

PROPOSAL 102

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Eliminate nonresident opportunity for the RB230 and RB260 registration permit brown bear hunts in Unit 8 as follows:

For Unit 8 Northeastern portion of Kodiak Island, including all drainages into Chiniak, Anton Larsen and northeast Ugak (east of the Saltery Creek drainage) bays, including Spruce, Near, Long, Woody, and Ugak Islands.

RB230: Oct. 25 – Nov. 30 Resident Only

RB260: April 1 – May 15 Resident Only

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Kodiak Island brown bear registration permit hunts.

Currently, the RB230 and RB260 brown bear registration hunts in the northeast portion of Kodiak Island outside the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge—often referred to as the road system hunts— are open to both resident and nonresident hunters equally.

This is the only Kodiak brown bear hunt a resident Alaskan has a 100 percent guarantee of being able to hunt. The spring season hunt is especially sought after, and in the last three spring seasons (2015–2017) nonresident hunters have taken the majority of the harvest. In fact, nonresidents have taken 70 percent of the brown bear harvest under the RB260 spring hunt over the past three years.

RB 260 Spring Harvest

ADF&G Data	2015	2016	2017
Nonresident	6	11	7
Resident	5	3	2

All the remaining Kodiak Island—encompassing two-thirds of the island—is draw-permit-only for brown bear for both resident and nonresident and nonresidents are allocated up to 40 percent of the available permits. Nonresident guided hunters have a near 100 percent chance of drawing a permit whereas resident Alaskans have a 1–3 percent chance of drawing.

Guides and their nonresident clients are taking increasing advantage of this unlimited registration hunt along the Kodiak road system, with nonresident guided hunter numbers nearly tripling since 2014, going from eight nonresident hunters in 2014 to 22 nonresident hunters in 2017 (Department of Fish and Game data), adding to competition and impacting the quality of the hunt for residents.

This is an area on Kodiak where residents should have exclusive hunting privileges and opportunities.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska

(HQ-F18-025)
