

**PROPOSAL 28**

**5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures.**

Issue permits for using bait or scent lures to hunt black bear in Unit 1C as follows:

Either compel the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to issue black bear baiting permits for Unit 1C or adopt a new subsection under 5 AAC 92.044 that states that ADF&G shall issue these permits so that they may not make an arbitrary decision on a method and means without public input.

**5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures.**

**(e) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 92.052, the department shall issue a permit under this section.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, even though technically legal under 5 AAC 92.044 - Permit for hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures, ADF&G refuses to issue permits to hunters wishing to hunt black bears over bait in Unit 1C.

This practice is out of line from the majority of the state and either adopting a regulatory change or compelling ADF&G to issue these permits would bring Unit 1C methods and means regulations in line with the majority of the rest of the state.

If this change is not adopted, ADF&G will continue to not issue bear baiting permits in Unit 1C, thereby denying hunters of a lawful method of harvesting black bears for no apparent reason even though this method is allowed in more populated areas of the state such as the Mat-Su Valley.

Adopting this regulatory change or compelling ADF&G to issue permits for Unit 1C would allow archery hunters better opportunities for harvesting black bears while insuring they have time to take quality animals and make effective shots. This change would also allow more harvest opportunity to hunters who do not have access to boats to participate in spring “beach hunting.”

**PROPOSED BY:** Jake Abbott

(EG-F18-009)

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