.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Kodiak brown bear restrictions on the taking of sows in hunt areas 8-16 and elimination of permits for residents if sows are taken

Department concerns with lower brown bear populations in the southwestern portion of Kodiak Island resulted in the Department instituting regulations in RY23 that result in a loss of permits to both residents and nonresidents if any sows are taken in hunt areas 8–16 (Deadman Bay, Dog Salmon River, South Olga Lakes, Red Lake, Frazer Lake, Karluk Lake, Halibut Bay, Sturgeon River, & North Karluk River).

These new sow harvest restrictions are similar to what was in place in RY94–RY06 in the same hunt areas, although the previous sow harvest restrictions had a skull size component and did not include resident bear hunters.

Since the implementation of these sow harvest restrictions in RY 23 in these hunt areas, residents have harvested nine sows, and nonresidents 1 sow. This results in a significant loss of permits for resident hunters. While we understand the necessity to take fewer sows in these areas, we don't believe resident bear hunters should be included in the sow restrictions and penalties.

Also, we want to note that after the Department implemented these sow restrictions, there was nothing in the Draw Permit Supplement to inform hunters who apply for permits in these areas that these sow harvest restrictions were in place. However, hunters are informed of the sow harvest restrictions after they win a permit for these areas.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

RHAK always contacts Department biologists when working on proposals. Thanks to Department staff for answering questions and providing harvest information!

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (OI-F25-187)

PROPOSAL 237

5 AAC 92.061. Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Require all nonresident hunters to apply for Unit 8 brown bear drawing permits and reallocate unused nonresident permits to residents as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

- 1) Require all nonresident guided hunters to apply for Unit 8 Kodiak brown bear drawing permits, pay the application fee, and for the Department to submit that application.**
- 2) If guided nonresident Kodiak brown bear permits are not being utilized, reallocate those permits to residents.**

There is absolutely no reason why the board should continue to allow nonresident guided hunters to skip the Kodiak brown bear draw permit process. This state-managed draw permit hunt clearly gives a preference to nonresidents over residents and should not be allowed to happen.

If guided nonresident Kodiak brown bear “draw” permits awarded to exclusive or semi-exclusive guide concession areas are not being utilized, those permits for those areas should be re-allocated to the resident draw permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Guides and their nonresident clients being allowed to intentionally “skip” the Kodiak brown bear “draw” permit process.

5 AAC 92.061 Special provisions for Unit 8 brown bear permit hunts (our emphasis):

“In the Unit 8 general brown bear drawing permit hunt, the department shall issue permits, and a hunter may apply for a permit, as follows:

(1) the department shall issue a maximum of 40 percent of the drawing permits to nonresidents and a minimum of 60 percent to residents; each guide may submit the same number of nonresident applications for a hunt as the number of permits available for that hunt;

(2) the department **shall** enter, in a resident drawing, each application from a resident and each application from a nonresident accompanied by a resident relative who is within the second degree of kindred; for each season, the department shall issue a maximum of four permits to nonresident hunters accompanied by a resident relative who is within the second degree of kindred; however, the department may not issue, within one calendar year, more than one of these permits per individual hunt, as described in the permit hunt guide published each year by the department;

(3) the department **shall** enter, in a guided nonresident drawing, each complete application from a nonresident who will be accompanied by a guide; the department may enter an application and issue a drawing permit for the general hunt only to a successful nonresident applicant who presents proof at the time of application that the applicant will be accompanied by a guide, as required under AS 16.05.407 or 16.05.408;

(4) the following provisions apply to a guided nonresident drawing under this section:

(A) an applicant for a guided nonresident drawing permit may apply for only one such permit per application period;

(B) **after the successful applicants have been selected by drawing**, the department shall create an alternate list by drawing the remaining names of applicants for a specific hunt and placing the names on the alternate list in the order in which the names were drawn;

(C) if a successful applicant cancels the guided hunt, the person whose name appears first on the alternate list for that hunt shall be offered the permit; if an alternate applicant cancels the guided hunt, the permit must be offered in turn to succeeding alternate applicants until the alternate list is exhausted;

(D) if a guided nonresident drawing permit is available, but the alternate list is exhausted, the permit becomes available, by registration at the Kodiak ADF&G office, to the first applicant furnishing proof that the applicant will be accompanied by a guide;”

Resident Hunters of Alaska submitted a similar proposal (Proposal 78) for the 2023 Southcentral meeting, trying to get the board to recognize that these hunts aren’t really a “draw” hunt for nonresidents at all when they can skip the permit process completely. During deliberations on

Proposal 78, the chairman of the board made these statements below, transcribed from the audio recording (our emphasis):

Chairman Burnett: *“So, why do we pretend that these are draw hunts? I mean, other than the fact we’ve identified them as draw hunts by putting them in the draw supplement. No one can draw except very few people, there are no odds, it’s 100% or zero. Why can’t we identify those separately? And rather than pretending that it’s a regular random draw like everything else, maybe have people pay a fee as if it were a draw. What prevents us from doing that?”*

Department of Law: *“The Department is kinda limited on what they can do here because of these exclusive guide use areas. It’s really controlled by the federal process.”*

Chairman Burnett: *“Perhaps those should be registration hunts? Identify those hunts and we can make them registration hunts for nonresidents because they can only have one permit. Or something like that rather than pretending they are a draw permit. Because it is...the people support this proposal – and we’ve seen this proposal in the past -- because it’s confusing and it seems unfair. It’s nothing the state’s doing that’s unfair, it’s a fact that there is a federal exclusive guide use area, doesn’t have anything to do with what the state’s actions are here. But, somehow to identify it so it doesn’t provide the confusion that these people are doing something wrong.”*

The board’s own former chairman has said on the record that these hunts listed as “draw” hunts for nonresidents are not really draw hunts at all, that we are “pretending” these are random draw hunts for nonresidents. Clearly, as he also alludes, this is “unfair.”

We are not going to advocate to make these nonresident Kodiak brown bear hunts registration hunts, as the former Board of Game chairman suggested, because clearly it would be unconstitutional for residents to be required to participate in a random draw hunt for any opportunity to hunt a Kodiak brown bear while nonresidents could hunt whenever they want via a registration hunt.

But for decades now, what the board is allowing is unconstitutional because it is a random lottery draw hunt for residents, but nonresidents have 100% opportunity to hunt.

The regulation is very clear in 5AAC 92.061 where it states that the Department *“shall enter, in a guided nonresident drawing, each complete application from a nonresident who will be accompanied by a guide.”*

Yet the Department is not doing that, and the board is not requiring the Department to do that. The alternate list in 5AAC 92.061 is only to be used *“after the successful applicants have been selected by drawing”*

But the Department is issuing over-the-counter tags to nonresidents who didn’t apply for a draw permit and were not selected as part of the alternate list.

The fact that this happens on federal lands within exclusive guide concession areas doesn’t mean that the Department and the board are “limited” in what they can do, as the Department of Law suggested. **This is a state-managed hunt, under state regulations, and the current regulation isn’t being followed!** Even the Department’s own area biologist agrees that it isn’t being followed.

Details Submitted Previously

RHAK has provided ample evidence in previous proposals how some guides and their clients are taking advantage of the unfair system of how nonresident Kodiak brown bear “draw” permits are issued.

These permits actually go to the guide with the exclusive concession area to allocate as they wish. Some guides don’t use the permits awarded to their area. Some guides donate permits to be auctioned off to the highest bidder before the draw results even come out for that application period. Some nonresident hunters are able to hunt every four years after harvesting a bear, as we have shown, until they get their trophy 10-foot bear.

Draw Permit Supplement shows this is still Happening

Looking through the 2025/2026 Draw Permit Hunt Supplement results from the previous year, you can see that most guides and their clients go through the required draw application process, pay the fee, and the Department submits those applications.

But you can also see that many guides and their clients do not submit a draw application or pay a fee, yet those “draw” permits were hunted. Here are a few examples:

Results of the 2024 Permit Hunt Drawing

Hunt Number	Apps Received	Permits Available	% Drawn
Brown Bear			
DB108*	1	2	100
DB116**	1	2	100
DB122*	1	2	100
DB138*	1	4	100
DB139*	1	3	100
DB145**	1	3	100
DB155*	2	4	100

There are also many examples that appear to show that some guides aren’t even utilizing the permits awarded to their concession area.

Hunt Number	Apps Received	Permits Available	% Drawn
Brown Bear			
DB117**	0	2	0
DB123*	0	1	0
DB125*	0	2	0
DB143**	0	3	0
DB153*	0	2	0

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

RHAK always contacts Department biologists when working on proposal submissions. Thanks to Department staff for answering questions and providing harvest information!

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (OI-F25-208)

PROPOSAL 238

5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education and orientation requirements.

Require residents hunting brown bear in Unit 8, to complete an online education course specific to Kodiak Island brown bear as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Create an online course that covers properly identifying Kodiak Island brown bear sows and boars as well as biological features that are unique to different age classes of bears and sex. The information provided must be from Kodiak Island and not other regions in the state of Alaska or elsewhere.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Currently residents are harvesting more than double the amount of sows as guided nonresidents, with residents harvesting 33% sows and nonresidents harvesting 15% sows. While the Kodiak Island bear biologist can manage with an up to 40% sow harvest, a lower sow harvest percentage would allow for more future resident opportunity and a greater Kodiak brown bear management plan.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee and Kodiak game biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-051)

PROPOSAL 239

5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Reduce the bag limit for sea ducks in Unit 8, and require harvest reporting as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Reduced bag limits on sea ducks.

Logbooks to capture amount of harvest and loss.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Limit sea duck harvest on multi-day transporter hunts or require very accurate harvest numbers while harvesting (logbook of kills and losses). We need accurate trends in harvest to be accountable of impacts transporters are having of migratory birds.

Sea ducks are important food source to our local communities understanding impacts on a local level will enhance the Board of Game to manage impacts in the future.

Transporters are having impacts and to this point there is no recourse to mitigate them. hunting grounds are being preempted and game is being depleted of run off.

Sea ducks, deer, fox and and fish all need to be considered. Fish not your issue.

Place halved or reduced numbers that can be taken on transported trips. Auality of experience over quantity. If nothing is done we will continue to push towards the boiling point.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Local people frustrated and concerned on various levels. Lots of discussion about being in over utilized hunting area's. Concern about access to game and ducks.

PROPOSED BY: Alexis Kwachka (OI-F25-230)

PROPOSAL 240

5 AAC 8.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals.

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions.

Reduce the bag limit for taking fox in Unit 8 and prohibit the use of night vision for hunting as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Either limit two fox to nonresidents while hunting in Unit 8 or two fox to all hunters who utilize transporters to the field or while in the field.

Prohibit all infrared hunting in Unit 8. Infrared hunting maybe useful on mainland where population are not on a vertical hillside adjacent to the ocean, but here on Kodiak this will be deadly for all game. NOT FAIR CHASE.

The State Constitution will limit how this is done but if the Board of Game allows infrared use Statewide, this issue you will come before you in more than one area. We have strict limits on guides and the guide industry, Transporters are the wild Wild West and we are seeing area's of localized depletion of our deer populations on island. Please do not let fox be next. I realize this will insult many but I and many on island do not feel infrared hunting has anything to do with fair chase. Please be proactive versus reactive to protecting our fox.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like the Board of Game to put a limit of two fox on all hunters who use a transporter for access to the field.

Through recent Board of Game actions of the use of infrared or night vision technology the residents have grave concern about elimination of fox along our bays. We have a huge uptick of transporters on the Island deer hunting. Our fox population is highly susceptible to adverse impacts of this technology on our fox populations.

Transporters have had a huge impact of local hunters to access deer, with this new regulation fox will be extremely vulnerable. There is a saying on Kodiak; "when the tide is low the table is set"

For good reason the there have been regulations prohibiting the use of lights while hunting. Infrared technology will have a huge impact on our fox population.

There is a big difference between local hunters and fur trappers than non Unit 8 residents. I/we are asking that you take this difference into consideration while considering this proposal.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Many local residents have concern of the fox population and the use of infrared in the field.

The Kodiak Advisory Committee was not consulted but at the last meeting expressed concern of the use of infrared use. If my memory serves me right.

PROPOSED BY: Alexis Kwachka (OI-F25-228)

PROPOSAL 241

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Open a year-round season for trapping mink in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5AAC 84.270 (7) Mink and Weasel
....

Units 7, 8, and 14-16 Nov.10 - Jan.31 No Limit

Except in Unit 8, mink may be taken year-round.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Remove the season dates for mink in Unit 8 to allow trapping for mink year round in Unit 8. Allowing both increased flexibility for fur trapping and for trapping of nuisance mink.

The mink population has grown alot on the northern part of Kodiak Island and several other islands since their arrival about 10 years ago. The mink trapping season, however, coincides with the worst weather and shortest days of the year. Since most travel to remote areas of the island is via boat, access is much more difficult during November to January than the better weather and longer days from February through April such as already an option during the beaver season. Additionally, a year round season would allow trapping of nuisance mink to protect livestock and hatchery operations without a depredation permit from ADF&G.

Kodiak has a fairly constant year round climate and fur quality in the spring is not an issue with other species such as beaver and not likely to be for mink either.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I worked with the Kodiak Area wildlife biologist and assistant area biologist to get recommendations for proposal language and with other Kodiak trappers to gauge interest. There is a general desire to allow more species to be trapped in the spring on Kodiak given the difficulties of trapping during the fall and winter with weather and daylight. And given fur quality for species that are trapped in the spring is typically not an issue on Kodiak.

PROPOSED BY: Tyler Polum (OI-F25-011)

PROPOSAL 242

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping

Extend the trapping season for river otter in Unit 8 to end April 15 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Extend the river otter season in Unit 8 by two and a half months, to end on April 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Reduce the potential for an incidental catch of river otter when trapping for beaver since they can be trapped in the same locations. Other Units within the state have a river otter season that extends past January 31. Example: Unit 12.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Jessie Juhlin (OI-F25-239)

PROPOSAL 243

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require all snares set n the Kodiak Road system within Unit 8, to include breakaway mechanisms as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

On the Kodiak road system, all snares must include breakaway mechanisms as follows:

All snares must be equipped with a breakaway mechanism (of a designated minimum poundage) on the loop-end of the snare and the snare cable and anchor must be stronger than the breakaway mechanism.

This change was proposed during each of the last two cycles, first by the Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee in 2019 (Southcentral Region meeting: March 14-19, 2019; Proposal 109) and then again by the Humane Society of Kodiak in 2023 (Southcentral Region Meeting; March 17-22, 2023; Proposal 81). Despite broad community support for both proposals they were ultimately not adopted by the Board. At those meetings, comment from the Board of Game (BOG) and the Alaska Trappers Association (ATA) indicated that community outreach, led by ATA, was the preferred approach instead of a regulatory change. In the intervening six years, ATA has made no effort to conduct community outreach in Kodiak; meanwhile, the number of incidents and volume of community discussion related to this issue has only increased.

The inclusion of appropriately sized breakaway mechanisms would allow trappers to continue targeting furbearers with snares along the Kodiak road system. While at the same time, this would reduce catch of non-target animals, promote responsible trapping practices, and reduce user group conflict. Inclusion of breakaway mechanisms is not expected to significantly increase direct costs for an individual to participate in trapping activities.

Note: The Humane Society of Kodiak is not a member of, nor formally affiliated with, the Humane Society of the United States

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There has been an increase in catch of non-target animals in snares set along the Kodiak road system, including bears, deer, and domestic animals. The main concern is with locking style snares that do not incorporate breakaway mechanisms. Snares without breakaway mechanisms cause severe injury or death to non-target animals, resulting in increased mortality of valuable game resources (i.e., bears and deer) and conflicts between trappers and other user groups, particularly when domestic animals (i.e., dogs and livestock) are involved.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

While Alaska Department of Fish and Game Advisory Committee has submitted this same proposal previously with broad support, the current proposal is submitted without coordination with the local advisory committee.

PROPOSED BY: The Humane Society of Kodiak (OI-F25-165)

PROPOSAL 244

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require identification tags on traps and snares set along the Kodiak road system within Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Identification tags are required for each trap and snare set along the Kodiak road system. A person may not set a trap or snare along the Kodiak road system unless there is attached to the trap or snare an identification tag. Identification tags must provide some form of owner identification, such as a personal identification number (PIN) registered with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The Department will make identities of trappers who register their traps and snares with the Department available to law enforcement but otherwise, will keep identities confidential. If there is an injury or death (of a dog or human) resulting from being caught in a trap, it will be the injured party’s responsibility to report to law enforcement, who can then investigate the incident and respond appropriately.

The expense related to the cost of tags would be minimal to trappers.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There is not a mechanism in place to identify the owners of traps or snares set along the Kodiak road system. The concern is that there is no official way to identify the owner of a trap that is placed illegally or is in a location where there are frequent user groups, such as hikers, that could pose a public safety concern. Over the years, there have been dogs caught in traps that were close to trails, causing injury and emotional distress. Without the ability to identify the trapper, there is not the opportunity for law enforcement to intercede and educate on proper placement of traps.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

A similar proposal was submitted previously by Kneeland Taylor as a state-wide proposal and was considered at the March 21-28, 2025, meeting of the Board of Game (Proposal 131). That proposal was unanimously supported by the Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee at their meeting in February 2025. The Humane Society of Kodiak is proposing this regulation, specific to the Kodiak road system within Unit 8, without coordination of other parties, but with strong community support.

Note: The Humane Society of Kodiak is not a member of, nor formally affiliated with, the Humane Society of the United States

PROPOSED BY: The Humane Society of Kodiak (OI-F25-170)

PROPOSAL 245

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions.

Prohibit the use of all artificial light and infrared devices for hunting in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

ALL ARTIFICIAL LIGHT AND INFRARED/ HEAT SIGNATURE OPTICS ARE ILLEGAL TO HUNT big game or hunt or trap small game in Unit 8.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

I would like to address infrared and artificial light for hunting predators (foxes) in Unit 8. Infrared heat vision optics is now legal statewide. The main motivation for this is wolf and coyote predator control state wide. FOXES ARE NOT DANGEROUS PREDATORS IN KODIAK. This should not be legal here because it will set a precedent for allowing infrared vision, possibly for other big game like BEARS and deer on Kodiak down the road. IT IS not fairchase, ethical or promoting safe hunting on Kodiak Island. In the fall many deer and bear hunters camp right on the beach with base camp in close proximity to other hunters.

Allowing infrared fox hunting at night is dangerous for other user groups and someone or their tent or boat is liable to get inadvertently shot. People don't hunt at night anyway on our island, they get drunk. So allowing this type of hunting on Kodiak Island is a recipe for disaster when foxes are not a true predator of things but rather just a furbearer.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

I collaborated with Kodiak Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (OI-F25-181)

PROPOSAL 246

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions.

Prohibit the use infrared devices for hunting in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Ban all infrared hunting Unit 8.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Ban all infrared hunting in Unit 8.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This action maybe appropriate for other area's but not in Unit 8.

PROPOSED BY: Alexis Kwachka (OI-F25-231)

PROPOSAL 247

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions.

Allow the use of artificial light for taking fox under a trapping license as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions,

The following methods of taking game are prohibited:

(7) with the aid of a pit, fire, artificial light, laser sight, electronically enhanced night vision scope, radio communication, cellular or satellite telephone, artificial salt lick, explosive, expanding gas arrow, bomb, smoke, chemical (excluding scent lures), or a conventional steel trap with an inside jaw spread over nine inches, except that

(C) for the purpose of taking furbearers under a trapping license during an open season November 1 - March 31 in Units 7 and 9 - 26, **and during an open season January 1 - March 31 in Unit 8 for land-based trapping only**, artificial light may be used;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Under current regulation, use of artificial light is prohibited for trapping in Unit 8.

Fox are one of the main furbearers in Unit 8. With no natural predators such as coyote or wolf and the ready availability of marine food sources year-round, their population is relatively unchecked. Winter trapping months in Unit 8 have limited daylight and notoriously poor weather, limiting trapping opportunity. By allowing the use of artificial light the state could provide for additional opportunity of an underutilized resource. Traditionally, fox farming and trapping was a thriving industry in Unit 8.

Because of the potential for obfuscation of illegal use of artificial light from boats during open deer hunting season, this provision could be limited to land-based use by those with a trapping license, and only after the deer hunting season has been closed.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Taj Shoemaker (OI-F25-027)

PROPOSAL 248

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions.

Prohibit the use of electronically enhanced night vision for taking furbearers in Unit 8 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5 AAC 92.080. The following methods of taking game are prohibited:

(7) with the aid of.....

(E) electronically enhanced night vision; except that electronically enhanced night vision can be used for taking furbearers **in Units 1-7 and 9-26**;

(F) any forward looking infrared device; except that forward looking infrared devices can be used for taking furbearers **in Units 1-7 and 9-26**;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The issue I’m seeking to address is that the statewide change to allow electronically enhanced night vision and forward looking infrared devices does not fit well with Kodiak’s circumstances and is unnecessary. Kodiak does not coyote or wolf, and our daylight restrictions are less than northern parts of the state. Additionally, in Unit 8 allowing these devices creates an enforcement challenge because there is considerable overlap between the trapping season and the open season for big game animals, including brown bear and deer. This is very different from the interior region, where this regulation was originally adopted, where there is considerably less overlap between trapping seasons and open seasons for big game.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

The Kodiak Advisory Committee discussed the statewide proposal to allow these devices in early 2025 and did not support its application to Kodiak/Unit 8. I did not have a chance to discuss this specific proposal with the AC because there wasn’t another AC meeting between the Board of Game and the proposal submission deadline.

PROPOSED BY: Rebecca Skinner (OI-F25-163)
