PROPOSAL 49 – 5 AAC 92.031. Permit for selling skins, skulls, and trophies; and 92.200. Purchase and sale of game. Require a permit before brown bear skulls and hides with claws attached can be sold as follows:

5 AAC 92.031 is amended by adding a new section to read:

(g) A person may sell, advertise, or otherwise offer for sale a brown bear skull or hide with claws attached of a brown bear harvested in an area where the bag limit is two bears per regulatory year only after obtaining a permit from the department.

5 AAC 92.200(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) any part of a brown bear, except an article of handicraft made from the fur of a brown bear; and except skulls and hides with claws attached of brown bears harvested in areas where the bag limit is two bears per regulatory year by permit issued under 5 AAC 92.031;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In 2016 the Board of Game (board) passed a regulation allowing all brown bears harvested in areas where the bag limit is two brown bears per year to be sold. There is currently no method for the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to track the sale of those bears. Adopting this proposal will allow ADF&G to track and quantify the interest in selling brown bear skulls and hides with claws attached.

There are concerns about the potential to commercialize the harvest of brown bears, and there is interest in knowing the magnitude of this use. The board may also need to distinguish between uses to make allocation decisions in the future. There are concerns about the current inability to determine that hides and skulls that are sold were taken in areas with a two brown bear bag limit.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-030)