

Anchorage Area – Unit 14C

PROPOSAL 110

5 AAC 85.040(a)(7). Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Modify the nonresident bow and arrow goat hunt structure in the Lake George area in Unit 14C from a drawing hunt to a registration hunt as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(7)		
...		
Remainder of Unit 14(C)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 goat by registration permit only; however, goats may be taken from Aug. 16 through Aug. 31 by bow and arrow only; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited	Aug. 16—Nov. 30 (General hunt only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 goat by registration [DRAWING] permit only, and by bow and arrow only; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited; or		Aug. 16—Aug. 31
1 goat by drawing permit only; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited		Sept. 1—Oct. 15
...		

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This proposal is to change the nonresident bow and arrow goat season in Lake George (Unit 14C) from a drawing permit to a registration permit. This hunt was previously administered as a registration permit until regulatory year 2017–18, when it became a drawing permit.

At the 2016 Statewide Board of Game meeting, both the nonresident bow and arrow goat hunt and the nonresident unrestricted weapons goat hunt were converted from registration hunts into

drawing hunts for the remainder of Unit 14C, specifically the Lake George area. This created nonresident goat hunts DG888 (bow and arrow only) and DG889 (unrestricted weapons) and was in response to a Department of Fish and Game (department) proposal, as the nonresident unrestricted weapons registration hunt was continually exceeding the set harvest quota.

The Lake George area is the most popular goat hunting area in Unit 14C and supports the largest numbers of goats in the unit. A 2015 minimum count survey of all goat areas in Unit 14C documented that 471 out of 877 goats observed were in the Lake George area. The department manages goats in this area at a harvest rate of 5%.

The bow and arrow hunts in the Lake George area have rarely produced any harvest, from either resident or nonresident hunters (RG879, residents only; DG888, nonresidents only). Changing the nonresident bow and arrow drawing hunt back into a registration permit with permits available online or in-person in Anchorage, Palmer and Soldotna would expand opportunity for goat hunters. The department does not currently have a conservation concern based on bow and arrow harvest of goats in this area and liberalizing the permit structure should not drastically change harvest rates. Harvest would be evaluated against the quota set for each year. If harvest were to exceed the quota, hunts could be closed by emergency order.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F18-035)

PROPOSAL 111

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Lengthen the hunting season for moose in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C as follows:

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) proposes to change the following moose hunt open season dates for 5 AAC 85.045 as follows:

- Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM421) to: **Sept. 1** [SEPT. 5]—Nov. 15, Dec. 15—Jan. 15
- Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM422) to: **Sept. 1** [SEPT. 5]—Nov. 15, Dec. 15—Jan 15
- Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM423) to: **Sept. 1** [SEPT. 5]—Nov. 15, Dec. 15—Jan 15
- Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM424) to: **Sept. 1** [SEPT. 5]—Nov. 15
- Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DM428) to: **Sept. 1** [SEPT. 5]—Sept. 30

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? JBER would like to change the start date of the moose hunts that begin in September from the day after Labor Day to the first of September. The proposed change to September 1 for the moose hunts would coincide with the proposed start of the black bear hunt open season dates. Aligning all of the hunt start

dates will allow the JBER Conservation Law Enforcement Officers and Natural Resources Staff to be able to manage the proficiency testing, orientations and hunts more effectively.

PROPOSED BY: Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (HQ-F18-011)

PROPOSAL 112

5 AAC 85.045(5). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14C as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(12)		
...		
Unit 14(C), Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Management Area	Day after Labor Day —Mar 31 (General hunt only)	Day after Labor Day —Mar 31
1 moose by regulatory year by drawing permit, and by muzzleloading blackpowder rifle or bow and arrow only; up to 185 permits may be issued		
Unit 14(C), that portion known as the Birchwood Management Area	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30 (General hunt only)	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30
1 moose by drawing permit, by bow and arrow only; up to 25 permits may be issued		
Unit 14(C), that portion known as the Anchorage Management Area	Day after Labor Day —Nov. 30 (General hunt only)	No open season.
1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only, and by bow and arrow, shotgun, or muzzleloader only; up to 50 permits may be issued		

Unit 14(C), that portion of the Ship Creek drainage upstream of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Management Area

1 moose by drawing permit only; up to 50 permits may be issued; or	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30 (General hunt only)	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30
1 bull by registration permit only	Oct. 1—Nov. 30 (General hunt only)	Oct. 1—Nov. 30

...

Remainder of Unit 14(C)

1 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:

1 bull with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side; or	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30 (General hunt only)	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30
1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; up to 60 permits may be issued; or	Day after Labor Day —Sept. 30 (General hunt only)	No open season.
1 bull by drawing permit only, by bow and arrow only; up to 10 permits may be issued	Oct. 20—Nov. 15	No open season.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually and the Department of Fish and Game (department) recommends reauthorizing the antlerless moose hunts in Unit 14C. The harvest of antlerless moose provides the department with a management tool to maintain the number of moose in Unit 14C at the desired population objective (1,500 moose). This population size has been demonstrated to reduce over-browsing of winter habitat, moose-vehicle collisions, moose-human conflicts in urban areas, and starvation during severe winters. These hunts have also been successful in providing additional moose hunting opportunities in the state’s human population center with little controversy.

Moose in Unit 14C are managed intensively for a population objective of 1,500–1,800 moose and an annual harvest objective of 90–270 moose (5 AAC 92.108). The number of antlerless permits issued depends on the current population estimate and bull:cow ratios as well as estimated winter mortality. In 2013, the department estimated that the moose population contained approximately 1,533 moose in Unit 14C from a combination of population census, composition surveys, and extrapolation to unsurveyed areas. Since 2013, a lack of snow has limited our ability to conduct surveys, but we have seen no indication from either harvest or roadkill numbers that the moose population has changed significantly. It is likely that moose survival has been good during recent mild winters.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F18-057)

PROPOSAL 113

5 AAC 85.045(5). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(5)

...

Unit 7, the Placer River drainages, and that portion of the Placer Creek (Bear Valley) drainage outside the Portage Glacier Closed Area, and that portion of Unit 14(C) within the Twentymile River drainage

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 moose by drawing permit only; up to 60 permits for bulls will be issued in combination with nonresident hunts, and up to 70 permits for antlerless moose will be issued

Aug. 20—Oct. 10
(General hunt only)

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by drawing permit only;
up to 60 permits for bulls
will be issued in combination
with resident hunts

Aug. 20—Oct. 10

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose seasons must be reauthorized annually and the Department of Fish and Game (department) recommends reauthorizing the antlerless hunt in Units 7 and 14C. The moose population in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer area has a history of rapid increase following mild winters and sharp reductions during severe winters. In 2009, antlerless permits were issued for the first time since 2004. The number of permits issued depends on the current population estimate and bull:cow ratios as well as estimated winter mortality. A December 2016 aerial composition count of moose in the Twentymile, Portage, and Placer river drainages found 153 moose with a bull:cow ratio of 30 bulls per 100 cows and a calf:cow ratio of 18 calves per 100 cows.

The harvest of antlerless moose provides the department with a management tool to maintain the number of moose in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer area at a population level low enough to reduce over-browsing of winter habitat, moose-vehicle collisions, and starvation during severe winters. The moose population will be healthier and more productive due to decreased stress levels associated with winter food shortages. This hunt has been successful in creating additional moose hunting opportunity with little or no controversy.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F18-055)

Note: Alaska Statute 16.05.255 specifies the bag limit taken under a youth hunt must be counted against the bag limits for both the child and adult.

PROPOSAL 114

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Open a youth drawing hunt for Dall sheep in Unit 14C as follows:

Issue resident youth sheep permits – bag limit – any-ram in all draw areas within Unit 14C. The number of permits issued will be equal to the number of nonresident permits issued for each draw code. Season dates – August 1–5 or concurrent with draw season dates.

Shared bag limit by the guardian/parent is not a requirement of the draw permits in Unit 14C.

Rescind the shared bag limit for youth sheep hunts in all general harvest areas.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Youth hunting opportunities for sheep is currently limited to a five-day season in general harvest areas. Most of the areas are

quite difficult or expensive to access resulting in poor participation. In addition, further discouragement of participation results from the bag limit shared with the guardian/parent.

The current youth sheep hunt has been in place for the last two years, resulting in a 12+/- rams killed by youth each fall. The onerous limits (shared bag limit) placed on this hunt is discouraging to the guardian and hence the youth are not getting opportunity to utilize the resource. Considering the total harvest by both residents and nonresidents in general areas of over 700 rams a year, and the Department of Fish and Game has no concern for overharvesting rams (under full curl regs), youth shared bag limit should be dropped. The current youth harvest is not having a measurable impact now, nor would they be in the future, after dropping the shared bag limit, assuming current full curl management, short five-day season, and difficulty/cost of access.

Secondly, a recent study indicates that at least 50% of the legal rams each year are left on the mountain under full-curl regulations, indicating populations are sustainable under current management, regardless of hunting "pressure."

Sheep are readily accessible from trail systems in much of Unit 14, making both success and participation more probable compared the current youth hunts available.

Sheep populations in the Chugach State Park are robust, with many rams dying of old age each year. Additional limited opportunity for youth could be provided with little to no impact to the current resource given the surplus of rams in Unit 14C.

PROPOSED BY: Ivan Clark (EG-F18-065)

PROPOSAL 115

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Establish a separate Dall sheep drawing for second degree of kindred hunters in Unit 14C as follows:

Recommended Solution: Have a separate second degree of kindred (2DK) drawing for sheep tags in Unit 14C (DS300s series). Allow one additional hunt for the Northwest Unit – Dates: August 10 – September 17, one additional hunt for the Southwest Unit – Dates: August 10 – September 17, and one additional hunt for Unit 14C West bow hunt – Dates: October 1–10. These hunts would only be available for nonresident 2DK hunters. The remainder of the Unit 14C nonresident sheep tags would be applied for by nonresident hunters that have a guide-client agreement with a qualified guide.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The increased number of 2DK hunters drawing nonresident sheep tags in Unit 14C. Also, the requirement that the relative accompany the 2DK nonresident in the field.

PROPOSED BY: Anders Gustafson (EG-F18-037)

PROPOSAL 116

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

5 AAC 92.132. Bag limit for brown bears.

Change the brown bear hunt in Unit 14C Remainder to a registration hunt with a bag limit of one bear every year as follows:

Brown/Grizzly Bear

Unit 14C Remainder

Resident and Nonresident

One bear every regulatory year by registration permit RB XXX Sept. 1—May 31.

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

One every 4-year bag limit for brown bear in Unit 14C Remainder.

Unit 14C Remainder within the Chugach National Forest is adjacent to Unit 7 that also includes the Chugach National Forest. Brown bear populations in both units are abundant.

The bag limit for brown bear in Unit 7 is one bear every regulatory year, September 1 – May 31, for both residents and nonresidents under the RB300 permit.

We see no reason the same bag limit and registration permit structure should not be implemented in Unit 14C Remainder.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (HQ-F18-024)

PROPOSAL 117

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Extend the hunting season for black bear in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C as follows:

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) proposes to extend the black bear hunting season for 5 AAC 85.015. Unit 14C Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (DL455) to encompass the entire open season for black bears in Unit 14C: **Sept. 1—Jun 15** [APR. 15—JUN15]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? JBER would like to extend the black bear hunting season to encompass the entire open season for black bears in Unit 14C. For safety purposes during military training activities, portions of JBER are closed to the public while training occurs. Due to military training requirements, access to portions of JBER for the 2016 black bear hunt was curtailed for majority of the hunting season for safety to the military and public. To provide hunters with the greatest opportunity to have a successful hunt on JBER, we propose extending the open season dates of the hunt.

PROPOSED BY: Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (HQ-F18-010)

PROPOSAL 118

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

5 AAC 92.530(3)(B). Management areas.

Open a registration black bear hunt for shotgun and muzzleloader only in the McHugh Creek hunt area in the Anchorage Management Area as follows:

Open a black bear registration hunt in existing DM666 McHugh Creek hunt area. Proposal is for a weekday hunt with season dates September 5 through May 31. Shotgun or muzzleloader only.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide additional black bear hunting opportunities in Unit 14C.

PROPOSED BY: Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F18-026)

PROPOSAL 119

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

5 AAC 92.530(3)(B). Management areas.

Open a registration black bear hunt for shotgun and muzzleloader only in the Upper Campbell Creek hunt area in the Anchorage Management Area as follows:

Open a black bear registration hunt in existing DM666 Upper Campbell Creek hunt area. Proposal is for a weekday hunt with season dates September 5 through May 31. Shotgun or muzzleloader only.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide additional black bear hunting opportunities in Unit 14C.

PROPOSED BY: Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F18-027)

PROPOSAL 120

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

5 AAC 92.530(3). Management areas.

Open a black bear baiting registration hunt for shot gun or muzzleloader only within the Anchorage Management Area as follows:

Registration resident bear baiting hunt from May 1 through June 15 within Unit 14C in the Anchorage Management Area. Hunt areas will be determined by Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) local biologists. Hunters who apply must have a bear baiting certification and follow all requirements for bear baiting. Shotgun or black powder only. Biologist samples and sex identification may be required upon the taking of a black bear.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Create a black bear baiting hunt within the Anchorage Game Management Area, Unit 14C. This hunt would provide local

hunters an opportunity to take bears in a much safer way. Since most hunters harvest bears from a tree stand, the trajectory of the projectile is in a downward direction, eliminating a stray bullet from traveling far. It also provides a better opportunity for hunters by attracting the animal to a planned location where it would draw them away from more populated areas. Many Anchorage citizens were concerned over last year's many interactions between residents and bears. Panic in some after hearing of the death of a 14-year-old hiker. Over 30 animals were killed by ADF&G, police and residents claiming they or their property was in danger in the Anchorage area last year alone.

PROPOSED BY: Phillip Calhoun (EJ-F18-767)

PROPOSAL 121

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

Allow the harvest of bear with the use of bait in Unit 14C Remainder as follows:

Add Unit 14C Remainder to the list of areas under 5 AAC 92.044 where black bear baiting is allowed April 15 – June 30.

We also ask the Board of Game to consider allowing brown bear baiting from April 15 – May 31.

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

Bear baiting not allowed in Unit 14C Remainder.

Both black and brown bear hunting is allowed in Unit 14C Remainder for both residents and nonresidents and there is no closed season for black bear in Unit 14C Remainder.

Unit 14C Remainder is adjacent to Unit 7 and within the Chugach National Forest. Bear baiting is allowed in Unit 7 within the Chugach National Forest. There is no reason we can see that bear baiting is restricted in 14C Remainder. The area is fairly remote, there are plenty of bears, and opening up more baiting opportunities will help spread out bear baiters.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska (HQ-F18-023)

PROPOSAL 122

5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education and orientation requirements.

Require hunter education for small game hunting in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C as follows:

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) proposes to be added to the list of areas identified requiring hunters to successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course in the first paragraph of requirements for all hunters on page 13.

...hunters must successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course before hunting in the following areas:

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area (14C small game)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? JBER would like to be included in the list of the areas identified requiring hunters to successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course before hunting in those areas. JBER already requires hunters to have completed a Basic Hunter Education course for the moose and black bear draw hunts on base. JBER would like to include this requirement for small game as well. This would provide consistency with requirements for all hunting on base and provide an additional level of safety and awareness to hunters because of the proximity to housing and surrounding residential areas such as Eagle River and Anchorage.

PROPOSED BY: Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (HQ-F18-009)

PROPOSAL 123

5 AAC 84.070. Hunting seasons and bag limits for unclassified game.

Open a year-round season with no bag limit for unclassified game in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C as follows:

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) proposes to have the current regulation for unclassified game in Area 1: JBER for Unit 14C changed to: **No limit. No closed season.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the hunting regulations, on page 142, unclassified game (shrew, mouse, and porcupine) for Units 1–26 are identified as “no limit and no closed season” except for special area restrictions in Unit 14C. Area 1 (JBER) is listed as one of the special area restrictions identified as “no open season.” JBER Conservation Law Enforcement Officers have been receiving information on damage to equipment, targets and electronics (including antennas and transmitter electrical wires) being done by porcupines. Many of these areas cannot be fenced or shielded due to the types of items being damaged and their purpose, causing the potential to interfere with training or national security issues. If JBER hunting areas are opened to allow for unclassified game species, this will provide for more hunt opportunity, be consistent with Units 1–26, as well as potentially help reduce the issues being caused by certain species listed under unclassified game.

PROPOSED BY: Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (HQ-F18-008)

PROPOSAL 124

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Extend the trapping season for beaver in Unit 14C as follows:

Extend Unit 14C beaver trapping season to April 30 to mirror Unit 7 and to more closely match Unit 14A.

Unit 14C, within the drainages of Glacier Creek, Kern Creek, Peterson Creek, the Twentymile River, the drainages of Knik River outside Chugach State Park, Birchwood Management Area and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Management Area.....Season: December 1 – **April 30**.....Limit: 20

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Unit 14C beaver season currently runs December 1 to April 15. The current end date severely restricts safe open water trapping of beaver in a vast majority of years as well as being inconsistent with neighboring units (Unit 7 – April 30 and Unit 14A – May 15).

PROPOSED BY: Bradley Christensen (EG-F18-059)

PROPOSAL 125

5 AAC 92.530(11). Management Areas.

Modify the Birchwood Management Area boundary in Unit 14C as follows:

The following management areas are subject to special restrictions:

...

(11) the Birchwood Management Area:

(A)the area consists of all land bounded on the south and west by Eagle River and the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Military Reservation, on the east by the [OLD GLEN] **Glenn** Highway, and on the north by Peters Creek;

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? As currently worded in codified, the Eagle River Management Area and Birchwood Management Area overlap in that section of the Eagle River Drainage between the Glenn Highway and Old Glenn Highway. This proposal seeks to clarify this boundary to prevent confusion for hunters and land managers.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F18-037)
