

## **PROPOSAL 27**

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

Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B as follows:

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(20)		
Unit 22(C)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit; or	<b><u>Aug. 1 – June 30</u></b> [AUG. 1 – OCT. 31] [APR. 1 – JUNE 30] (subsistence hunt only)	
1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit only	<b><u>Aug. 1 – June 30</u></b> [AUG. 1 – OCT. 31] [APR. 1 – JUNE 30]	
...		
Remainder of Unit 22		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 bears every regulatory year by registration permit; or	Aug. 1 – June <b><u>30</u></b> [15] (subsistence hunt only)	
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 bears every regulatory year	Aug. 1 – June <b><u>30</u></b> [15]	
...		

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Changing the resident season dates for brown bear in Units 22D and 22E would align the season with Unit 22B. Currently, the registration subsistence hunt (RB699) and general season hunt season for Units 22D and 22E end on June 15, while seasons in Unit 22B end on June 30, which creates unnecessary confusion for hunters and adds complexity to the regulatory language in the regulations book. The registration subsistence hunt (RB699) and registration hunt (RB670) for Unit 22C closes from November 1 to March 31. This proposed season change aligns the season dates for the registration subsistence and other registration permit hunt in Unit 22C with the other hunts in Unit 22B, 22D, and 22E. This should resolve confusion in the hunting regulations.

Changing the resident season dates for brown bear in Unit 22C would align the season with Unit 22B. Currently the season for Unit 22C is managed by a split fall and spring season, while the season in Unit

22B ends on June 30. The split season in Unit 22C creates unnecessary confusion for hunters and adds complexity to the regulatory language in the regulations book.

Very little harvest of brown bears occurs in Unit 22 during November – March so this extended season is not anticipated to have a biological concern.

This proposed season change should resolve confusion in the hunting regulations. Unit 22C brown bear hunting would still be managed by a quota according to the combined harvest under the RB670, DB685, and RB699 permits.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-061)

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