

PROPOSAL 51

5 AAC 85.010. Hunting seasons and bag limits for bison.

Expand the DI454 bison hunt area in Unit 11 as follows:

I would suggest amending the description of the hunt area.

East of the Copper River, south of the Klawasi River and west of a line from Mount Sanford to **Mount Blackburn to Kuskulana Glacier, west of the Kuskulana River and north of the Chitina River** [MOUNT WRANGELL TO LONG GLACIER, WEST OF THE KOTSINA RIVER]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I propose extending the DI454 bison hunt area south beyond the Kotsina River to the Chitina River.

In the last ten years, bison from the Copper River herd have been extending their range south and eastward across the Kotsina River to the Chitina River and at times becoming a nuisance to vehicles traveling on the McCarthy Road. Extending the hunt area would allow motor vehicle access to a portion of the Copper River herd giving more hunting opportunities to people without the equipment or knowledge to safely cross the Copper River.

When the current description of the hunt area was originally written it was not generally believed that the herd would travel South beyond the Kotsina River. Now that bison frequently cross the Kotsina River it makes sense to amend the description of the hunt area to include that area which lies between the Kotsina and Chitina Rivers.

PROPOSED BY: Tim Nelson (EG-F20-004)
