

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 tthe 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.

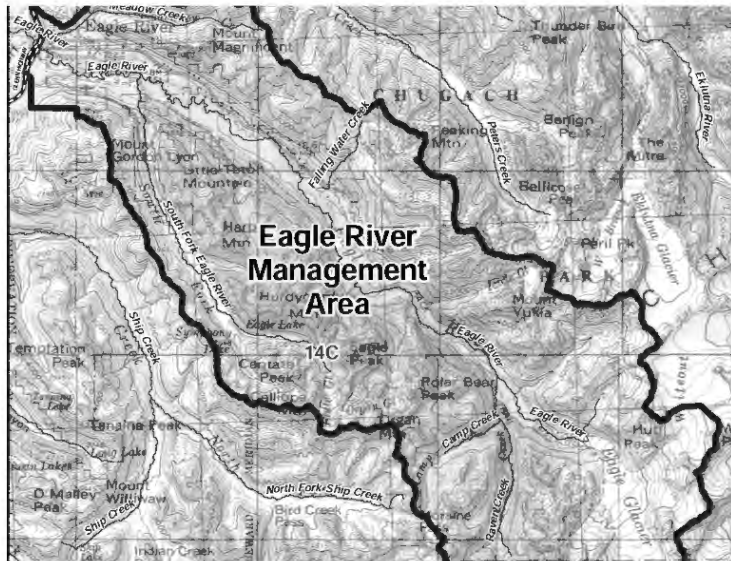
Create a moose drawing permit hunt within the Eagle River Management Area in Unit 14C, with additional restrictions as follows:

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: This portion of Unit 14 is part of UNIT 14A. See map page 62 for state boundaries between Unit 14C.					
OPEN TO:	BAG LIMIT AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS			PERMIT NUMBER	OPEN SEASON
<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENTS ONLY				<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENTS AND NONRESIDENTS	<input type="checkbox"/> NONRESIDENTS ONLY
UNIT AREA	BAG LIMIT AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS			PERMIT NUMBER	OPEN SEASON
Black Bear					
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	Lower Eagle River Valley	One bear by bow and arrow, crossbow, or ARCHERY only by permit (available online at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov) or in person at Anchorage and Fairbanks offices Aug 1		03-450	Sept 1-May 31
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	Upper Eagle River Valley	One bear by permit available online at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov or in person at Anchorage and Fairbanks offices Aug 1		03-460	Sept 1-June 30
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	a portion of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	One bear by bow and arrow only by permit		03-455	Sept 1-June 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	McHugh Creek	One bear by bow and arrow, crossbow or ARCHERY only by permit		03-467	Oct 1-Dec 31
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	remainder of Eagle River; remainder of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Birchwood, and Anchorage Management Areas including McHugh Creek				no open season
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	Elk Lake Management Area	One bear by bow and arrow only		01	Sept 1-May 31
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	Drugsch State Park Management Area	One bear		01	Sept 1-May 31
<input type="checkbox"/> 14C	Remainder	One bear		01	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)
