

PROPOSAL 161

Direct ADF&G to conduct a feasibility study for transporting Sitka Blacktail deer to Unit 15C, south side of Kachemak Bay as follows:

Direct the Department of Fish and Game to conduct its scoping report, feasibility assessment, and biological and social risk analyses, which would precede department and public review before a potential formal ADF&G plan regarding transplanting and growing a population of Sitka Blacktail deer to the south side of Kachemak Bay in Unit 15C. Reference "Game Transplants in Alaska, Technical Bulletin #4 second edition by Thomas Paul, ADFG, 2009" or a later edition.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increase opportunity for hunting, food security, local economy, and wildlife viewing in Unit 15c.

The south side of Kachemak Bay would be a productive area to explore the idea of transplanting deer. The area is ecologically quite different than the Homer side and provides very similar habitat, browse, and other fauna to Prince William Sound, northern Southeast Alaska, and much of the Kodiak archipelago; all locations of successful past ADF&G transplant operations which now provide opportunity for all.

It is understood that this is the purview of the ADF&G Commissioner; we do not believe the Board of Game (board) has the authority to enact transplants. By submitting this as a board proposal, we are aiming only to begin a dialogue, allowing everyone who follows wildlife issues: public, private, agency staff, and administrators, to begin thinking about its viability if and when it pleases this or a future Administration.

PROPOSED BY: The Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F22-029)
