

12C54

3/5/2011

The Alaska Board of Game.

Southcentral Region (Region II)

Creig B. Butler, Guide # 1106 Testimony on Unit 17B:

I have been in 17B since 1993 and have seen a lot of changes from to many Guides from 1998/2004, weather in the 1990's was that the river would start to freeze up about September 18th to being in the 80's at 9:00 PM during the present September Moose and Bear seasons.

There are fewer Guides in the upper 17B area the last 6 years hunting Moose and Bear compared to previous years. In 2009 I saw 10 Bulls only 3 legal in size and 23 cows, 8 sow with cubs Grizzly Bear, 7 Boar Grizzly Bear, 3 Black Bears, 56 Caribou, 6 Wolf and 2 Boat with locals from Koliganek in my area from the King Salmon R. to Chichitnok R., in 2010 I saw 13 Bulls only 4 legal and 21 Cows, 10 Sow Grizzly Bear with cubs , 8 Boar Grizzly, 11 Black Bears, 332 Caribou with some good Bulls, 3 Wolf and 1 boat from Koliganek. Over the last 6 years I see less and less locals from the lower village come up to the upper Nushagak R. drainages even with high water, I account for this to the higher Moose kills from Koliganek down river almost tripled from the 1990's. I would like to see the Moose season move from September 5/15 to the 10/25 because of the warming trend during Moose season this would also help on keeping the meat form spoiling.

I would agree with Proposal 25-5 AAC 85.020 to increase the Grizzly harvest to 2 Grizzly bear a year starting on August 15th and opening a baiting season for Black Bear and Brown Bear in the spring and fall.

I would not agree with Proposal 31- 5 AAC 85.025.to reopen Caribou Nonresident hunting. There are still only 30,000/40,000 in the Mulchatna herd, not enough to sustain an reopening.

I agree with Proposal 33-5 AAC .92.050 to be able to

I disagree with Proposal 36- 5 AAC 85.045, needs to be dismiss because Koliganek residents have taken more Moose around there village in the last 6 years, it has almost triple since the 1990's and for this all but 1 or 2 boats even come up river to even give a good assessment of the Moose population on the Upper Nushagak R., Roger Skogen has not been up river during Moose season in the last three years to even give a good assessment of the Moose population during the hunting season.

I disagree with Proposal 35-5 AAC 85.045 there still needs to be some accountability on how many Moose hunters are up the Nushagak R.