

March 21, 2023

Dear Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing this letter regarding Proposal 73. As a non-resident hunter the proposed reduction in bag limits for non-residents to one deer will be a deciding factor on returning to hunt blacktails on Kodiak for myself and many others. This will most definitely have a negative economic impact on local businesses, transporters, air services and not to mention license sales.

I have hunted Alaska for the last 31 years. Planning a hunt to Alaska regardless of species is no small undertaking not to mention the expense involved. If the bag limit is reduced to one deer, financially this is something myself and many other hunters I have spoken with simply won't do. We are not trophy hunters but simply hunters who enjoy harvesting and eating blacktails from Kodiak Island.

I completely understand, as do others if this reduction in the bag limit is do in fact to lower deer densities due to over harvest or winter die off. This being the case wouldn't a temporary moratorium to the bag limit be a better choice for both residents and non-residents? As we all know deer rebound quickly from both factors.

I hope you will reconsider this proposed reduction in Proposal 73 and possibly consider a compromise and reduce the bag limit to 2 deer for non-resident hunters.

Respectfully,

Jim Eeckhout

St. Clair, Michigan