

Game Management Units

PROPOSAL 111 - 5 AAC 92.450(16). Description of game management units. Move Kalgin Island from Unit 16 to Unit 15 as follows:

Remove Kalgin Island from Unit 16B and include it within the boundaries of Unit 15B.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Kalgin is a 23 mi² island that lies in Cook Inlet approximately 15 miles to the west-southwest of Kenai, and six miles southeast of the mouth of the Drift River. Moose were introduced to the island in the late-1950s to provide additional hunting opportunities and has become a popular moose hunting destination for residents of the Kenai Peninsula.

To manage the resource most effectively, the department recommends that Kalgin Island be administered from within Unit 15. Strong weather patterns in November when surveys occur often make access from the Palmer Department of Fish and Game office difficult. Managing Kalgin Island from Unit 15 will greatly reduce administrative costs associated with surveying the island and biologists in Unit 15 have easier, more rapid access to the island than those in Unit 16.

This proposal does not seek to alter hunting opportunity on Kalgin Island, and the intent of the proposal is not to change the subsistence designation of the moose population, even though Unit 15B is a nonsubsistence area. Adoption of this proposal is recommended to improve the department's ability to manage the population and to regulate the population within population objectives established to provide adequate moose hunting opportunity in the future. If this proposal is adopted, additional action will be needed by the Joint Boards of Fish and Game to reaffirm the subsistence designation for moose on Kalgin Island. The department will continue to offer liberal moose hunting opportunity to meet resource users' needs.

Turnover and irregular activity from advisory committees with jurisdiction over Kalgin Island has made it difficult to consistently obtain the necessary reauthorization votes for antlerless hunts. Antlerless hunts on Kalgin Island provide additional mortality on this predator-free island to reduce the moose population below carrying capacity thereby preventing the degradation of habitat leading to starvation.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-C15-160)

PROPOSAL 112 - 5 AAC 92.450. Description of Game Management Units. Divide Unit 2 into two subunits as follows:

Divide Unit 2 into two subunits, with the adjoining boundary in a relative east-west direction on the latitude 55 degrees 15'00" North, to establish a different wildlife management policy for the lower portion of Unit 2. This would allow more opportunity in an area less populated with little or no road access from the outside.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Dividing Unit 2 into two will help with the management of wolves in the area. The lower portion of Prince of Wales is not a populated region, and hunting and trapping there is pretty much transcendent. If divided into two subunits, a much more liberal harvest season for wolves and other species could occur.

PROPOSED BY: Robert Jahnke

(EG-C15-027)
