

# Proposal 15

## Effect of Proposal:

Correct the southern boundary description of the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in regulation.

*Alaska Department of Fish and Game*

## Department Recommendation:

Support

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

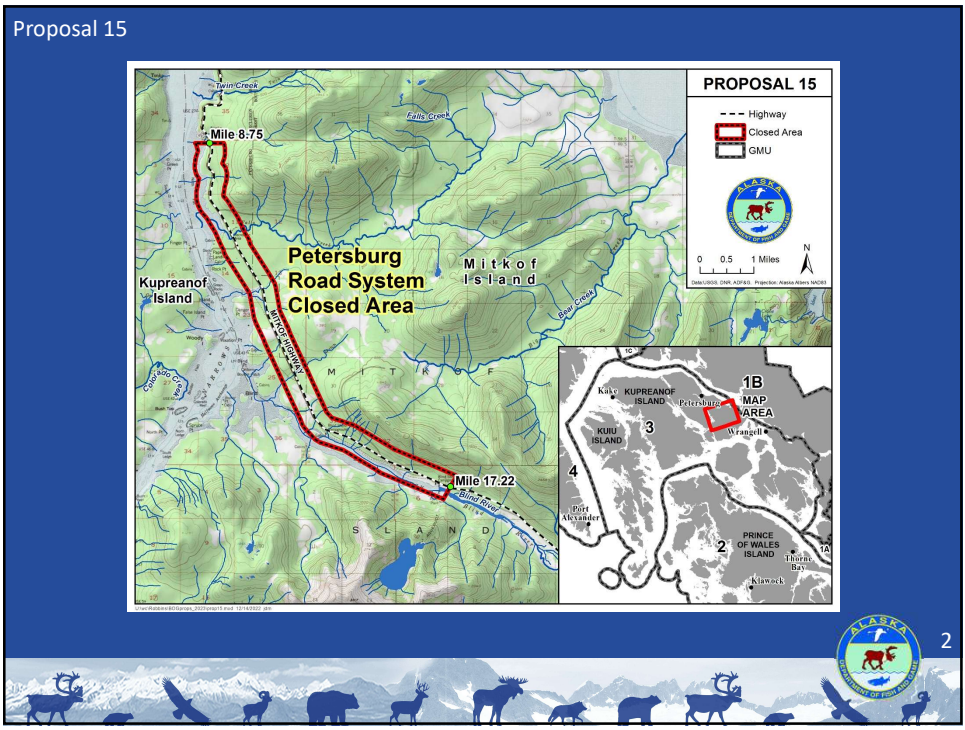
Wrangell AC - No Action



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Proposal 15

## Background

- Current regulation (5AAC 92.510(a)(5)(B)):

“a strip one-fourth mile wide on each side of the Mitkof Highway from mile marker 8.75 of the Mitkof Highway to the Crystal Lake campground is closed to the taking of big game, except wolves”.



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Proposal 15

## Background

- The current description is inaccurate. There is no facility named the Crystal Lake campground.
- The public use facility located at the southern boundary is named the Blind Slough Picnic Area, and not consistently labeled on all maps.
- Changing the southern boundary description to a mile marker would make it consistent with the northern boundary description.
- If a landmark is desired for the southern boundary the department recommends Crystal Lake Rd. at 17.2 mile of the Mitkof Highway.



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## Proposal 15

### Effect of Proposal:

Correct the southern boundary description of the Petersburg Road System Closed Area in regulation.

*Alaska Department of Fish and Game*

### Department Recommendation:

Support

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - No Action



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## Proposal 16

### Effect of Proposal:

Change the deer season opening date from Oct 1 to Aug 1 in the Petersburg Management Area.

*Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - No Action





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Proposal 16

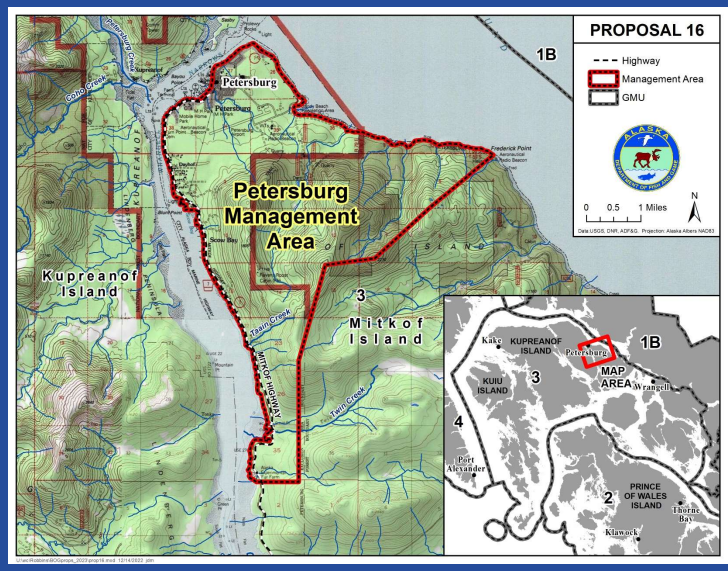
# Background

- The proposal mentions that there is currently no August and September deer hunting opportunities on Mitkof Island and lengthening the season would provide increased opportunity for bowhunters.

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Proposal 16





**PROPOSAL 16**

- Highway
- Management Area
- GMU

0 0.5 1 Miles

MAP AREA

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Proposal 16

## Proposed Petersburg Management Area Season

Hunt Area	Bag Limit	Permit	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
Petersburg Management Area	2 bucks by archery only	GD000	<del>Oct 1-Dec 15</del> Aug 1-Dec 15	<del>Oct 1-Dec 15</del> Aug 1-Dec 15
Remainder of Mitkof, Woewodski, and Butterworth Islands	1 buck	GD000	Oct 1-Nov 7	Oct 15-Oct 31
Lindenberg Peninsula	1 buck	GD000	Oct 1-Nov 7	None
Unit 3 Remainder	2 bucks	GD000	Aug 1-Nov 30	Aug 1-Nov 30



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Proposal 16

## Discussion

- The average Petersburg Management Area reported deer harvest over the last five seasons was 6 (ranging from 3-11).
- Adoption of this proposal would extend the deer season in the Petersburg Management Area by two months but would not change the bag limit.



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Proposal 16

## Discussion

- Archery harvest data specific to the Petersburg Management Area is difficult to assess. Though buck only harvest within the management area will not likely impact the overall Mitkof Island deer population.



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## Proposal 16

### Effect of Proposal:

Change the deer season opening from Oct 1 to Aug 1 in the Petersburg Management Area.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Proposal 17

**Effect of Proposal:**  
 Create a nonrestricted weapon bull only drawing hunt with up to 25 permits for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3 with a season of Oct 1-31.

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
 Oppose

**AC Recommendations:**  
 Petersburg AC - Support  
 Wrangell AC - Support

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Proposal 17

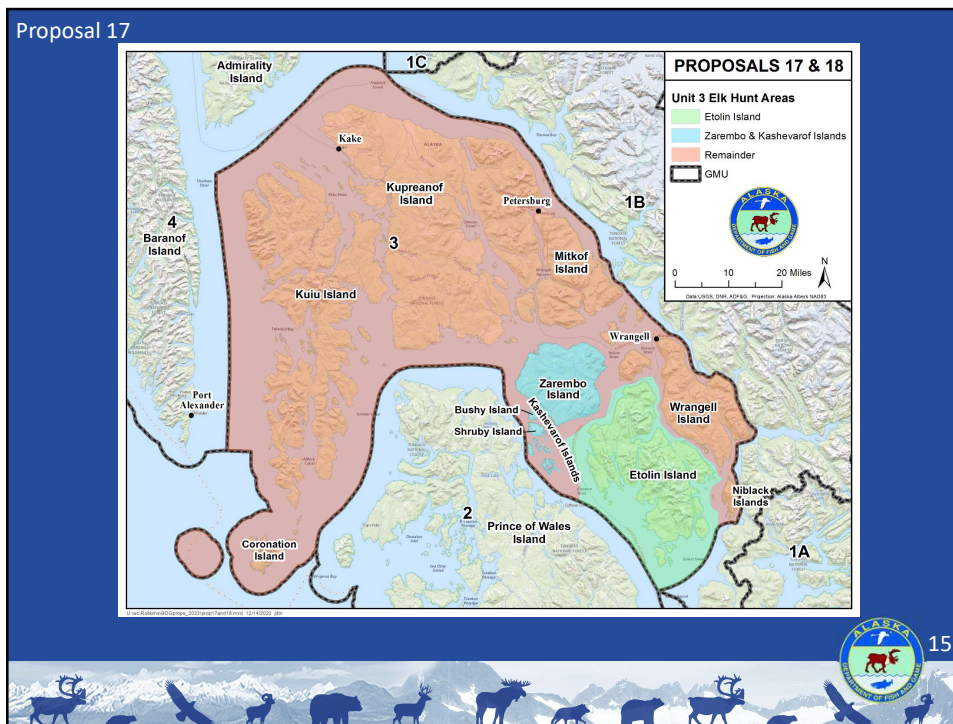
## Proposed Hunt Structure

Hunt Area	Draw Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
Zarembo Island	Up to 25	Oct 1-Oct 31	Oct 1-Oct 31

1 bull by permit




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Proposal 17

## Discussion

- Hunting elk on Zarembo Island has been closed since 2006 due to population concerns.
- It is difficult to effectively survey the area but based on limited survey data and public reports the Zarembo elk population is estimated < 50 total animals.
- There is no available data to suggest that the Zarembo Island elk population has increased since elk hunting ended in 2006.
- We anticipate that harvest success would be higher on Zarembo Island than Etolin Island because of greater access via widespread logging roads.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME 16

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Proposal 17

## Discussion

- In 2020 the Federal Subsistence Board determined that rural residents of Units 1-5 have customary and traditional use of elk on federal lands in Unit 3.
- Proposals have been submitted to establish federal subsistence elk hunts in Unit 3.
- In 2022 the Federal Subsistence Board established a registration elk hunt in Unit 3 outside of Etolin, Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevarof Islands open to residents of Units 1-5.



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## Proposal 17

### Effect of Proposal:

Create a bull only drawing hunt with up to 25 permits for elk on Zarembo Island in Unit 3 with a season of Oct 1-31.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Oppose

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - Support



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# Proposal 18

## Effect of Proposal:

Create a nonrestricted weapon bull only drawing hunt with up to 5 permits for elk on Zaremba, Bushy, Shrubby, Kashevarof Islands with a season of Sept 15-Oct 15.

## Public Proposal

## Department Recommendation:

Oppose

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - Oppose

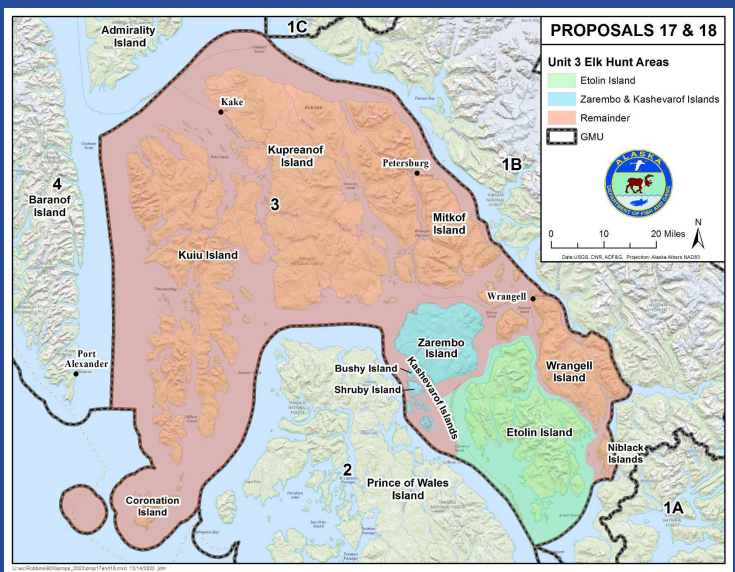


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## Proposal 18



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Proposal 18

# Proposed Hunt Structure

Hunt Area	Draw Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashervarof Islands	Up to 5	Sept 15-Oct 15	Sept 15-Oct 15

1 bull by permit



21

Proposal 18

# Discussion

- Hunting elk on Zarembo Island has been closed since 2006 due to population concerns.
- It is difficult to effectively survey the area but based on aerial survey data and public reports the Zarembo elk population is estimated < 50 total animals.
- There is no available data to suggest that the Zarembo Island elk population has increased since elk hunting ended in 2006.
- We anticipate that harvest success would be higher on Zarembo Island than Etolin Island because of greater access via widespread logging roads.



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Proposal 18

## Discussion

- In 2020 the Federal Subsistence Board determined that rural residents of Units 1-5 have customary and traditional use of elk on federal lands in Unit 3.
- Proposals have been submitted to establish federal subsistence elk hunts in Unit 3.
- In 2022 the Federal Subsistence Board established a registration elk hunt in Unit 3 outside of Etolin, Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevarof Islands open to residents of Units 1-5.



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## Proposal 18

### Effect of Proposal:

Create a bull only drawing hunt with up to 5 permits for elk on Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, Kashevarof Islands with a season of Sept 15-Oct 15.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Oppose

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - Oppose



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# Proposal 19

## Effect of Proposal:

Change the current elk hunting structure on Etolin Island.

## *Ketchikan Advisory Committee Proposal*

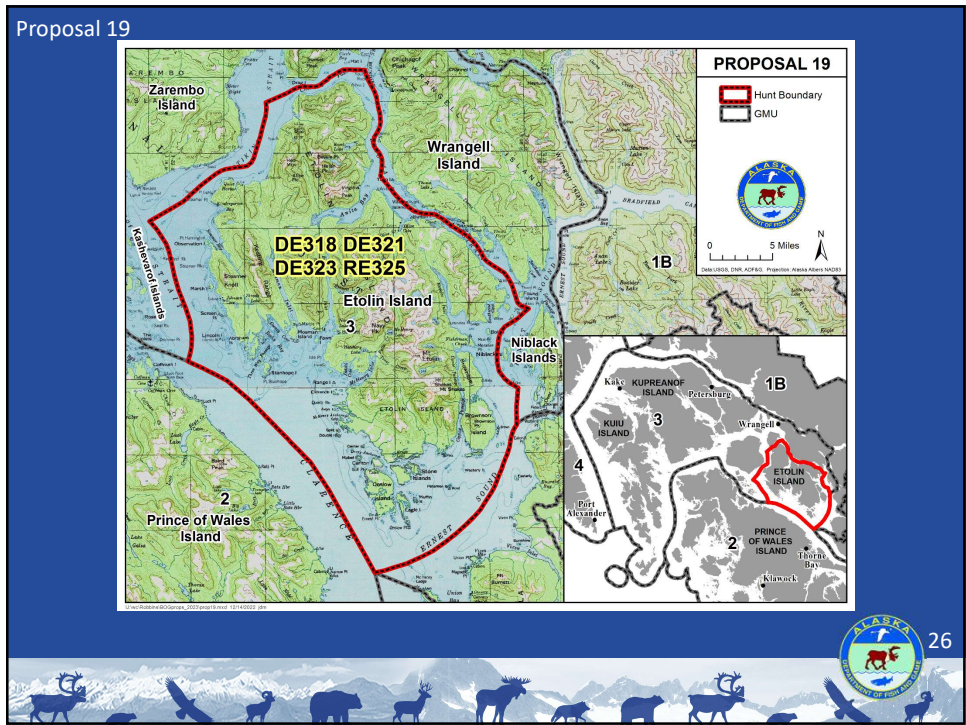
## Department Recommendation:

Oppose

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - Oppose



Proposal 19

## Current Regulations

Hunt	Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
DE318	25	Sept 1-Sept 30	Sept 1-Sept 30
DE321	50	Oct 1-Oct 15	Oct 1-Oct 15
DE323	50	Oct 16-Oct 31	Oct 16-Oct 31
RE325	registration	Nov 15-Nov 30	Nov 15-Nov 30

All hunts 1 bull by permit



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Proposal 19

## Proposed Hunt Structure

- Decrease the archery season (DE318) by two weeks.
- Create an Alaska resident only unrestricted weapons drawing hunt during the last two weeks of September, with 25 permits.
- Eliminate the DE323 drawing hunt.
- Decrease the number of DE321 drawing permits from 50 to 40.
- Lengthen the RE325 registration hunt by two weeks, with an earlier opening date.



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Proposal 19

### Etolin Island Elk Permits and Harvest, 2012-2021

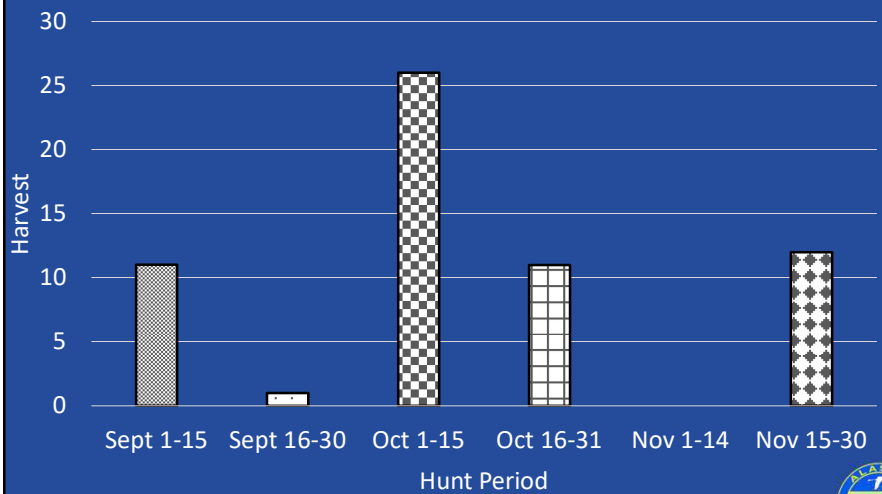
Reg Year	Total Permits	Permits Hunted	% Permits Hunted	% Hunter Success	Total Harvest
2012	173	72	42	10	7
2013	187	77	41	5	4
2014	184	76	41	7	5
2015	186	57	31	12	7
2016	196	73	37	7	5
2017	174	80	46	11	9
2018	189	86	46	8	7
2019	182	85	47	8	7
2020	166	73	44	7	5
2021	155	58	37	9	5



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Proposal 19

### Chronology of Etolin Island Elk Harvest, 2012-2021



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Proposal 19

## Discussion

- In 2020 the Federal Subsistence Board determined that rural residents of Units 1-5 have customary and traditional use of elk on federal lands in Unit 3.
- Proposals have been submitted to establish federal subsistence elk hunts in Unit 3.
- In 2022 the Federal Subsistence Board established a registration elk hunt in Unit 3 outside of Etolin, Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevarof Islands open to residents of Units 1-5.



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## Proposal 19

### Effect of Proposal:

Change the current elk hunt structure on Etolin Island.

*Ketchikan Advisory Committee Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Oppose

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - Oppose



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# Proposal 20

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Split the current Etolin Island October elk hunt area into two hunt areas, allocating 20 drawing permits to the northern area and 80 to the southern area.


*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
Neutral

**AC Recommendations:**  
Petersburg AC - No Action  
Wrangell AC - Oppose



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Proposal 20

# Background

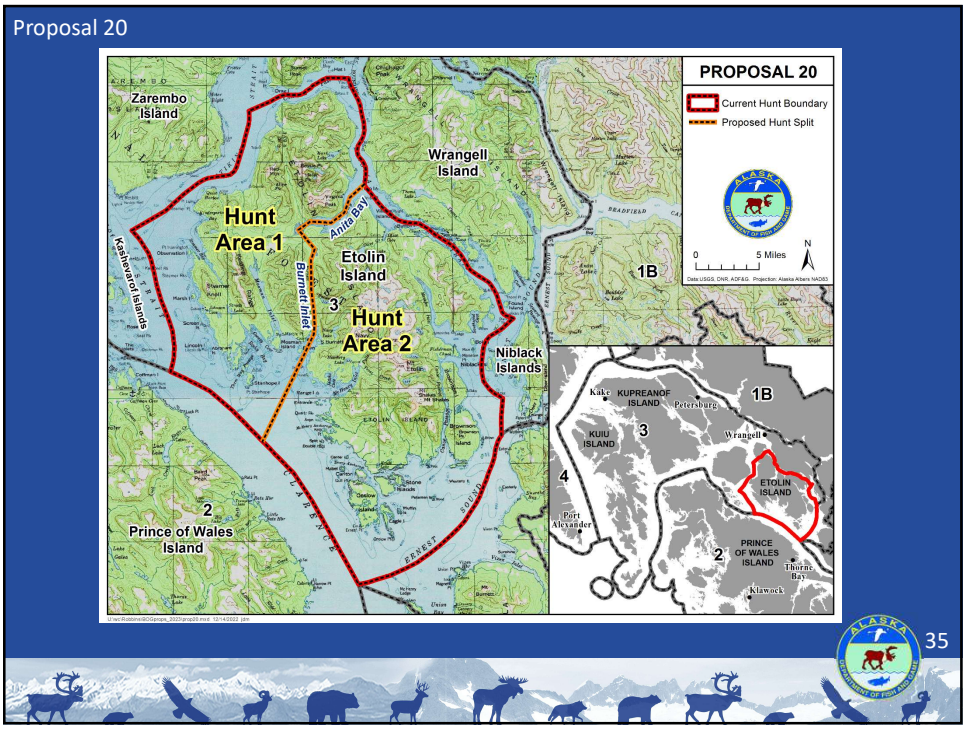
The proposal states that the current October hunt structure and the level of participation is creating hunter congestion and increased competition that could result in potentially dangerous situations.



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Proposal 20

## Current Regulations

Hunt	Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
DE318	25	Sept 1-Sept 30	Sept 1-Sept 30
DE321	50	Oct 1-Oct 15	Oct 1-Oct 15
DE323	50	Oct 16-Oct 31	Oct 16-Oct 31
RE325	registration	Nov 15-Nov 30	Nov 15-Nov 30

All hunts 1 bull by permit

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Proposal 20

## Proposed Changes

Hunt	Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
DE318	25	Sept 1-Sept 30	Sept 1-Sept 30
<i>DE321 South Area</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>Oct 1-Oct 15</i>	<i>Oct 1-Oct 15</i>
<i>New Draw Hunt North Area</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Oct 1-Oct 15</i>	<i>Oct 1-Oct 15</i>
<i>DE323 South Area</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>Oct 16-Oct 31</i>	<i>Oct 16-Oct 31</i>
<i>New Draw Hunt North Area</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Oct 16-Oct 31</i>	<i>Oct 16-Oct 31</i>
RE325	registration	Nov 15-Nov 30	Nov 15-Nov 30

All hunts 1 bull by permit


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Proposal 20

## Etolin Island Elk Permits and Harvest, 2012-2021

Reg Year	Total Permits	Permits Hunted	% Permits Hunted	% Hunter Success	Total Harvest
2012	173	72	42	10	7
2013	187	77	41	5	4
2014	184	76	41	7	5
2015	186	57	31	12	7
2016	196	73	37	7	5
2017	174	80	46	11	9
2018	189	86	46	8	7
2019	182	85	47	8	7
2020	166	73	44	7	5
2021	155	58	37	9	5


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Proposal 20

## Discussion

- Proposal would likely decrease harvest opportunity for hunters drawn for the proposed northern hunt area.
- 17% of the historic Etolin Island elk harvest has occurred in the proposed northern hunt area, and no harvest occurred there in 11 of 25 seasons.



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Proposal 20

## Discussion

- In 2020 the Federal Subsistence Board determined that rural residents of Units 1-5 have customary and traditional use of elk on federal lands in Unit 3.
- Proposals have been submitted to establish federal subsistence elk hunts in Unit 3.
- In 2022 the Federal Subsistence Board established a registration elk hunt in Unit 3 outside of Etolin, Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby, and Kashevarof Islands open to residents of Units 1-5.



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## Proposal 20

### Effect of Proposal:

Split the current Etolin Island October elk hunt area into two hunt areas, allocating 20 drawing permits to the northern area and 80 to the southern area.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - No Action

Wrangell AC - Oppose



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## Proposal 21

### Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the regulation specific to the RM038 moose hunt that damaged, broken, or altered antlers are not considered spike-fork moose as defined by 5 AAC 92.990(46)(B).

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Oppose

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - Support



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Proposal 21

## Current Antler Restrictions

5 AAC 92.150(c)

...In Unit (B), that portion of Unit 1(C) south of Port Hobart, including all Port Houghton drainages, and Unit 3, a damaged, broken, or altered antler is not considered a spike-fork antler as defined in 5 AAC 92.990.



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Proposal 21

## Background

During the early 2000s managers noticed that sublegal bulls were being harvested during antler restricted hunts that were subsequently altered to meet the antler point requirements.

The two methods of alteration included:

- Intentional breaks
- Points filed or ground down



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Proposal 21

## Background

- The intentional alteration of antlers was most prevalent in the RM038 hunt area.
- Compromised the selective harvest strategy, most of the broken antlered moose fell within the protected middle age class.
- Could affect the desired bull:cow ratio



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Proposal 21

## Background

- The regulations at the time failed to address broken antlers.
- Extremely difficult to prove that antlers had been intentionally altered.
- Frustrating for AWT, ADF&G, and conscientious moose hunters.



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Proposal 21

## Background

- ~ 9% of the annual harvest included bulls with broken antlers that affected legality.
- In 2006 25% of the Stikine River harvest included bulls with broken or suspiciously altered antlers, and the season was closed by Emergency Order.
- That same year a joint AWT and ADF&G proposal was submitted to address the issue.



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Proposal 21

**2020 Season  
Legal Spike**



**2006 BOG  
Presentation**



**2022 Season**



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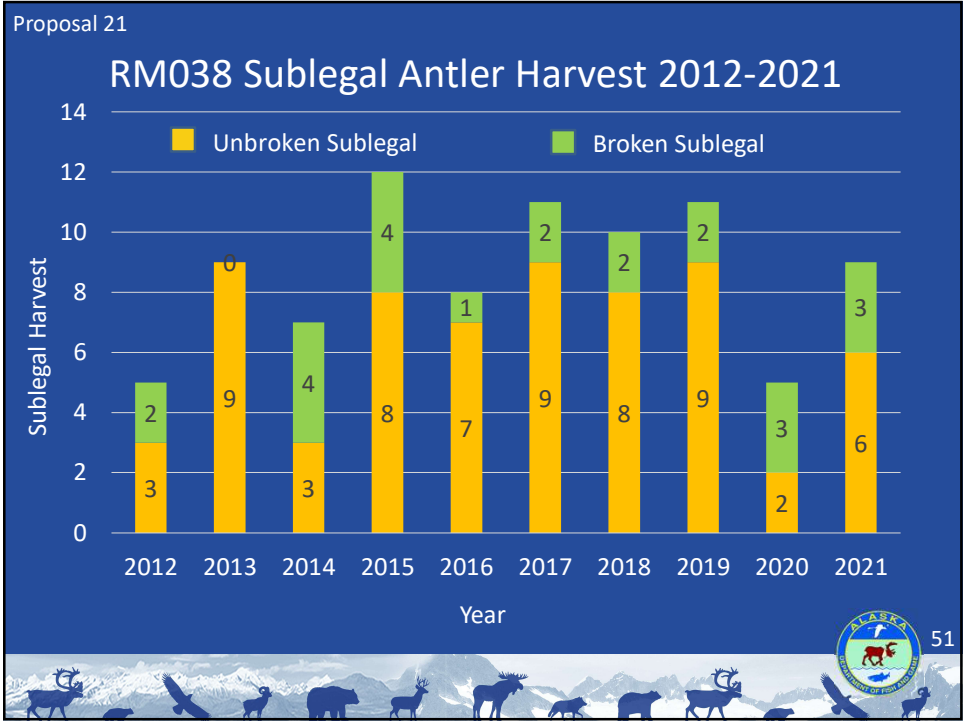




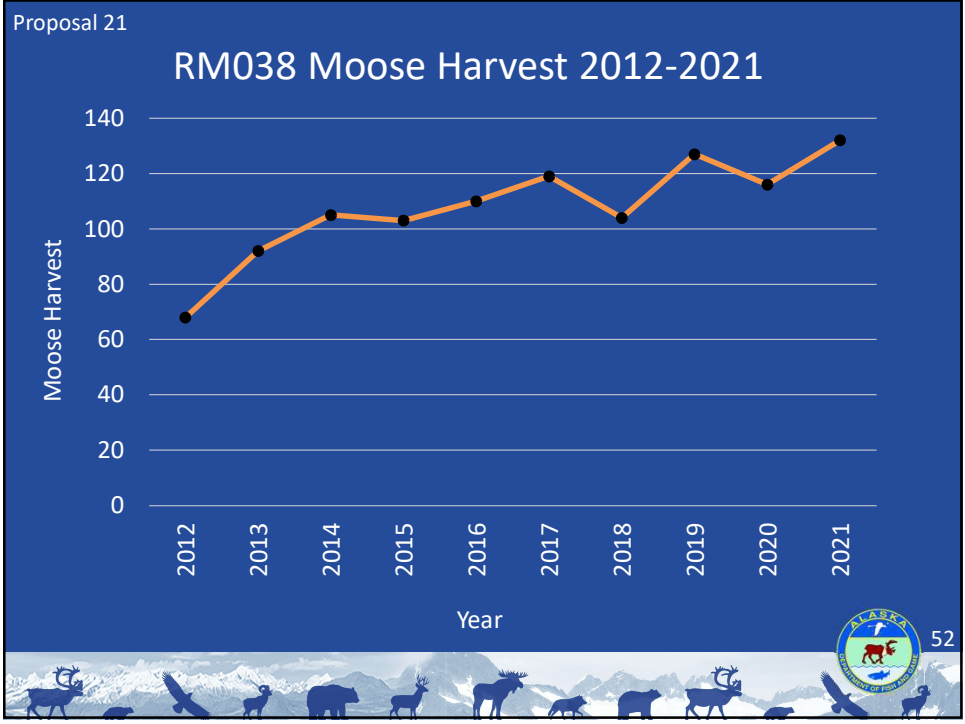
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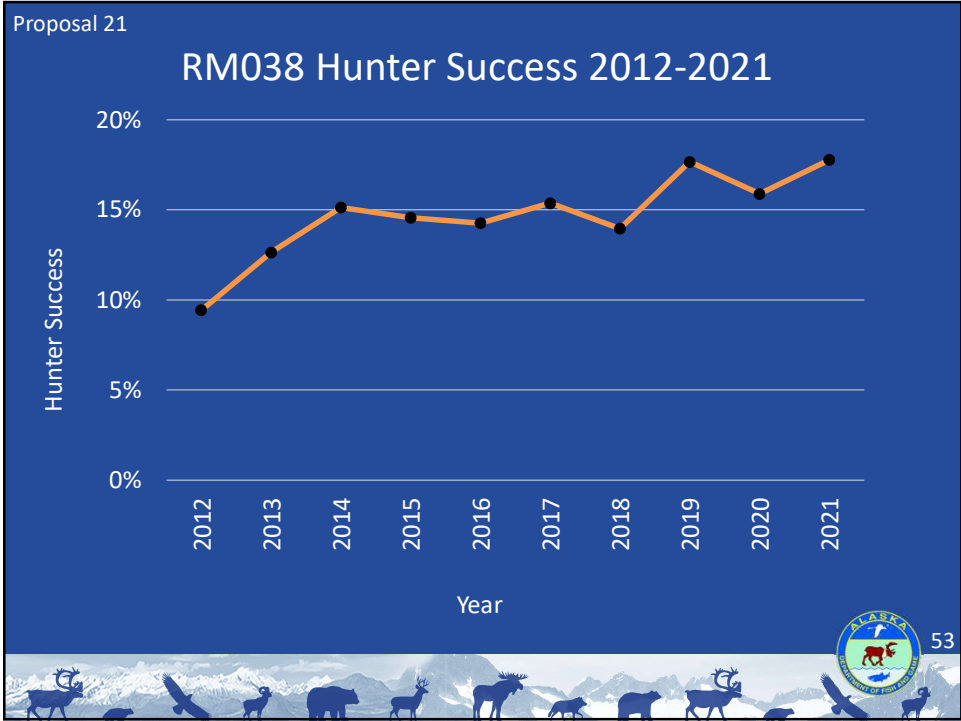


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Proposal 21

## Discussion

- Prior to the adoption of the “broken, damaged, or altered” regulation, 9% (7-11%) of the annual harvest included bulls with broken antlers that impacted legality.
- Over the last 10 seasons, and subsequent to the establishment of the regulation, the harvest of spike-fork bulls with “broken, damaged, or altered” antlers declined to 2% (0-4%).



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Proposal 21

## Discussion

- The RM038 hunt has the most liberal antler restrictions in the state.
- The RM038 moose season fully encompasses the rut and is open for a full month under the current regulations.



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Proposal 21

## Discussion

- Adoption of this proposal would likely result in a future decrease in bull moose harvested as the number of bull moose in the population declines.
- May result in lower breeding success.



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# Proposal 21

## Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the regulation specific to the RM038 moose hunt that damaged, broken, or altered antlers are not considered spike-fork moose as defined by 5 AAC 92.990(46)(B).

## *Public Proposal*

## Department Recommendation:

Oppose

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - Support



57

# Proposal 22

## Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the motorized vehicle restriction as a condition of the RM038 moose hunt in Unit 1B.

## *Public Proposal*

## Department Recommendation:

Neutral

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - Support



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Proposal 22

## Background

- Logging activities between 1958-1975 increased moose browse and provided increased road access for hunters in the Thomas Bay area.
- Because of increased hunter concentrations and public safety concerns motorized vehicle use was restricted starting in 1978.

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Proposal 22

# Background

- The prohibition of motorized vehicles was initially done through methods and means regulations, but the department later regulated vehicle use in Unit 1B as a condition of the registration moose permit.
- Roads available to hunters in Unit 1B are almost exclusively located in the Thomas Bay Area.



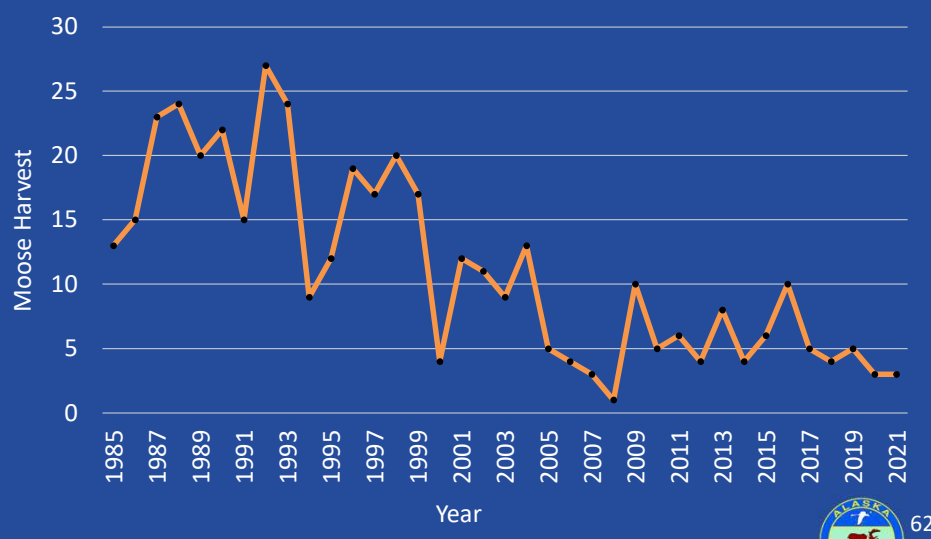
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Proposal 22

### Moose Harvested in the Thomas Bay Road Network Area (1985-2021)



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Proposal 22

## Discussion

- The highest reported moose harvest in the Thomas Bay area occurred between 1987-1998, averaging 19 moose annually.
- Dense closed-canopy forests of second growth timber have since reduced available understory browse and the annual moose harvest has declined to an average of 5 over the last 10 seasons.



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Proposal 22

## Discussion

- Many of the roads have deteriorated over time, are overgrown and unpassable by highway vehicles.
- There are currently ~25 miles of mainline roads and 6 miles of spur roads in the Thomas Bay Road network.
- There is a small community of fulltime residents that live near and utilize the road system.



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## Proposal 22

### Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the motorized vehicle restriction as a condition of the RM038 moose hunt in Unit 1B.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - Support



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## Proposal 23

### Effect of Proposal:

Allow the use of electric bicycles of 750 watts or less in Unit 1B during the RM038 moose hunt.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

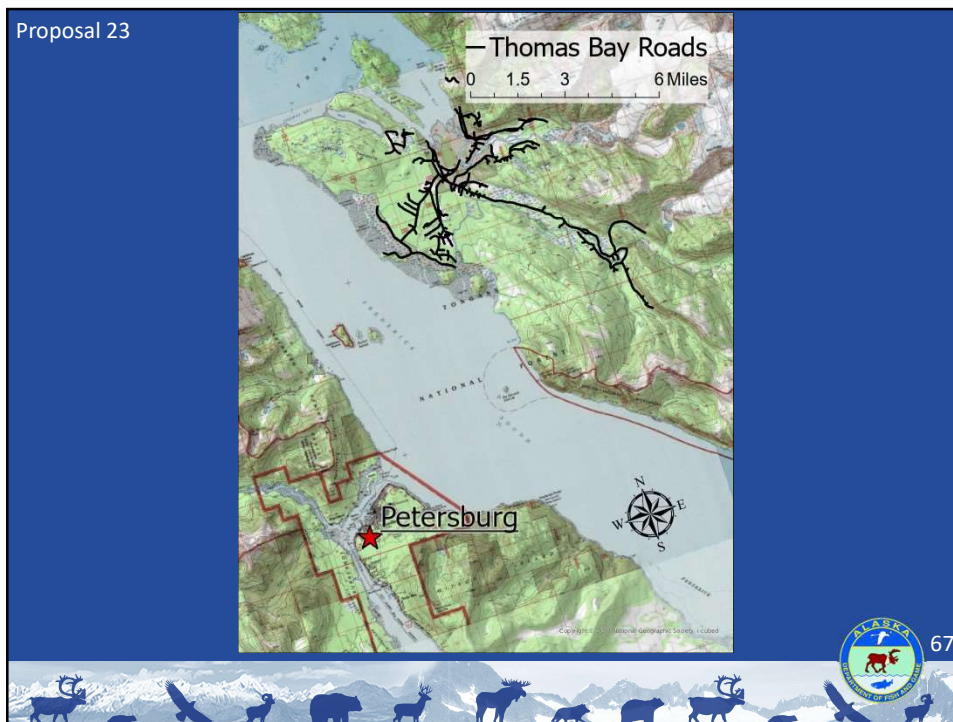
### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - No Action



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Proposal 23

## Background

- Logging activities between 1958-1975 increased moose browse and provided increased road access for hunters in the Thomas Bay area.
- Because of increased hunter concentrations and public safety concerns motorized vehicle use was restricted starting in 1978.

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The slide has a blue background with white text. It features a decorative border at the bottom with silhouettes of Alaskan wildlife. The Alaska State Seal is visible in the bottom right corner.

68

Proposal 23

## Background

- The prohibition of motorized vehicles was initially done through methods and means regulations, but the department later regulated vehicle use in Unit 1B as a condition of the registration moose permit.
- Roads available to hunters in Unit 1B are almost exclusively located in the Thomas Bay Area.



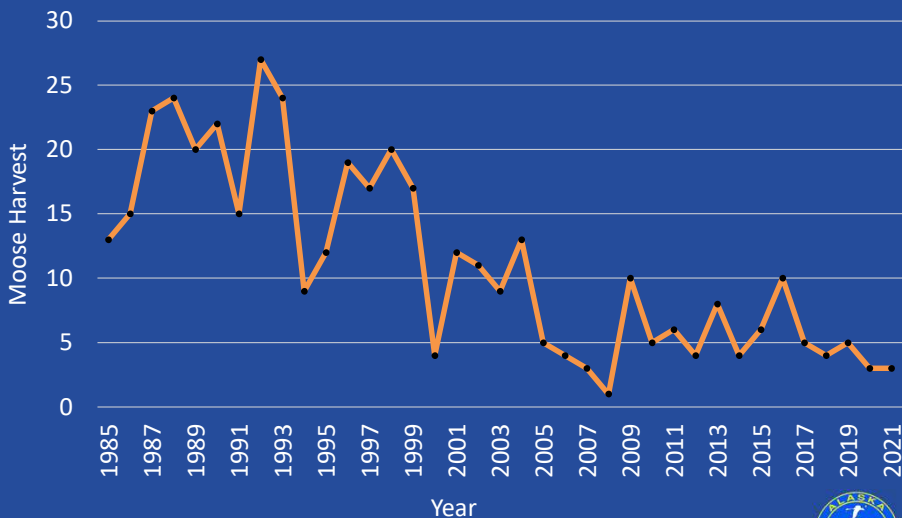
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Proposal 23

Moose Harvested in the Thomas Bay Road Network Area (1985-2021)



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Proposal 23

## Discussion

- The highest reported moose harvest in the Thomas Bay area occurred between 1987-1998, averaging 19 moose annually.
- Dense closed-canopy forests of second growth timber have since reduced available understory browse and the annual moose harvest has declined to an average of 5 over the last 10 seasons.



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Proposal 23

## Discussion

- Many of the roads have deteriorated over time, are overgrown and unpassable by highway vehicles.
- There are currently ~25 miles of mainline roads and 6 miles of spur roads in the Thomas Bay Road network.
- There is a small community of fulltime residents that live near and utilize the road system.



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# Proposal 23

**Effect of Proposal:**

Allow the use of electric bicycles of 750 watts or less in Unit 1B during the RM038 moose hunt.

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**

Neutral

**AC Recommendations:**

Petersburg AC - Support

Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Proposal 24

**Effect of Proposal:**

Create a resident only registration archery black bear hunt in the Petersburg Creek Closed Area with up to 10 permits issued.

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**

Neutral

**AC Recommendations:**

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - No Action



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Proposal 24

# Proposed Hunt Structure

Hunt Area	Permits	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
Petersburg Creek Drainage	Up to 10 registration archery only	April 15-June 30	None

1 bear by permit

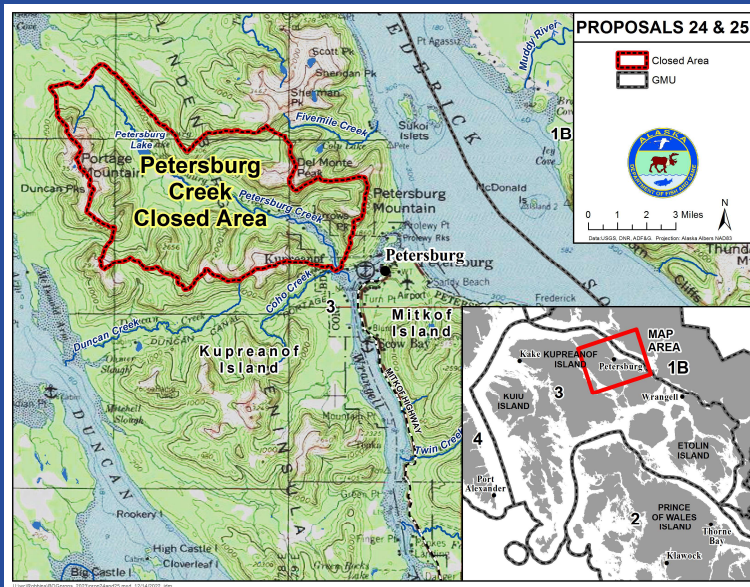


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Proposal 24



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Proposal 24

## Background

- The Petersburg Creek Closed Area is a 115 sq. km. (44 sq. mi.) area located on Kupreanof Island near the town of Petersburg and has been closed to the taking of black bears since 1975.
- It is a popular public recreation area and was created due to public safety concerns and to provide a bear viewing area close to Petersburg.
- Hunting for other species is allowed in the area.



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Proposal 24

## Background

- In 2004 the Board of Game reviewed all closed and controlled use areas to ascertain the continued need for each area.
- On completion of this review the status of the Petersburg Creek Closed Area was unchanged.



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Proposal 24

### Kupreanof Island Black Bear Harvest, 2017-2021

Year	Harvest	Harvestable Surplus	Post Hunt Surplus
2017	83	80	-3
2018	90	80	-10
2019	38	80	42
2020	71	80	9
2021	65	80	15



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Proposal 24

### Discussion

- Because of its proximity to Petersburg and ease of access, Petersburg Creek is popular with sport fisherman, hikers, and wildlife viewers.
- Spring steelhead fishing coincides with the peak of the spring black bear hunting season and fall hunting season would coincide with multiple salmon fisheries.
- Unit 3 has a baiting season for black bears.



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Proposal 24

## Discussion

- Black bear hunting in the area when sport fishing and wildlife viewing activities are high could result in user conflicts and public safety concerns.
- The Petersburg Creek Closed Area represents roughly 1.5% of the total Unit 3 area.
- Adoption of this proposal would effectively eliminate the Petersburg Creek Closed Area.



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## Proposal 24

### Effect of Proposal:

Create a resident only registration archery black bear hunt in the Petersburg Creek Closed Area with up to 10 permits issued.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Proposal 25

## Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the Petersburg Creek Closed Area.

## Public Proposal

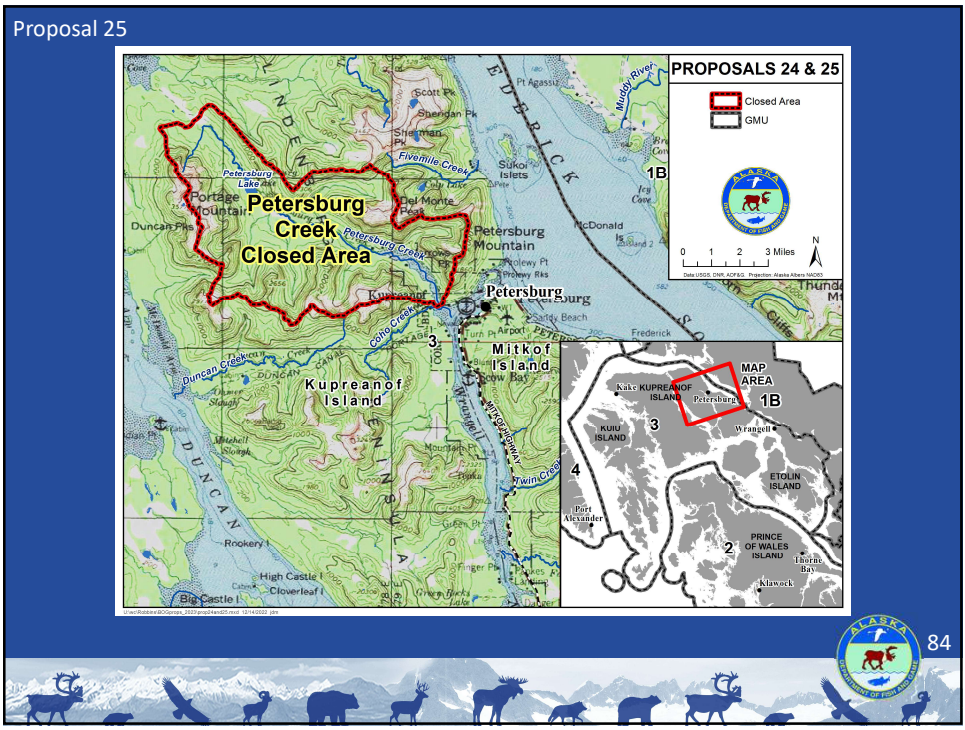
## Department Recommendation:

Neutral

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - No Action



Proposal 25

## Background

- The Petersburg Creek Closed Area is a 115 sq. km. (44 sq. mi.) area located on Kupreanof Island near the town of Petersburg and has been closed to the taking of black bears since 1975.
- It is a popular public recreation area and was created due to public safety concerns and to provide a bear viewing area close to Petersburg.



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Proposal 25

## Background

- In 2004 the Board of Game reviewed all closed and controlled use areas to ascertain the continued need for each area.
- On completion of this review the status of the Petersburg Creek Closed Area was unchanged.



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Proposal 25

### Kupreanof Island Black Bear Harvest, 2017-2021

Year	Harvest	Harvestable Surplus	Post Hunt Surplus
2017	83	80	-3
2018	90	80	-10
2019	38	80	42
2020	71	80	9
2021	65	80	15



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Proposal 25

### Discussion

- Because of its proximity to Petersburg and ease of access, Petersburg Creek is very popular with sport fisherman, hikers, and wildlife viewers.
- Several lodges in the Petersburg area host nonguided nonresident black bear hunters that would gain access to the Petersburg Creek drainage if this proposal is adopted.



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Proposal 25

## Discussion

- Spring steelhead and fall sockeye and coho runs coincide with the peak of spring and fall black bear hunting seasons.
- Unit 3 has a baiting season for black bears.
- If adopted, hunting seasons and bag limits would match the rest of Kupreanof Island.
- Black bear hunting in the area when sport fishing and wildlife viewing activities are high could result in user conflicts and public safety concerns.



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## Proposal 25

### Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the Petersburg Creek Closed Area.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Proposal 26

## Effect of Proposal:

Reduce the number of draw permits for unguided nonresident black bear on Kuiu Island, and limit harvest to one black bear every four regulatory years for nonresidents on Kuiu Island.

## *Public Proposal*

## Department Recommendation:

Neutral

## AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Oppose

Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Background

- This proposal expresses concern about a black bear population decline on Kuiu and Kupreanof Islands.
- The proposal states that prolonged high harvest, wolf predation, and habitat alteration have caused reductions in the black bear population.



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## Background

- The proposal also states that hunter services have expanded interest in hunting Kuiu Island for black bears, resulting in increased harvest success.
- Additional concerns include hunter crowding and conflicts in the field.



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## DL029 Black Bear Harvest Data, 2012-2021

Year	Permits	Hunted	Harvested	% Success
2012	40	28	15	54
2013	40	29	12	41
2014	40	22	11	50
2015	40	24	12	50
2016	40	26	18	69
2017	50	30	26	87
2018	50	44	39	89
2019 <sup>1</sup>	50	8	8	100
2020	50	36	32	89
2021	50	31	24	77

<sup>1</sup>In 2019 the nonresident spring black bear season was closed from April 2-May 31 due to COVID-19.




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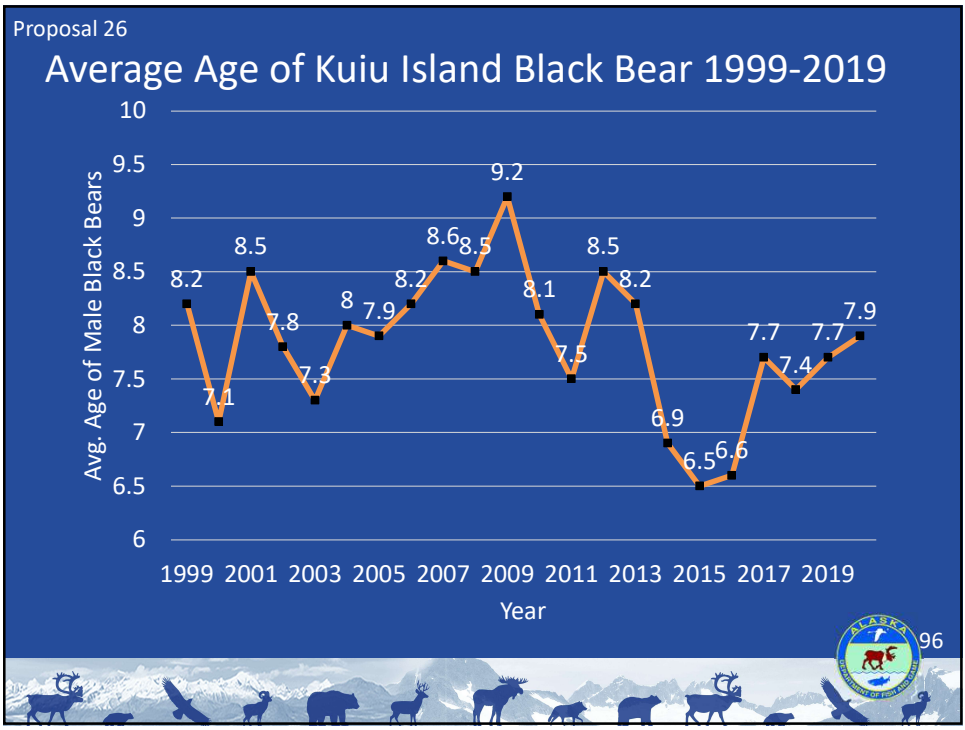
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### Kuiu Island Bear Skull Size $\geq 20''$ by Decade 1990-2019

Years	$\geq 20''$	$\geq 21''$	n	% $\geq 20''$	% $\geq 21''$	Avg Skull	Avg Age
1990-99	132	13	929	14.2	1.4	18.56	-
2000-09	117	4	909	12.9	0.4	18.62	8
2010-19	56	3	596	9.4	0.5	18.43	7.5



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## Discussion

- In 2019 the Board of Game increased the number of nonresident nonguided draw permits (DL029) that may be issued from 50 to 75 should harvestable surplus of bears increase on Kuiu Island.
- To date the department has not increased the number of DL029 drawing permits beyond 50 permits.



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## Discussion

- Nonresident hunters not using a registered guide were required to draw a permit to hunt black bear on Kuiu Island (DL029) starting in 2012.
- Applications for this drawing hunt have increased since, with 627 DL029 applications received for the 2022 regulatory year.



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## Discussion

- Over the last 5 seasons the success rate for bear hunters on Kuiu Island averaged 72% with 83% male harvest. Nonresident nonguided hunters were 87% successful over the same period.
- Between 2012-2021 guided hunters harvested 50% of the black bears from Kuiu Island, the harvest by nonguided nonresidents was 26%.



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## Discussion

- Due to relative decrease in the harvest of male black bears with skulls  $\geq 20$ ", the department has been considering lowering the number of DL029 and DL030 permits by 10-20%.
- The department has received positive support in reducing DL029 and DL030 permits by the Petersburg AC.
- The number of guided black bear hunts are dictated by commercial use permits issued by the USFS and would not be impacted by this proposal.



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### Public Proposal

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

- Petersburg AC - Oppose
- Wrangell AC - No Action



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# Proposal 27

### Effect of Proposal:

Prohibit trapping within a 100-yard buffer along all established hiking trails and drivable surfaces on Wrangell Island.

### Public Proposal

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

- Petersburg AC - No Action
- Wrangell AC - Oppose



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# Background

- The proposal suggests that trapping along highly trafficked roads on Wrangell Island has led to many user conflicts.



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## Wrangell Island Trapper Harvest, 2012-2021

Reg Year	Beaver	Wolves	Wolverine	Marten	Otter
2012	11	7	2	42	3
2013	14	6	3	27	6
2014	4	5	0	29	4
2015	1	2	0	1	2
2016	10	5	0	42	4
2017	9	3	1	21	0
2018	1	2	0	14	6
2019	6	6	0	0	1
2020	1	0	0	4	5
2021	0	3	0	0	5



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## Discussion

- Proposal would make it illegal to trap within 100 yards of the known 47 federal, state, borough trails and roads on Wrangell Island.
- Wrangell Borough municipal codes require the restraint of pets within the city's business district.
- Ethical and safe trapping practices are encouraged by the department and Alaska trapper associations.



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## Proposal 27

### Effect of Proposal:

Prohibit trapping within a 100-yard buffer along all established hiking trails and drivable surfaces on Wrangell Island.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - No Action

Wrangell AC - Oppose



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