

RC40

Board of Game Public Testimony

March 16, 2019
Southcentral Region
Anchorage, AK

Brad Sparks

Disclosures

- Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK) – president
- Wild Sheep Foundation
- Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation
- Safari Club International
- Alaska Bowhunters Association
- National Rifle Association

Other

- Biology degree
- Spend several weeks sleeping in a tent per year

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Problems:
 - Nonresidents get 40% of the tags in Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
 - National Standard is nonresidents get up to 10%

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Problems:
 - Nonresident Next of Kin Tags come out of the resident allocation
 - A nonresident next of kin is a nonresident!!! A nonresidents tag should never come out of the resident allocation

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Problem:
 - Nonresidents tags are essentially registration tags while resident tags are draw tags
 - Allows nonresidents to essentially transfer tags and hunt the majority of their tags
 - Residents only hunted 55.7% of their tags between 2013 – 2017. There is no alternate list or ability to transfer tags if not able to use

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Hunters in the field (2013-2017 data)
 - Residents – 55%
 - Nonresidents – 45%

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Must be a guide in order to outfit
 - Not intended to outfit Alaska resident
 - Intended to restrict Alaska resident access into the field

Kodiak Brown Bear Resident Tent



Kodiak Brown Bear Nonresident tent



Kodiak Brown Bear Nonresident Boat



Kodiak Brown Bear Resident Boat



Kodiak Brown Bear

- Problem:
 - All Alaska residents should have equal ownership in our wildlife including Kodiak brown bear
 - Why do I only get to benefit by getting drawn once in 11 years while other residents benefit financially by getting 15 tags per year!!! That is $15 \times 11 \text{ yrs} \times \$25,000 = \$4,125,000$ (165 tags)

Kodiak Brown Bear

- 24 hunt areas in Refuge, < 20 people get 40% of the tags
- In those 24 areas, several of the 105,000 Alaska residents who purchase hunting licenses are trying for 60% of the tags and competing with nonresident next of kin

Kodiak Brown Bear

- Problem:
 - Nonresidents harvest more Kodiak brown bear than residents
 - NR – 468 (113 more between 2013-2017)
 - Resident - 355
 - This should never happen
 - Nonresidents should never be harvesting more of our highly desired resources than residents

Kodiak Brown Bear



Kodiak Brown Bear

- Allocation
- Get NOK out of the resident pool
- Allow residents to have an alternate list and be able to hunt all of their allotted tags
- Allow residents to be able to rent equipment in the field from anyone
- Each resident should get equal opportunity to benefit from the resources