

Kodiak Area – Unit 8

PROPOSAL 142 - 5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer. Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8 as follows:

Unit 8, Kodiak Deer

Bag limit (nonresidents of Alaska): Two antlered deer

Season: August 1- December 31

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Recently (winter 2011-12) there was a significant die off of deer on Kodiak Island. While the subsequent two winters have not been as harsh and the deer are starting to slowly recover, the population is still well below its normal levels. Elimination of all harvest of doe (antlerless deer) for a period of time would speed up the recovery of the population. However there is utilization of females for resident hunters' subsistence needs so this solution politically is not tenable. Reduction of the nonresident bag limit from three deer (bucks only before October 1) to two bucks should reduce some of the pressure on the deer herd and allow it to recover a little bit faster. The vast majority of nonresident hunters come for the experience of the hunt and to try to harvest a nice buck. Very few nonresidents of Alaska come because they want the meat. Allowing a bag limit of two bucks (only) probably will not result in any fewer nonresidents coming to Alaska to hunt deer, so it should not affect guide and air taxi business.

PROPOSED BY: John Frost

(EG-C14-253)

PROPOSAL 143- 5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit. Change the bag limit restriction for brown bear in Unit 8 as follows:

Two possible solutions, either one would be acceptable:

1) Simply eliminate the regulation that states in Unit 8, bear wounded by a hunter must count as the bag limit for the year.

or

2) Insert the word "mortally" in front of wounded in the regulation. Where mortally could be defined as "any big game animal hit with a hunting projectile which dies or is reasonably expected to die as a result of the wound."

(Note: This proposal was also submitted for the Southeast meeting scheduled for January 2015.)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The regulation which applies only to Units 1-5 and 8 that any bear showing any sign of being hit with a hunting projectile must be considered "taken" as part of a hunter's bag limit is not a good one. It is an attempt to legislate ethics and to assist guides who do not want to put maximum effort into a

hunt. It is very difficult to enforce. It discriminates against ethical hunters, who knowing the law will abide by it. It does not limit unethical hunters and guides who may continue to hunt after superficially wounding an animal because they know that their chances of being caught are very remote. There is no other state which has this regulation. Several dilemmas are created by this regulation:

- 1) If a hunter wounds an animal this year and counts it against his bag limit but the animal survives and that hunter kills the same animal in a subsequent year does he NOT need to count it against his bag limit since he already did in the first year?
- 2) If a hunter superficially wounds an animal and considers it taken, can he be charged with wanton waste because he was unable to salvage the meat?
- 3) Will a guide be tempted to tell a hunter to shoot a reasonable shot while a hunter wants to wait until he has a 100% certain shot? Thus being at odds with each other in their final goal and reducing the enjoyment of the hunt.
- 4) Will a guide allow a hunter who has superficially wounded an animal to keep hunting for only that animal and use every resource at his disposal to recover the wounded animal as is required by the guide regulations? Keeping in mind that every resource at his disposal may include bringing other assistant guides and their hunters in to help look for the wounded animal.

PROPOSED BY: John Frost (EG-C14-297)

PROPOSAL 144 - 5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals. Modify the resident and nonresident hunting regulations for Unit 8 to include Arctic fox (*Vulpes lagopus*) as follows:

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals (a) ...

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(2) Arctic fox (including white and blue phases)		
<u>Unit 8</u>	<u>Sept. 1 - Feb. 15</u>	<u>Sept. 1 - Feb. 15</u>
<u>2 foxes</u>		

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Arctic fox (*Vulpes lagopus*) and/or Arctic fox hybrids exist in harvestable numbers in certain areas within Unit 8, specifically on Chirikof Island. ADF&G would like to add Arctic fox to the hunting regulations to provide hunters a harvest opportunity. We recommend a season identical to the season for red fox in Unit 8 which extends from September 1 to February 15 and a bag limit of two for residents and nonresidents.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (EG-C14-326)

PROPOSAL 145 - 5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping. Modify the resident and nonresident trapping regulations for Unit 8 to include Arctic fox (*Vulpes lagopus*) as follows:

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping. Trapping seasons and bag limits for furbearers are as follows:

Species and Units	Open Season	Bag Limit
(3) Fox, arctic, white, or blue		
<u>Unit 8</u>	<u>Nov. 10 – Mar. 31</u>	<u>No limit.</u>

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Arctic fox (*Vulpes lagopus*) and/or Arctic fox hybrids exist in harvestable numbers in certain areas within Unit 8, specifically on Chirikof Island. ADF&G would like to add Arctic fox to the trapping regulations to provide trappers a harvest opportunity. We recommend a season identical to that for red fox in Unit 8 which extends from November 10 to March 31 with no bag limit for residents and nonresidents.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (EG-C14-330)

PROPOSAL 146 - 5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals. Modify the resident and nonresident hunting regulations for Unit 8 to remove coyote (*Canis latrans*) and lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) from current hunting regulations as follows:

Unit 8 would not be referenced under coyote or lynx in the hunting regulations.

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals (a) ...

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(1) Coyote		
...		

Units **6, 7, 9 – 17**, [6 – 17], 19, 20, 21, July 1 – June 30 July 1 – June 30
 24, 25, 26(B), and 26(C)

No limit

(4) Lynx

Units 1 - 5, [8,] and 10 No open season. No open season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Remove coyote (*Canis latrans*) and lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) from current hunting regulations. Neither coyote nor lynx exists within Unit 8.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (EG-C14-327)

PROPOSAL 147 - 5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping. Modify the resident and nonresident trapping regulations for Unit 8 to remove lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) and wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) from current trapping regulations as follows:

Unit 8 would not be referenced under lynx or wolverine in the trapping regulations.

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping. Trapping seasons and bag limits for furbearers are as follows:

Species and Units	Open Season	Bag Limit
(5) Lynx		
<u>Unit 10</u> [UNITS 8 AND 10]	No open season.	
(14) Wolverine		
Units 6, 7 [6 - 8], 9(A), 9(C), 9(D), 9(E), 15, and 16(B)	Nov. 10 - Last day of Feb.	No limit

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Remove lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) and wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) from current trapping regulations. Neither lynx nor wolverine exists within Unit 8.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (EG-C14-329)
