Proposal 33

Create draw hunt for goats on the Cleveland Peninsula in Unit 1A and 1B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Oppose

AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Oppose

1 Proposal 33

Historically Occupied Mountains and Ridges on the Cleveland Peninsula

- Port Stewart Ridge
- Niblack Peak
- Bear Lake West Ridge
- Bugge Ridge
- Bald Ridge
- Caamano Ridge
- Mt. Burnett/South Mtn.
- Helm Bay North Ridge
Current Occupied Mountains and Ridges on the Cleveland Peninsula

- Mt. Burnett/South Mtn.
- Bear Lake West Ridge
- Bugge Ridge
- Niblack Peak

Isolated population on the Cleveland Peninsula

~20 miles straight line distance to suitable goat habitat to the north
Discussion

- Former regulation: 1949-2002 two goats
- Management strategy: 100 goats, 6 points total, nanny = 2 points, and billies =1 point
- 1996-2018: minimum counts of 7-30 goats
- Sightability correction for 2012-2014: 30-40 goats
- ADF&G best estimate 40-50 goats

Minimum Counts of Mountain Goats on the Cleveland Peninsula 1996 - 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Minimum Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposal 33
Discussion

Research suggests no harvest for population <50 animals

Minimum of 100 goats to have hunting season

Research suggests harvest of 1-4% of native population

Since 1982, reduction from eight to four occupied mountains

Research suggests only 1 immigrant every 10-15 years

Research suggests harvest of 1-4% of season

Minimum of 100 goats to have hunting

Population <50 animals

Research suggests no harvest for
**Proposal 33**

Create draw hunt for goats on the Cleveland Peninsula in Unit 1A and 1B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:  
Oppose

**AC Recommendation:**  
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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**Proposal 34**

Create registration hunt for goats on the Cleveland Peninsula in Unit 1A and 1B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:  
Oppose

**AC Recommendation:**  
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Historically Occupied Mountains and Ridges on the Cleveland Peninsula

- Port Stewart Ridge
- Helm Bay North Ridge
- Bear Lake West Ridge
- Bugge Ridge
- Bald Ridge
- Caamaño Ridge
- Mt. Burnett/South Mtn.

Current Occupied Mountains and Ridges on the Cleveland Peninsula

- Port Stewart Ridge
- Helm Bay North Ridge
- Bear Lake West Ridge
- Bugge Ridge
- Bald Ridge
- Caamaño Ridge
- Mt. Burnett/South Mtn.
Isolated population on the Cleveland Peninsula

~20 miles straight line distance to suitable goat habitat to the north

Discussion

- Former regulation: 1949-2002 two goats
- Management strategy: 100 goats, 6 points total, nanny = 2 points, and billies = 1 point
- 1996-2018: minimum counts of 7-30 goats
- Sightability correction for 2012-2014: 30-40 goats
- ADF&G best estimate 35-50 goats
Discussion

- Research suggests no harvest for population <50 animals
- Minimum of 100 goats to have hunting season
- Research suggests harvest of 1-4% of native population
- Since 1982, reduction from nine to five occupied mountains
- Research suggests only 1 immigrant every 10-15 years
Discussion

Initial Population = 50 goats

- Annual Harvest = 2 goats
  Results: 40% decrease in population
  94% of simulations declined

- Annual Harvest = 1 goat
  Results: 2% decrease in population
  53% of simulations declined

Discussion

- Registration hunt gives less control over hunt
Proposal 34
Create registration hunt for goats on the Cleveland Peninsula in Unit 1A and 1B
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation:  
Oppose
AC Recommendation:  
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Proposal 35
Eliminate the mountain goat draw hunt DG007, and add to registration hunt RG001. Increase draw tag allotment
Department Proposal
Department Recommendation:  
Neutral
AC Recommendation:  
Ketchikan AC: Support
Discussion

- Increase draw tag allotment from up to 25 permits per year to up to 50
- Remove DG007, integrate into RG001
- Introduced population high on Revilla
- Provide increase opportunity to popular mountain goat hunt with easy access
Discussion

- DG007 hunt created in 2011
- Mean harvest <2 goats per season
Discussion

- Access currently limited to boat and airplane
- Future road may provide limited access
- Provides more opportunity for goat hunting
- Relieve grazing pressure on wintering grounds
Proposal 35
Eliminate the mountain goat draw hunt DG007, and add to registration hunt RG001. Increase draw tag allotment
Department Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral
AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Support

Proposal 36
Change deer bag limit from two bucks to four bucks on the Cleveland Peninsula
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral
AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Support
Discussion

- Bag limit 4 deer until RY2009 season
- Bag limit currently 2 deer on Cleveland Peninsula
Discussion

Proposal 36

Proposal 36

Discussion
Proposal 36
Change deer bag limit from two bucks to four bucks on the Cleveland Peninsula
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral
AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Support

Proposal 37
Reduce the harvest objective for deer in Unit 1A from 700 to 350-400
Department Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral
AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Discussion

- Harvest objective based on mean harvest from 1994-1998 plus 10%.
- Current harvest objective has not been met for past 20 years (1998 – 2017)
- Changing habitat influencing deer carrying capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biogeographic Province</th>
<th>High-volume productive old growth &lt;800 ft. elevation</th>
<th>Large-tree productive old growth &lt;800 ft. elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Misty Fjords</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Misty Fjords</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revilla Island/Cleveland Peninsula</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

VCU 763 Bostwick Inlet

Mean Deer Pellet Groups/Plot & 95% Confidence Interval

Year (Plots)

Discussion

VCU 765 Dall Head

Mean Deer Pellet Groups/Plot & 95% Confidence Interval

Year (Plots)
Mean harvest from 1998-2017 was 301 deer.
No proven options for improving habitat.
The Department does not believe the current harvest objective (700 deer) can be consistently met.
From 1998-2017 harvest exceeded 350 deer six times.
**Proposal 37**
Reduce the harvest objective for deer in Unit 1A from 700 to 350-400

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: **Neutral**

**AC Recommendation:**
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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**Proposal 38**
Extend the trapping season for beaver in Unit 1A

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: **Neutral**

**AC Recommendation:**
Ketchikan AC: Support
Discussion

- Current trapping season: Nov. 1 – April 30
- Proposed change: Nov. 1 – May 15
- Estimated increase in harvest of two beaver annually
- This would misalign the trapping season in 1A from the rest of Region 1
- 1998-2017 mean harvest was 26 beavers
Proposal 38

Extend the trapping season for beaver in Unit 1A

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation: Ketchikan AC: Support
Proposal 39
Shorten the hunting season for deer in Unit 2
Advisory Committee Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Discussion
- Primarily limits hunting opportunity for non-federally qualified hunters.
- ~78% of land in Unit 2 is USFS, ~22% state and private.
- Mean harvest from 1998-2017 for non-federally qualified hunters in December was 42 deer.
Discussion

Deer Harvest from 1998 – 2017 by month

- Federally Qualified Hunters
- Non-Federally Qualified Hunters

Month

Discussion

Days Hunted

Year

Harvest Objective

ANS = 1,500 - 1,600

Proposal 39
Discussion

- Federal Subsistence Board reduced non-federally qualified hunters bag limit in Unit 2 to two bucks.

Proposal 39

Shorten the hunting season for deer in Unit 2

Advisory Committee Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Proposal 40
Reduce non-resident bag limit in Unit 2 to two deer
Advisory Committee Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral
AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Discussion
- Non-resident harvest is a small portion of overall harvest
- Mean annual harvest by non-residents is 9 deer on 3rd and 4th tags
- Increase in price of non-resident hunting license and locking tag for deer
Discussion

Percentage of Deer Taken by Successful Hunters (2013 - 2017)

Resident
Non-resident

Total Harvest (2013 - 2017) = 17,886

5% 95%
**Discussion**

Number of Deer Taken by Successful Non-Resident Hunters (2013 - 2017)

- 1: 19%
- 2: 4%
- 3: 1%
- 4 or more: 76%

Number of Hunters (2013 - 2017) = 720

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**Proposal 40**

Decrease non-resident deer bag limit to two in Unit 2

Advisory Committee Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation:
- Craig AC: Support
- Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Proposal 41
Require attaching harvest ticket to deer in Unit 2
Craig Advisory Committee Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Discussion
- Craig AC indicated that harvest tickets are not being validated
- Prior radio-collar deer study indicated 67% (6/9 collared deer) deer were illegally harvested
Discussion

- Paper tags may fall off of deer while in transit
- 2004 BOG meeting, similar proposal failed based on cost
- Alternative tag?
Discussion

- Mean number of deer hunters from in Unit 2 was 3,937 from 2008-2017
- Assuming 5 tags per hunter at $0.10 per tag = ~$1,900/year

Proposal 41

Require attaching harvest ticket to deer in Unit 2

Craig Advisory Committee Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation: Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Proposal 42

Change harvest guideline level for wolves for Unit 2
SE Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Proposal (Withdrawn)

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: TNA
Ketchikan AC: TNA

Discussion

- This proposal would increase the Harvest Guideline Level (HGL) from 20% to 30% of the most recent population estimate
- The author of this proposal submitted a letter to the Board of Game to withdraw it in favor of Department proposal 43.
Discussion

- Initial HGL adopted in 1997 for 25% of population annually
- Changed to 30% in 2001
- Lowered to 20% in 2015
- Reduced based on low wolf population estimate for Unit 2
- Population has recovered to current estimate of 225 wolves

Wolf population estimate with 95% confidence interval

Population Estimate

Year

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017
**Discussion**

Unit 2 population varies more than others due to insular population

- Limited dispersal
- Road and beach access to wolves
- Federal seasons longer than State
**Proposal 42**

Change wolf harvest guideline level for wolves for Unit 2
SE Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

**AC Recommendation:**
Craig AC: TNA
Ketchikan AC: TNA

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**Proposal 43**

Manage Harvest of Unit 2 Wolves to Meet a Population Objective
Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Support

**AC Recommendation:**
Craig AC: Support  Sitka AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Support  Wrangell AC: Support
East POW AC: Support
Effect

- This proposal would change the harvest management strategy for Unit 2 wolves.

  - **Current:** Harvest guideline level (HGL) that is a percentage of the estimated population.
  
  - **Proposed:** Manage harvest to maintain the population within an objective range.

---

Game Management Unit 2
DNA Population Estimates
1-Year Time Lag

- Trapping Season
- Denning/Recruitment
- Collect Data
- Lab DNA Analysis
- Math & Estimate

Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept

RC 4, Tab 6.2

Unit 2 Wolf Management
1997-2017

Number of Wolves


- Pop. Est.
- Quota
- Harvest

Proposal 43
Current Management Strategy

- Focuses only on the number of wolves to harvest. Quotas and EOs.
- No goal for the population.
- Leaves ADF&G to determine minimum size of the population.
  - Population size should be determined through a public process.

New Unit 2 Wolf Management Strategy

- Board establishes a population objective range.
- ADF&G will manage harvest to maintain population within that range.
- Harvest management decisions guided by a written management strategy.
Population Objectives and Managing Harvest

**Zone 4: Pop > Objective**
Up to 4-month season.

**Zone 3: Pop = Objective**
Up to 2-month season.

**Zone 2: Pop < Objective**
Up to 6-week season.

**Zone 1: Pop << Objective**
Season closed until population increases to > XXX wolves.

Estimated Population

Proposal 43
Proposal 43
Manage Harvest of Unit 2 Wolves to Meet a Population Objective
Department Proposal
Department Recommendation: Support

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support  Sitka AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Support  Wrangell AC: Support
East POW AC: Support

Proposal 44
Extend Unit 2 wolf trapping season
Craig Advisory Committee Proposal
Department Recommendation: Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support  Ketchikan AC: Support
Discussion

- Current wolf trapping season in Unit 2
  Dec. 1 – Mar. 31
- Proposed extension of 2 weeks:
  Nov. 15 – Mar. 31

Pros
- Align Federal and State seasons
- Tide sets possible earlier

Cons
- Reach quota faster
Proposal 44

Extend Unit 2 wolf trapping season
Craig Advisory Committee Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Craig AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Support