PROPOSAL 100

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear season in Unit 19E to year-round as follows:

For Alaska residents, brown bear in Unit 19E - no closed season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Stony Holitna Advisory Committee proposes that for brown bear in Unit 19E there be <u>no closed season</u> for residents.

The brown bear season is presently August 10 - June 30. It is closed 41 days.

- Large areas of game habitat have been depleted due to multiple wildfires in recent years.
- The Kuskokwim is experiencing poor salmon runs
- Moose predation is high making stock increases low or non-existent.
- Brown bears, (and black bear), have been foraging in villages and picking fishnets and smoke houses, creating a safety concern for humans.
- When village and other local residents are forced to kill bears out of season to defend life and property, they are required by law to salvage the hides and skulls, and turn them over to ADF&G. This requires much work and time these animals should remain the property of the person who killed it.

PROPOSED BY: Stony Holitna Fish and Game Advisory Committee	(HQ-F23-025)
