

Kodiak Area Proposals – Unit 8

PROPOSAL 65

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Establish a fall, registration goat hunt for residents and nonresidents in Unit 8, that portion of the Aliulik Peninsula as follows:

Make a separate registration mountain goat hunt on the Aliulik Peninsula (DB 107/207) area, and reduce the bag limit to one goat and restrict the season dates to September 1 - November 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? RG480 mountain goat hunts which includes the Aliulik Peninsula (DB 107/207). The billy:nanny ratio, billy age class, and overall population are all in decline. The mountain goats along the Aliulik Peninsula are very susceptible to harvest from boat operators during the winter months when the goats move down the mountain and can be harvested from watercraft. Along with the billy:nanny ratio, billy age class, and overall population being in decline, we have also witnessed a decline in the nanny per kid ratio. The young age class of billies in the area could definitely be contributing to the low nanny to kid ratio.

PROPOSED BY: Lance Kronberger (EG-F22-046)

PROPOSAL 66

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Create an archery only, resident goat hunt within the Unit 8, RG480 hunt area as follows:

I propose that ADF&G work with area biologists to create an archery only area within the RG480 hunt. Some of the more popular float plane lake destinations would be good candidates as would the Hepburn Peninsula that gets heavy pressure from boat based hunters.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? RG480 is a wonderful opportunity for Alaska residents to hunt mountain goats in a sustainable way. Unfortunately, some areas of the RG480 area get hunted very hard while others see very little traffic, and thus less of the intended population reduction. One solution for this would be to create an archery only area within RG480. Choosing a more high traffic area for the archery only area would decrease traffic, pressure and harvest in that area while increasing hunting pressure in other, currently less utilized areas, thus spreading out the overall harvest and hunting pressure.

This would also create a wonderful opportunity for Alaskans who would enjoy the challenge of more safely hunting mountain goats with archery equipment away from the pressure and hazards associated with rifle hunters being in the same area.

As with all archery only hunts, it should be reiterated that this hunt would not decrease any hunting opportunity for any Alaska resident. It would simply require that hunters who wish to use these areas do so with archery equipment.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (EG-F22-151)

PROPOSAL 67

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Decrease the number of tags for the DG478 and DG479 goat hunts in Unit 8, to guarantee allocation of the weapons restricted, late season registration hunt as follows:

Decrease allocation of DG permits by 10-20 tags per hunt (or whatever reduction local game management believes would allow for five to ten RG478 and RG479 tags, respectively, per season) and guarantee an allocation of RG tags each year for the weapons restricted late season registration hunt.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the past, the RG478 and RG479 archery goat hunts reliably opened, but most of the last five years, they have been limited to no registration archery goat hunts during most seasons for the Kodiak road system. In the past, RG478 and RG479 were some of the only economical goat hunts for resident archery hunters in the state. Because of recent harvest success rates during the DG478 and DG479, the registration tags have not become as available, depriving hunters who prefer to hunt with archery equipment the chance to pursue goats without the risk associated with hunting the relatively small road system area while rifle hunters are also afield. (The risk of being shot over or at while stalking goats with a bow is real, not mention the more common scenario of rifle hunters spooking game at longer distances while archery hunters are stalking the same animals.)

Decreasing the number of tags awarded during DG478 and DG479 to ensure that the registration hunt can still happen would create the unique opportunity for resident hunters to pursue mountain goats in an economical way (i.e. without the need of air or water taxis or transporters) from the road system. Additionally, the limited efficacy of archery equipment would ensure that few goats would be harvested and the nature of the registration hunt would allow game managers to shut down the hunt if the desired number of goats were killed during the RG hunt.

PROPOSED BY: Paul Forward (EG-F22-150)

PROPOSAL 68

5 AAC 85.025 Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Modify the Unit 8, caribou hunting season from a general season harvest ticket to a registration hunt as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(2)		
Unit 8	Aug. 1–Jan. 31	Aug. 1–Jan. 31

1 caribou **by registration permit only**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This proposal changes the Kodiak Island Unit 8 caribou hunt from a general season harvest ticket hunt to a registration hunt. Administering the hunt as a registration permit allows the department to utilize its discretionary permit authority to maintain harvest at sustainable levels. If passed, the department will establish an annual harvest quota and implement a 5-day reporting requirement (in person or by phone) to the ADF&G Kodiak office following the completion of the hunt. Implementation of a 5-day reporting requirement will provide the department near real time harvest information and provide the opportunity to close the hunt promptly when the harvest quota is reached. The Kodiak Island caribou herd has been consistently estimated at 300-400 animals since the late 1990s'. Caribou harvest was relatively consistent between 2000-2014 with an average annual harvest of approximately 18 animals per year. However, beginning in 2015 the interest and resulting harvest of caribou on Kodiak has increased significantly to an average annual harvest of 43 caribou per year. The widespread interest in hunting caribou on Kodiak continues to increase as documented by the increased number of hunters participating in the hunt. The average number of hunters participating in the caribou hunt annually from 2000-2013 was 34. The average number of hunters participating in the caribou hunt annually from 2014-present was 73, more than double the previous average. Modifying the caribou hunt from a general season harvest ticket to a registration hunt will aid the department in achieving and maintaining the caribou herd at a management objective of 350-500 animals.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-060)

PROPOSAL 69

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Exclude Kodiak Island from the hunt area for elk in Unit 8 Remainder as follows:

Modify the definition of elk area “Unit 8 Remainder” to remove Kodiak Island and include only the areas on Afognak Island.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Closing Kodiak Island from elk hunting may give Roosevelt elk a chance to populate the area. Roosevelt elk have successfully populated Afognak (and Raspberry) Island since 1929. Some Roosevelt elk have occasionally been able to swim to Kodiak Island, but were hunted and killed after. If the season was closed on Kodiak Island indefinitely, it would allow elk that migrate to grow into a huntable population.

A huntable population could increase revenues to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as well as guides by attracting more hunters. Elk are some of the most highly desirable species to hunt in the United States.

Elk on Kodiak Island could increase food security for the island in two ways. First, having elk on the island simply increases physical access to food. One elk can often yield over 400 lbs. of meat, nearly the weight of a butchered moose. Secondly, it would increase the economic access to food on Kodiak, where meat is expensive to purchase. Any resident of Kodiak Island could benefit from a significant meat source, but more specifically, residents of the town of Kodiak have limited subsistence food sources on the road system. Often the subsistence users with the greatest need have few economic resources. In Kodiak, in most years, residents need expensive vehicles to get

off the road system (either ATVs or a seaworthy vessel) to gather large volumes of fish or meat. The two subsistence meat sources that can fill a freezer on the road system are the Buskin and Pasagshak rivers' sockeye run, and they often have a run too weak for subsistence fishing. Elk would likely populate near the road system due to the large amount grazing areas nearby. This would allow the subsistence users with limited economic resources to simply walk or drive a highway vehicle to start hunting a freezer filling source of food. The other villages on Kodiak could also benefit from another large food resource.

If elk were to swim to Kodiak Island, as has been reported in the past, the state would not have to expend any resources transplanting animals.

If animals from the same archipelago were to migrate, there would be no concerns of disease. It would also keep the unique and valuable genetics of Afognak elk – the nation's largest elk.

There have been reports of Rocky Mountain elk escaping from the ranch on Narrow Cape on Kodiak. It is possible that the Rocky Mountain elk could risk the genetic makeup of the Afognak Roosevelt elk with cross breeding. The risk exists today because some Roosevelt elk have been reported on Kodiak. One suggestion that can be included with this proposal is to have an open season elk hunt within a certain radius of Narrow Cape – with reporting requirements. If no elk are killed within a certain number of years, the open season could be reevaluated. Another suggestion is to have the state regulate animals that have a risk of being an invasive species or breeding with wild animals.

The US Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) has historically shown they are adverse to the introduction of new species in wildlife refuges. The USFWS could manage the elk on the Kodiak Island Wildlife Refuge as they see fit. However, a large part of Kodiak is not on the refuge and can be managed through a pro-hunting and pro-resource management style as the Board of Game and Alaska residents see best for themselves.

Elk would likely thrive on Kodiak Island, because of the extensive graze and habitat. The deer on Kodiak would have few shared resources with the elk. Elk are grazers, and feed on grasses and sedges. Deer are browsers and consume a different diet. Mountain goats also have little overlap in their diet compared to elk.

There are many advantages to elk populating Kodiak Island, including increased revenue for the state, food security, and more hunting opportunity. All with no startup costs and utilizing mostly unused grazing vegetation on the island.

PROPOSED BY: Chris Sibrel (EG-F22-045)

PROPOSAL 70

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Modify the Unit 8, Raspberry Island hunting season and bag limit by changing the antlerless elk drawing hunt to an antlerless registration hunt as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(2)		
Unit 8, Raspberry Island	Oct. 1–Oct. 22 (General hunt only)	Oct. 1–Oct. 22
1 bull elk by drawing permit only; up to 100 permits will be issued		
1 antlerless elk by registration [DRAWING] permit only; [UP TO 200 PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED]	Oct. 23–Nov. 30 (General hunt only)	Oct. 23–Nov. 30

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Additional harvest opportunities for resident and nonresident hunters is available and the department recommends changing the drawing hunt to a registration hunt to increase hunter success. Historically, only a small percentage of Raspberry Island antlerless drawing permit winners show up to hunt. On average, over the last ten years (2011-2020) only 38% of the antlerless drawing winners participated in the hunt resulting in an average of 4.9 antlerless elk harvested annually. The population objective for Raspberry Island is 150-200 elk with a bull:cow ratio of 20-25 bulls:100 cows. Historically, when the total population of elk on Raspberry Island approaches 230-250 animals, the population suffers an abrupt decline. This abrupt reduction in the population has been documented multiple times since the 1960s’ (1965, 1987, 1996, 2018) with the most recent occurring in 2018. Interestingly, the estimated number of bulls on Raspberry Island has stayed relatively consistent over time with drastic fluctuations primarily observed within the cow population. Multiple attempts have been made to decrease the cow population (by increasing the number of antlerless drawing permits) with little to no results. Providing additional opportunities to harvest antlerless elk through a registration hunt will aid the department in achieving and maintaining the management objective of 150-200 elk with a 20-25:100 bull:cow ratio.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-061)

PROPOSAL 71

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Establish a drawing permit hunt for elk, open to take by bow and arrow only in Unit 8, Southwest Afognak as follows:

Hunt Details

Hunt Number: DEXXX

Hunt Type: Draw

Species: Elk

Legal Animal: One elk

Method: Bow and arrow only. Bowhunter certification is required.

Number of Permits: To be set by the department with up to 10 being issued.

Unit, Area: 08, Southwest Afognak Island

Season Dates: 09/14 – 09/24

Residency Restrictions:

 Hunt available to nonresidents

 Hunt available to Alaska residents

Reporting Requirements:

 Successful Hunters: Report in person or by phone to Kodiak within two days of end of hunt and permit report by mail within five days.

 Unsuccessful Hunters: Report online or by mail within 15 days of season end.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Establishing a drawing permit hunt restricted to archery equipment would greatly add to hunter opportunity, while also keeping the impact on the resource to a minimum. Harvest rates for bowhunters are much lower than those who use firearms, which creates a valuable opportunity for hunters to enjoy more time in the field without necessarily expecting to take an animal. This hunt would be earlier than existing hunts in the area, which, combined with the limits of archery equipment, would add to the difficulty in harvest and limit impact on elk populations. An example of the low impact of archery equipment can be taken from existing drawing permit hunt DE318 in Unit 3. DE318 takes place from September 1- September 30 and precedes two drawing permit hunts that allow firearms in the same hunt area. According to data pulled from ADF&G, from 2009-2020, 276 permits were issued for DE318 with only 12 bulls being taken. This data shows an average of just over one bull per year being taken. We believe that adding an early season archery hunt should have little ecological effect on the elk population on Southwest Afognak. This hunt would be for the same area as current existing DE711 and DE713.

PROPOSED BY: Alaskan Bowhunters Association (EG-F22-128)

PROPOSAL 72

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Establish a drawing permit hunt for elk, open to take by bow and arrow only in Unit 8, Raspberry Island as follows:

Hunt Details

Hunt Number: DEXXX

Hunt Type: Draw

Species: Elk

Legal Animal: One elk

Method: Bow and arrow only. Bowhunter certification is required.

Number of Permits: To be set by the department with up to six being issued.

Unit, Area: 8, Raspberry Island

Season Dates: 09/15 – 09/25

Residency Restrictions

Hunt available to nonresidents

Hunt available to Alaska residents

Reporting Requirements

Successful Hunters: Report in person or by phone to Kodiak within two days of end of hunt and permit report by mail within 5 days.

Unsuccessful Hunters: Report online or by mail within 15 days of season end.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Establishing a drawing permit hunt restricted to archery equipment would greatly add to hunter opportunity, while also keeping the impact on the resource to a minimum. Harvest rates for bowhunters are much lower than those who use firearms, which creates a valuable opportunity for hunters to enjoy more time in the field without necessarily expecting to take an animal. This hunt would be earlier than existing hunts in the area, which, combined with the limits of archery equipment, would add to the difficulty in harvest and limit impact on elk populations. An example of the low impact of archery equipment can be taken from existing drawing permit hunt DE318 in Unit 3. DE318 takes place from September 1 - September 30 and precedes two drawing permit hunts that allow firearms in the same hunt area. According to data pulled from ADF&G, from 2009-2020, 276 permits were issued for DE318 with only 12 bulls being taken. This data shows an average of just over one bull per year being taken. We believe that adding an early season archery hunt should have little ecological effect on the elk population on Raspberry Island. This hunt would be for the same area as current existing DE702, DE704 and DE706.

PROPOSED BY: Alaskan Bowhunters Association (EG-F22-129)

PROPOSAL 73

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 8, Remainder as follows:

In the Remainder of Unit 8, reduce the bag limit to two deer per year for residents and one deer per year for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Kodiak Island deer populations are very low and depressed after two consecutive hard winters in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

There are not enough deer for people, especially local Kodiak Island residents to get what they need for eating.

I suggest that the bag limit for Sitka black-tailed deer in Unit 8 be reduced to two deer a year for Alaska residents and one deer a year for nonresidents.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EG-F22-018)

PROPOSAL 74

5 AAC 92.220. Salvage of game meat, furs, and hides.

Require that meat must be left on the bone when hunting deer in Unit 8 as follows:

All deer harvested in Unit 8 must remain bone-in until processed at a land-based location.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Wanton waste of deer is the issue here, especially with boat based transporters.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EG-F22-020)

PROPOSAL 75

5 AAC 92.130(f). Restrictions to bag limit.

Count brown bear wounded by hunters in Unit 8 against the bag limit of one bear every four calendar years as follows:

If you wound a bear in Unit 8, you cannot hunt for brown bear again in Unit 8 for four regulatory years.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to address the issue of wounded bears in Unit 8. Because a calendar year of hunting is different than a regulatory management year, a person can wound a bear in a spring hunt on Kodiak Island and hunt again legally in the fall because the fish and game regulatory year ended in July. I would like to see this changed such that a wounded bear in Unit 8 counts against your tag, just like a harvested bear. It is an issue of hunting morality that needs to be addressed.

If you wound a bear you are done hunting for Kodiak brown bear for four calendar years.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EG-F22-017)

PROPOSAL 76

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

Lengthen the brown bear registration hunt seasons for RB230 and RB260 in Unit 8 as follows:

Currently, fall Kodiak brown bear registration permit RB230 is October 25 - November 30. Change dates to October 25 - **December 31**.

Spring brown bear registration permit RB260 is April 1 - May 15. Change dates to **March 1** - May 15. This recommendation is to extend the hunting season in proximity to the town of Kodiak and livestock ranches in Pasagshak for public safety.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Brown bear mortality from Defense of Life or Property activity is increasing in areas surrounding Kodiak and the livestock ranches with the road system area. There is general community concern for public safety and increased destruction of private property. Early in the spring and late in the fall appear to have more disruptive bear behavior. This may be due to lack of plentiful food sources during this time of year. Once a bear finds a garbage or livestock food source, they rarely leave it. Kodiak has ongoing issues with both.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Bunch (EG-F22-031)

PROPOSAL 77

5 AAC 92.061. Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Eliminate brown bear permits the following season, when a female bear is taken in Unit 8 as follows:

In Unit 8, if a resident or nonresident hunter kills a female brown bear in Kodiak bear management Units 8-16, the department will eliminate a permit from the management unit in which the harvest occurred during the next regulatory year. Permits will be eliminated from the corresponding nonresident or resident allocation, during the spring or fall season respectively.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In 1994, the board responded to department concerns of a declining brown bear population in the southwest portion of Kodiak Island by passing a regulation that restricted the take of female brown bears. If a guided nonresident hunter killed a female brown bear with a skull that was not at least 9 inches wide or 15 inches long, the department eliminated a nonresident permit from that area during the next season. This regulation was in effect RY94-RY06.

The department has again expressed concerns about a decline in the brown bear population in the southwest portion of Kodiak Island (Kodiak bear management Units 8-16). This regulatory change is intended to reduce the overall harvest of female brown bears by both resident and nonresident hunters which may prevent further declines and allow for a more rapid recovery of the population.

PROPOSAL 78

92.061 Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Require all hunters to apply for Unit 8 brown bear drawing permits as follows:

Amend language in 5AAC 92.061 to close any existing loopholes, to absolutely require that all nonresidents or their guides **must** file a draw permit application and pay the fee during the application period in order to have an opportunity to hunt. An alternate list for cancellations may be implemented, but if there was no application and application fee received during the application period, you are not eligible to hunt that permit. There will be no over-the-counter tags awarded outside the draw permit process.

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

Guides and their nonresident clients being allowed to intentionally “skip” the Kodiak brown bear draw permit process.

Resident hunters must go through a “lottery” draw permit selection process with very low odds in order to have the opportunity to hunt brown bears on most of Kodiak Island. Residents must apply for a Kodiak brown bear draw permit during the Nov. 1 – Dec. 15 draw permit application period and pay an application fee for a chance to hunt, and many residents put in for decades without ever drawing a permit.

Nonresident guided hunters are allocated up to 40 percent of all Kodiak brown bear draw permits, but unlike residents they (or their guide) do not have to submit a draw permit application during the Nov. 1 – Dec. 15 application period or pay an application fee. They simply contact the guide with an exclusive guide concession within Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses most of the island, agree to a fee, sign a contract, then pick up an over-the-counter permit when they arrive on Kodiak.

Here are some examples of what is happening:

“EXCLUSIVE! NO DRAWING KODIAK BROWN BEAR HUNT – GIANTS OF KODIAK ISLAND, ALASKA. SKIP THE PERMIT DRAWING PROCESS AND HUNT THE WORLD’S LARGEST BROWN BEARS!

We have a few openings for the ultimate bear hunt – Kodiak Island brown bears – and if you book with this outfitter, you can bypass the permit drawing process and start planning your trip now.”

- Above is an advertisement from a well-known hunt booking agent in the Lower 48 (we have left out the name of the agent but are happy to provide copies of his March 2020 advertisement)

“12-day spring Kodiak Island brown bear for 1 hunter. License and tag fees not included. DATES: This hunt must be scheduled for spring April 22 - May 4th, 2022. This includes travel days to and from camp. This hunt cannot be delayed.”

- Above is a donated Kodiak brown bear hunt from a guide with concession on Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge for a hunt that was supposed be applied for during the previous year application period. Hunt was auctioned off in January 2022.

What is happening is also clearly evident by looking at the draw permit supplement results over the years for the DB 100 series of nonresident draw permits. Going down the list of the 2021 results there are many instances of zero applications received and zero permits awarded. Yet most all of those hunts were actually conducted by guides and their clients who chose to skip the draw permit process entirely. Other DB 100 series hunts list fewer applications than the total number of draw permits available, and most all of those hunts were conducted as well without going through the draw permit process.

For the 2021 DB 100 series of nonresident guided-only draw hunts, DB 107, 114, 116, 117, 122, 123, 137, 124, 125, 141, and 144 had zero applications. DB 105, 110, 113, 137, 140, 145, 149, 150, and 152 had fewer applications than the number of permits available.

In speaking with department staff, we were informed that this is not how the permit process is supposed to work and that guides who choose to skip the permit application process create headaches when they show up at a crowded time at the office expecting to pick up an over-the-counter permit for their client who did not go through the draw permit application process.

We submitted a similar proposal (#151) at the 2022 Statewide Board of Game (BOG) meeting that included other nonresident guided-only draw permit hunts on USFWS Refuge lands. Proposal 151 was widely opposed by guides and the guide industry, with guides saying that these permits do **not** go to the guides, while at the same time saying that they “take permits off the table” for their concession area for various reasons. How can a guide take a permit “off the table” if in reality the permit doesn’t actually go to the guide? This is semantics and **the truth is that guides on USFWS lands with exclusive concessions control the draw permits that are allocated to their specific concession area.** They can and do choose to use them or not use them as they see fit.

Guides also stated in opposition to Proposal 151 at the 2022 Statewide BOG meeting that if it was required for them or their client to turn in a draw permit application during the application period (as required!) it would somehow infringe on consumer protections to their clients, because any cancellations would then not allow them to choose an “alternate” client. But that is the reason for the “alternate list” described in the regulation that is not being followed.

Also at the 2022 Statewide BOG meeting, the department stated that Proposal 151 should be a regional proposal, so it could be considered specific to the regions it encompassed. Hence this proposal now before the board specific to Region II Unit 8.

5AAC 92.061 Special provisions for Unit 8 brown bear permit hunts, reads:

“In the Unit 8 general brown bear drawing permit hunt, the department shall issue permits, and a hunter may apply for a permit, as follows:

(1) the department shall issue a maximum of 40 percent of the drawing permits to nonresidents and a minimum of 60 percent to residents; each guide may submit the same number of nonresident applications for a hunt as the number of permits available for that hunt;

(3) the department **shall** enter, in a guided nonresident drawing, each complete application from a nonresident who will be accompanied by a guide; the department may enter an application and issue a drawing permit for the general hunt only to a successful nonresident applicant who presents proof at the time of application that the applicant will be accompanied by a guide, as required in [AS 16.05.407](#) (a);

(4) the following provisions apply to a guided nonresident drawing under this section:

(A) an applicant for a guided nonresident drawing permit may apply for only one such permit per application period;

(B) **after the successful applicants have been selected by drawing**, the department shall create an alternate list by drawing the remaining names of applicants for a specific hunt and placing the names on the alternate list in the order in which the names were drawn;

(C) if a successful applicant cancels the guided hunt, the person whose name appears first on the alternate list for that hunt shall be offered the permit; if an alternate applicant fails to furnish proof that the applicant will be accompanied by a guide, the permit must be offered in turn to succeeding alternate applicants until the alternate list is exhausted;

(D) **if a guided nonresident drawing permit is available, but the alternate list is exhausted**, the permit becomes available, by registration at the Kodiak ADF&G office, to the first applicant furnishing proof that the applicant will be accompanied by a guide;” [our emphasis]

What is going on has nothing to do with any “alternate list.” Draw permit applications are purposely not being submitted during the application period, even though the regulation states that the department “shall” enter each complete draw permit application from a nonresident who will be accompanied by a guide. The only way there can be an alternate list according to the regulation is “after the successful applicants have been selected by drawing.”

This loophole that allows guides and their nonresident clients to skip the draw permit process and have a 100 percent opportunity to hunt needs to be fixed. The abuse of the current regulation was never intended but is now widespread to the point it has become a norm for many guides and their clients. To mandate that resident hunters go through a draw permit lottery process in order to have a chance for the opportunity to hunt one of the most iconic brown bear populations in the world, yet allow nonresident hunters with enough money to bypass such a lottery process and have a 100 percent opportunity to hunt is clearly not constitutional.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (HQ-F22-022)

PROPOSAL 79

5 AAC 92.061. Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Transfer under-subscribed nonresident brown bear permits for Unit 8 to the resident allocation as follows:

Any hunt area DB101-DB193 tag not applied for by a nonresident, that tag will be placed into an alternate pool list and awarded to a resident hunter, or the tag will be placed into the corresponding DB201-293 resident application pool the following regulatory year.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Hunt area DB101-DB193 nonresident tags are not always hunted. If they do not, then the opportunity should be given to a resident hunter.

PROPOSED BY: Christopher Wallstrum (EG-F22-036)

PROPOSAL 80

5 AAC 92.061. Special provisions for brown bear drawing permit hunts.

Adjust the allocation for Unit 8 brown bear permit hunts, DB101 - DB193, as follows:

Any Kodiak hunt draw permit area DB101 - DB193 cannot be allocated over the current average .35% of the tags in an individual hunt.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The tag allocation in hunt areas DB101-DB193 is not close to equal amongst each area. The distribution is between 20%-44%. Why the disparity? The allocation of some areas need to go up and others need to go down to get them closer to equal to distribute the resident and nonresident tag allocation more equal.

PROPOSED BY: Christopher Wallstrum (EG-F22-037)

PROPOSAL 81

5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.

Require all snares set on the Kodiak road system to include breakaway mechanisms as follows:

On the Kodiak road system, all snares must be equipped with a breakaway mechanism (of a designated minimum poundage) on the loop end of the snare and the snare cable and anchor must be stronger than the breakaway mechanism.

This change was proposed last cycle by the Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Southcentral Region meeting: March 14–19, 2019; Proposal 109). Proposal 109 found broad community support, but ultimately failed on a split 3-3 vote by the board. Since that time, the number of incidents and volume of community discussion related to this issue has only increased. The inclusion of appropriately sized breakaway mechanisms would allow trappers to continue targeting furbearers with snares along the Kodiak road system while reducing catch of non-target

animals, promoting responsible trapping practices, and reducing user group conflict. Inclusion of breakaway mechanisms is not expected to significantly increase direct costs for an individual to participate in trapping activities.

The Humane Society of Kodiak is not a member of, nor formally affiliated with, the Humane Society of the United States or the American Humane Society.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There has been an increase in catch of non-target animals in snares set along the Kodiak road system, including bears, deer, and domestic animals. The main concern is with locking style snares that do not incorporate breakaway mechanisms. Snares without breakaway mechanisms cause severe injury or death to non-target animals, resulting in increased mortality of valuable game resources (i.e., bears and deer) and conflicts between trappers and other user groups, particularly when domestic animals (i.e., dogs and livestock) are involved.

PROPOSED BY: Humane Society of Kodiak Board of Directors (EG-F22-131)
