

This proposal was considered by the Board of Game at the 2012 Statewide Regulations meeting. The board deferred it to the Interior Region meeting scheduled for March, 2012.

PROPOSAL 44 - 5 AAC 92.052. Discretionary permit hunt conditions and procedures.

Add a new discretionary authority that would allow the department to define specific seasons and methods and means of hunting for recipients of Governor's tags.

ISSUE: The Alaska Legislature established a Governor's tag program that authorizes the Department of Fish and Game to provide up to two big game harvest tags for Dall sheep, musk oxen, brown bear, moose, caribou and wolf for sale through auction. This program is intended to generate revenue for both the wildlife conservation organization that auctions the tags and the department. As currently designed the recipients of these tags hunt within the general season dates associated with the specific hunt. It has been recommended to the department that the value of these tags would be significantly enhanced if these hunters were allowed to hunt during a period when the general seasons were not open, or other modifications to methods and means were allowed for use of these tags. Since the primary beneficiary of the revenue from these tags is the general conservation of Alaska's game species, all hunters benefit indirectly from this program. Because the annual harvest is limited to two animals of each species, the population impacts of any adjusted seasons is insignificant relative to the opportunities available to other hunters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Department of Fish and Game will continue to use the same seasons and dates that have been established for recipients of Governor's tags.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR THE PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Only two tags per species are awarded as Governor's tag and the harvest of these animals will have no impact on population or harvest management.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Individuals that have received a Governor's tag.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED: Seeking change to the legislation that created the program.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

LOG NUMBER: ADFG042811W
