PROPOSAL 93

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

Lengthen the resident and nonresident brown/grizzly bear season in Unit 19C by opening the season on August 10 as follows:

Unit 19B, 19C BOTH RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: ONE BEAR EVERY REGULATORY YEAR <u>AUG.10</u> [SEPT.1]-MAY 31.

Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear season in Unit 19B and 19C to open August 10th. Current bag limit to remain the same at one bear every regulatory year.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Over the course of the last five to six years, while hunting and also while out flying in large portions of Unit 19B and 19C, I have witnessed an increasing number of brown/grizzly bears. Units 19B and 19C have significantly shorter open seasons for brown/grizzly bears than do the other three corresponding subunits, as well as having a one bear per year bag limit as opposed to a two bear per year bag limit found in the other three subunits. Considering the impact that bears are known to have on moose and caribou calf survival rates, and to an extent sheep as well, and in light of the recent decline in caribou and sheep numbers in some parts of Units 19B and 19C I would like to see the brown/grizzly bear season lengthened. This would allow additional hunting opportunity as well as helping to manage the current brown/grizzly bear population.

| PROPOSED BY: | Drew Hilterbrand | (EG-F23-180) |
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