

This proposal was submitted as an Agenda Change Request and accepted by the Board of Game during the 2015 Southeast Region meeting. The board has scheduled it for the Central/Southwest Meeting, February 2015.

PROPOSAL 210 - 5 AAC 85.015(a)(2). Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.
Change the black bear hunt in Unit 6D to a registration hunt as follows:

Establish a registration hunt for black bear in Prince William Sound, Unit 6D. This will provide a tool to limit effort and curtail the season when harvest levels have been reached.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS AND WHY?

Black bear numbers have dramatically declined in Prince William Sound. Black bear harvests have been declining steadily since 2007 after a prolonged period of harvest that exceeded recommended levels. Last season's harvest was the lowest since 1996 and is below management objectives. For seven of the last eight regulatory years, the percent harvest of females has exceeded management objectives. Anecdotal reports from many diverse and reliable sources suggest there has been a substantial decline in the number of black bear in Prince William Sound.

PROPOSED BY: Bradford von Wichman

[SE-2015-02]
