

Proposal 1

Allow the use of crossbows in restricted weapons hunts in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas AC: Support

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Craig AC: Oppose

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Proposal 1

Discussion

- Allow in hunts open to muzzleloader, shotgun or bow and arrow.
- Still illegal in archery only hunts
- Currently no weapons restricted hunts in SE
- Originated as statewide proposal, being addressed regionally on hunt by hunt basis
- No conservation issues

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Proposal 1

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Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas AC: Support

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Craig AC: Oppose

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Proposal 1

Proposal 2

Allow food plotting on private property for feeding and harvesting deer in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose

Sitka AC: Oppose

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

Craig AC: Oppose

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Proposal 2

Discussion

- Allow intentional feeding of deer for the purpose of hunting
- Gardening (legal) vs. food plots, what's the difference?
- SE not conducive to food plots such as seen on popular outdoors TV

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Proposal 2

Risk of Disease

- Focal provision of food affects numerous population processes increasing risk
- Specific examples:
 - Bovine TB in Michigan (transmittable to humans)
 - Bovine Brucellosis in GYA
 - Chronic Wasting Disease in Colorado
 - Mange in Wyoming & Maine
 - Non-infectious from incompatible food in Saskatchewan

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Proposal 2

Discussion



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Proposal 2

Proposal 2

Allow food plotting on private property for
feeding and harvesting deer in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Craig AC: Oppose

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Proposal 2

Proposal 3

Modify the salvage requirements for deer in
Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Craig AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 3

Discussion

- Salvage of rib meat optional
- Would differ from GMU's 6 & 8
- Out of alignment with federal salvage requirements

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Proposal 3

Proposal 3

Modify the salvage requirements for deer in
Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Craig AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 3

Proposal 4

Allow the harvest of big game from boats in
Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support
Wrangell AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 4

Discussion

- Illegal since RY1972
- 1987: ADFG requests repeal, not approved
- Some confusion with federal regs
- RY2003 became illegal in PWS for bears
- Shoot from boat permits for disabled

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Proposal 4

Discussion

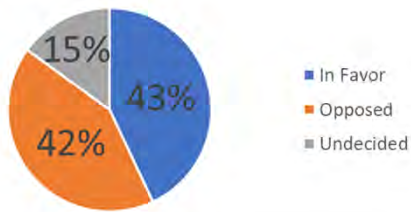
- Localized over harvest
- Wounding loss issues
- Public safety concerns
- Would apply to mt. goats and bears as well as deer

14

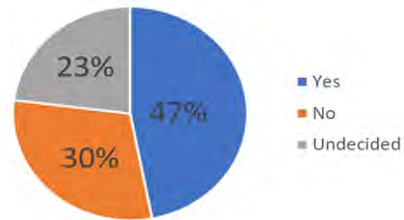
Proposal 4

2001 Deer Hunter Survey

Would You Support Legalization
of Shooting Deer From A Boat?



If Legal, Would You Shoot
Deer From A Boat?



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Proposal 4

Proposal 4

Allow the harvest of big game from boats in
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Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support
Wrangell AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 4

Proposal 5

**Shorten season and change bag limits for
moose in Units 1-5**

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Wrangell AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 5

Discussion

- **Change all moose seasons to Oct. 1-15**
- **Change all moose bag limits to “Any Bull”**
- **Most SE moose populations are small, discrete and require differing season lengths to maintain objectives**

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Proposal 5

Current Southeast Moose Hunts

Hunt Area	Hunt #	Dates	Bag Limit
1A Unuk River	RM022	Sept 15 – Oct 15	Any Bull
1B, 1C & 3	RM038	Sept 15 – Oct 15	SF50, 3BT or 2x2
1C Berners Bay	DM041	Sept 15 – Oct 15	Any Bull
1C Gustavus	RM049	Sept 15 – Oct 15	SF50 or 3BT
1C Remainder	RM046	Sept 15 – Oct 15	Any Bull
1D Haines	TM059	Sept 15 – Oct 7	SF50 or 3BT
5A Nunatak Bench	RM059	Nov 15 – Feb 15	Any Moose
5A Yakutat Forelands	RM061	Oct 15 – Nov 15	Any Bull
5B Malaspina Forelands	RM062	Sept 1 – Dec 15	Any Bull

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Proposal 5

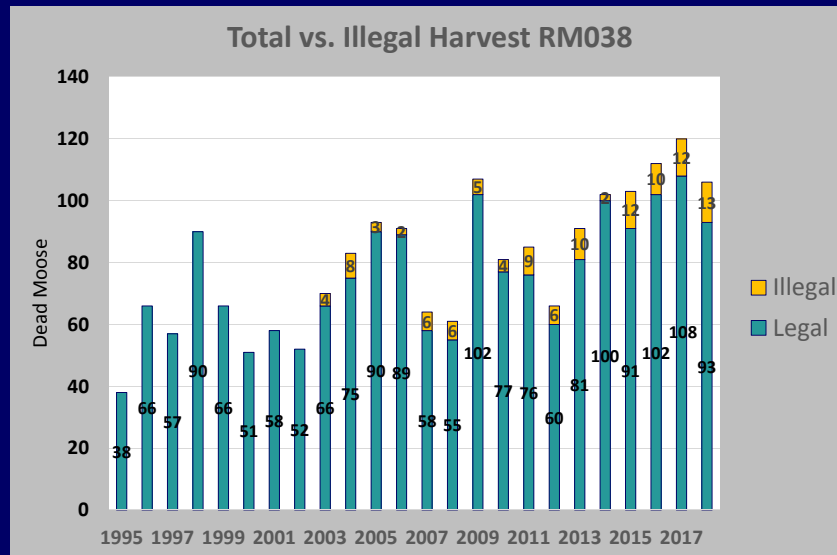
Discussion

- Result in reductions to season lengths.
- Possibly limit opportunities for subsistence.
- Department estimates 7 day season for RM038 to reach harvest of 100.
- Less hunting opportunity w/o antler restrictions.

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Proposal 5

RM038 Moose Harvests



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Proposal 5

Sub-Legal Bulls

Hunt	Annual Illegal
RM038 (Petersburg Area)	8% (2003-2018)
RM049 (Gustavus)	22% (2013-2018)
TM059 (Haines)	9% (2013-2018)
Kenai Peninsula (Units 15 & 7)	21% (2011-2018)

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Proposal 5

Discussion

- **Pros**
 - Easy to identify legal animal
 - Fewer illegal bulls
 - Less wanton waste
- **Cons**
 - Derby style 5-7 day season
 - Less opportunity

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Proposal 5

Proposal 5

Shorten season and change bag limits for
moose in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Wrangell AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 5

Proposal 6

Change Black Bear Salvage Requirements in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose

Sitka AC: Oppose

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 6

Discussion

- Require residents to salvage black bear meat year-round
- Hide salvage optional for residents
- No change to non-resident requirements
- Edibility of fall bear meat is personal values issue

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Proposal 6

Current Salvage Requirements

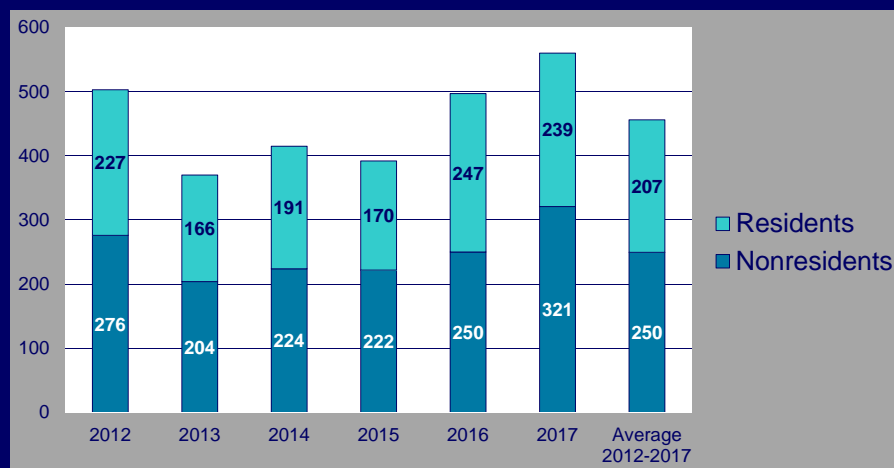
Black bear salvage requirements (page 28, 2018-2019) Alaska Hunting Regulations No. 59

Unit	Jan 1 – May 31	June 1 – Dec 31
1-7	Meat, Hide, Skull	Skull AND Meat or Skull AND Hide

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Proposal 6

Region I Black Bear Harvest RY2012-2017



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Proposal 6

Proposal 6

Change Black Bear Salvage Requirements in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose

Sitka AC: Oppose

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 6

Proposal 7

Eliminate Black Bear Sealing Requirements for Residents in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose

Sitka AC: Oppose

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 7

Discussion

- Eliminate black bear sealing for residents
- No change to non-resident requirements
- Biological and hunt info collected
- Tooth for aging, DNA from tissue/hair samples
- Beginning RY2009, harvest tickets required

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Proposal 7

Harvest Ticket Data

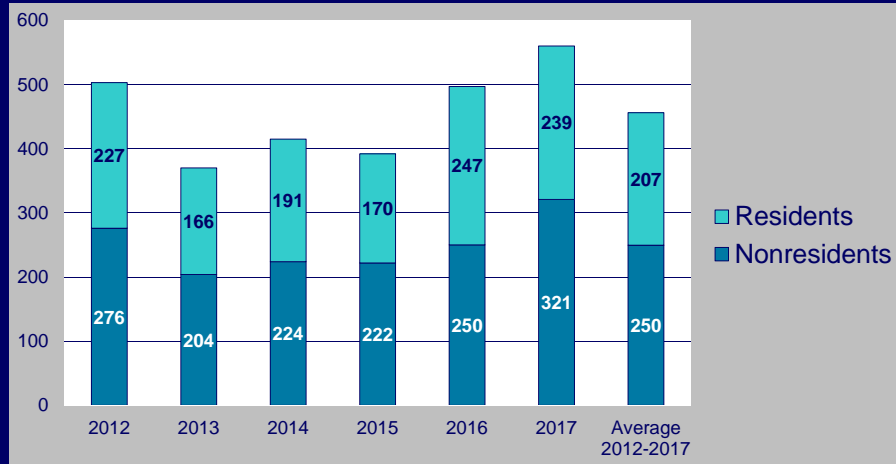
RY2012-2017

- Harvest tickets = 2,130 bears
- Sealing = 2,742 bears
- 612 bear difference (approx. 25%)

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Proposal 7

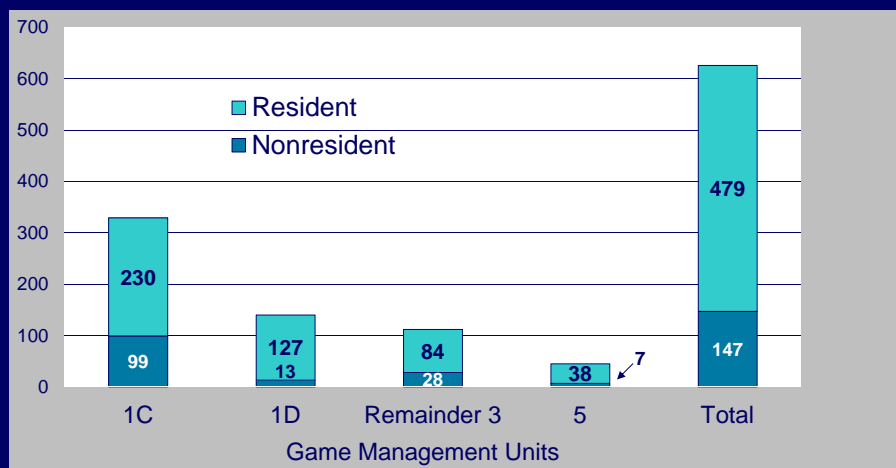
Region I Black Bear Harvest RY2012-2017



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Proposal 7

Black Bear Harvest By Residency 2012-2017



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Proposal 7

Proposal 7

Eliminate Black Bear Sealing Requirements for Residents in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 7

Proposal 8

Eliminate the Guided Nonresident General Season Black Bear Hunt in Units 1-3

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 8

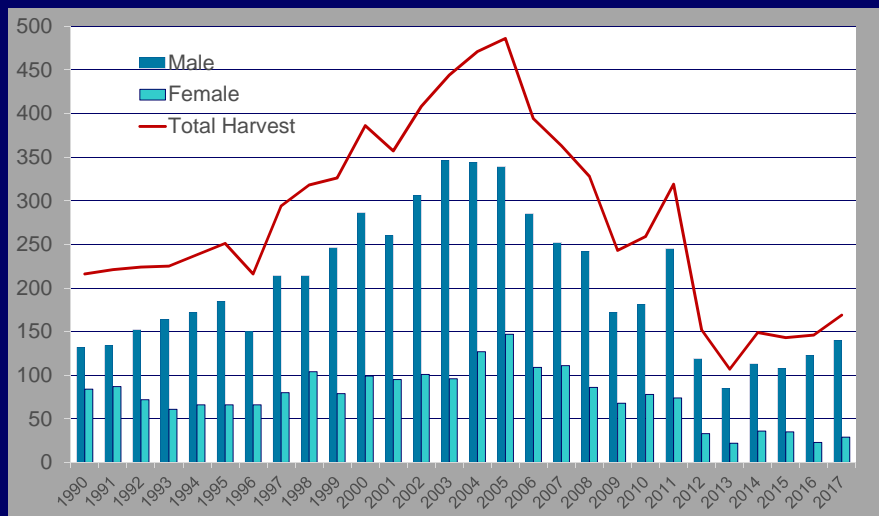
Discussion

- Eliminate guide option for nonresident black bear hunters (general season)
- Require all nonresident black bear hunting be by draw permit only
- Where and how will harvest will be limited to maintain sustainability?

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Proposal 8

Unit 2 Black Bear Harvest 1990-2017



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Proposal 8

Discussion

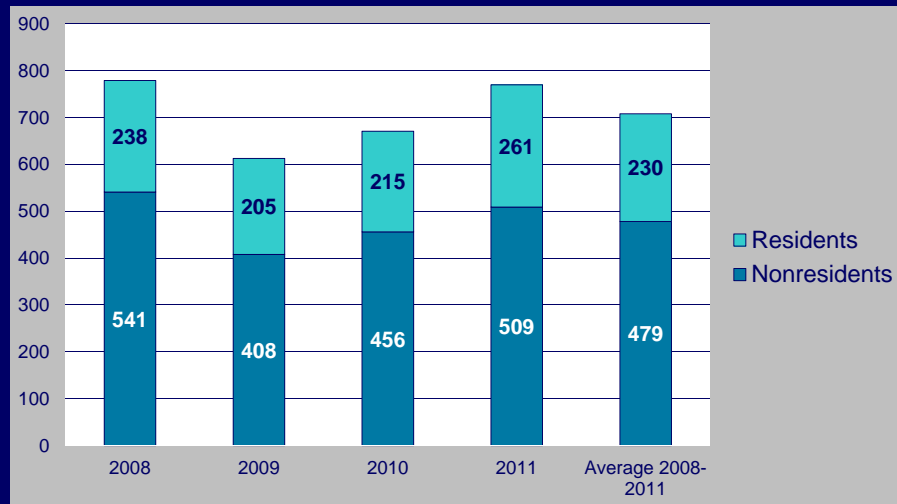
- Draw hunts initiated RY2012
- Have been successful in bringing harvests down to sustainable levels
- Proposal 9 (department proposal) to eliminate some draw hunts

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Proposal 8

Black Bear Harvest By Residency

Units 1-3 (2008-2011)

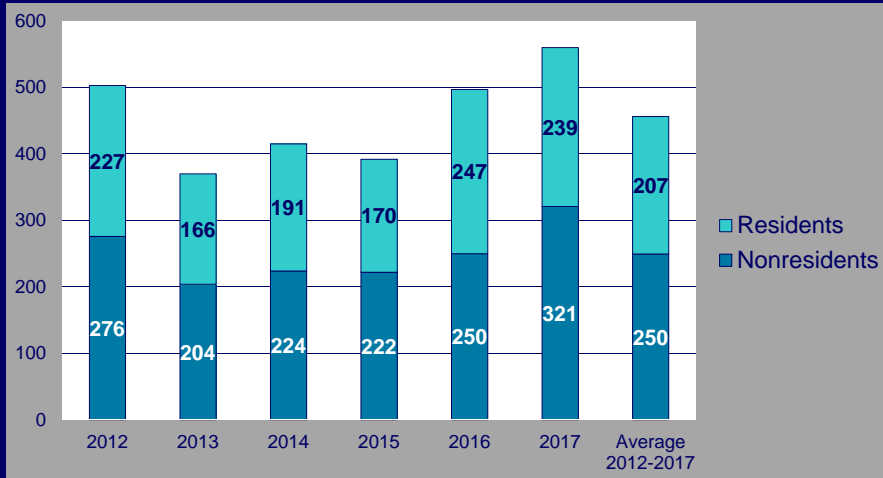


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Proposal 8

Black Bear Harvest By Residency

Units 1-3 (2012-2017)



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Proposal 8

Proposal 8

Eliminate the Guided Nonresident General Season Black Bear Hunt in Units 1-3

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose

Sitka AC: Oppose

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

East Prince of Wales AC: Oppose

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Proposal 8

Proposal 9

Change NR black bear draw hunts in Units 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D to General Seasons

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support

Sitka AC: Support

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support

Ketchikan AC: Support

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Proposal 9

Discussion



Replace the following draw hunts with a general season:

- DL016 (1A)
- DL017 (1B)
- DL019 (1C N. of Taku)
- DL020 (1C Remainder)
- DL021 (1D)
- DL031 (3 Remainder)

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Proposal 9

Discussion



Will not change hunt requirements for:

- DL018 (1C S. of Taku)
- DL027 (2 Fall)
- DL028 (2 Spring)
- DL029 (3 Kuiu)
- DL030 (3 Kupreanof)

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Proposal 9

Discussion

- Draw hunts initiated RY2012
- Have been successful in bringing harvests down to sustainable levels
- “Domino” effect never occurred
- Identified hunts chronically undersubscribed

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Proposal 9

Undersubscribed Permits

Hunt No.	Permits/Year	Ave. Issued (Range)	Average Undersubscribed
DL016	75	57 (40-71)	24%
DL017	30	21 (11-27)	31%
DL018	10	9 (6-10)	8%
DL019	10	7 (2	30%
DL020	24	12 (5	51%
DL021	20	5 (4	74%
DL027	30	30	0%
DL028	100	100	0%
DL029	50	50	0%
DL030	100	100	0%
DL031	40	27 (20	33%

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Proposal 9

Proposal 9

Change NR black bear draw hunts in Units
1A, 1B, 1C and 1D to General Seasons

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support
Sitka AC: Support
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Support

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Proposal 9

Proposal 49

Increase “up to number” for Black Bear
Draw Hunt DL029 (Kuiu Island)

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support

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Proposal 49

Discussion

- Increase maximum number of draw permits for DL029 from 50 to 75 permits
- Department is currently issuing max permits
- Additional opportunity if there is an increased harvestable surplus

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Proposal 49





2010 BOG History

Proposed Black Bear Harvest and Unguided Nonresident Drawing Permit Allocation					
		Proposed Harvest Allocation (Based on 2007-2009 Ave. Harvest)		Unguided Nonresident Hunters	
Hunt Area	Estimated Harvestable Surplus of Bears	Resident and Guided Nonresident Hunters	Unguided Nonresident Hunters	Proposed Number of Drawing Permits	"Up To" Number of Drawing Permits
Kuiu	84	64	20	40	50

51

Proposal 49

Mean Annual Black Bear Harvest By User Group Pre and Post Draw Hunt

User Group	2007-2009		2012-2017
Guided	52		37
Residents	15		14
Unguided Nonresidents	32		15
Total	99		66

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Proposal 49

DL029 Results

Black Bear Drawing Hunt DL029, Kuiu Is. Hunter Effort and Success (2012-2017)

Regulatory Year	Permits Issued	Permittees Who Hunted	Permittees Who Harvested	% Male Bears	Avg. Days Hunted
2012	40	28	15 (54%)	93	5.4
2013	40	29	12 (41%)	92	5.8
2014	40	22	11 (50%)	73	4.5
2015	40	24	11 (46%)	73	5.0
2016	40	26	18 (69%)	89	3.9
2017	50	30	25 (83%)	92	3.6
Average					
2012-17	40-50	27	15 (56%)	87	4.7

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Proposal 49

Proposal 49

Increase “up to number” for Black Bear
Draw Hunt DL029 (Kuiu Island)

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support

54

Proposal 49

Proposal 50

**Increase “up to number” for Black Bear
Draw Hunt DL030 (Kupreanof Island)**

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support

55

Proposal 50

Discussion

- Increase maximum number of draw permits for DL030 from 100 to 125 permits
- Department is currently issuing max permits
- Additional opportunity if there is an increased harvestable surplus

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Proposal 50

2010 BOG History

Proposed Black Bear Harvest and Unguided Nonresident Drawing Permit Allocation

Hunt Area	Estimated Harvestable Surplus of Bears	Proposed Harvest Allocation (Based on 2007-2009 Avg. Harvest)		Unguided Nonresident Hunters	
		Resident and Guided Nonresident Hunters	Unguided Nonresident Hunters	Proposed Number of Drawing Permits	"Up To" Number of Drawing Permits
Kupreanof	80	43	40	80	100

57

Proposal 50

Mean Annual Black Bear Harvest By User Group Pre and Post Draw Hunt

User Group	2007-2009		2012-2017
Guided	25	→	21
Residents	18	→	15
Unguided Nonresidents	40	→	29
Total	~80	→	65

58

Proposal 50

DL030 Results

Black Bear Drawing Hunt DL030, Kupreanof Is. Hunter Effort and Success (2012-2017)

Regulatory Year	Permits Issued	Permittees Who Hunted	Permittees		Avg. Days Hunted
			Who Harvested	% Male Bears	
2012	80	59	30 (51%)	90	4.9
2013	80	53	18 (34%)	89	5.9
2014	80	66	29 (44%)	93	3.9
2015	80	49	21 (43%)	81	5.1
2016	80	55	35 (64%)	94	4.3
2017	100	68	38 (56%)	87	4.0
Average 2012-16	80-100	58	29 (50%)	89	4.7

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Proposal 50

Proposal 50

Increase “up to number” for Black Bear
Draw Hunt DL030 (Kupreanof Island)

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Support

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Proposal 50

Proposal 10

Require Coyote Sealing in Units 1-5

Upper Lynn Canal AC Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas AC: Support

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support

61

Proposal 10

Discussion

- Coyote season extended in 2013
- No population, distribution or harvest information available
- Anecdotal population increasing.

62

Proposal 10

Proposal 10

Require Coyote Sealing in Units 1-5

Upper Lynn Canal AC Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas AC: Support

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support

63

Proposal 10

Proposal 11

Extend Beaver Trapping Season in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig AC: Support

Juneau-Douglas AC: Support

Ketchikan AC: Support

Petersburg AC: Support

64

Proposal 11

Discussion

- Extend season from April 30 to May 15
- Prior to RY2011 was Dec 1 to May 15
 - BOG changed to Nov. 10 to April 30
- Over all pressure is light
- No conservation concerns

65

Proposal 11

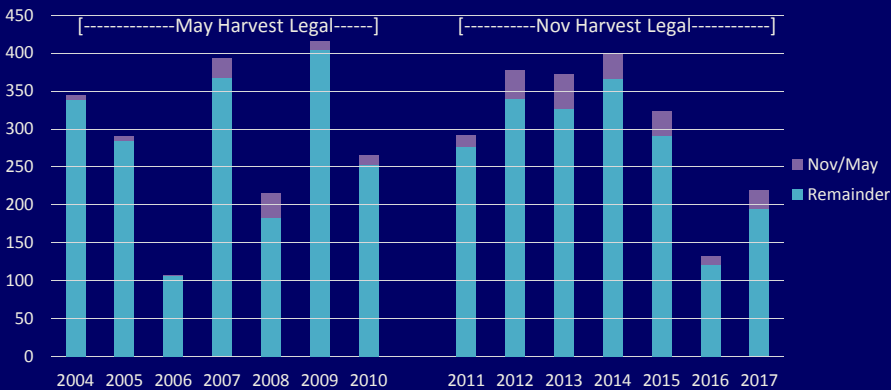
Discussion

- Average harvest was 303/yr.
- November = approx. 10%
- May = approx. 5%
- Department expects 5% increase in harvest

66

Proposal 11

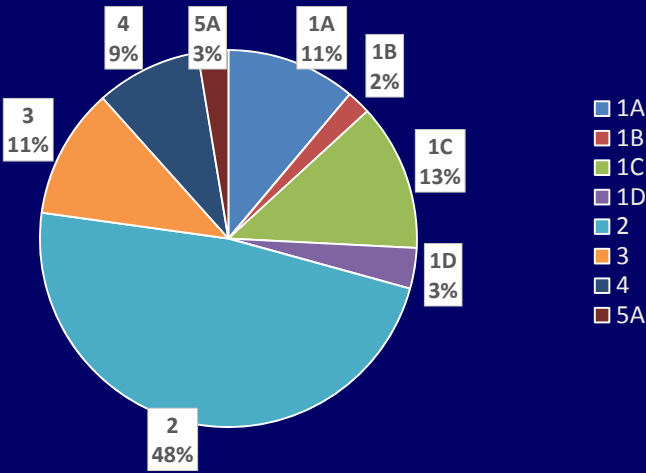
2004-2017 Annual Beaver Harvest Units 1-5



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Proposal 11

Region 1 Average Annual Beaver Harvest 2008-2017



68

Proposal 11

Proposal 11

Extend Beaver Trapping Season in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig AC: Support
Juneau-Douglas AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Support
Petersburg AC: Support

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Proposal 11

Proposal 12

Extend Beaver Trapping Season in Unit 1

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

70

Proposal 12

Discussion

- Change to no closed season
- Over all pressure is light
- No conservation concerns

71

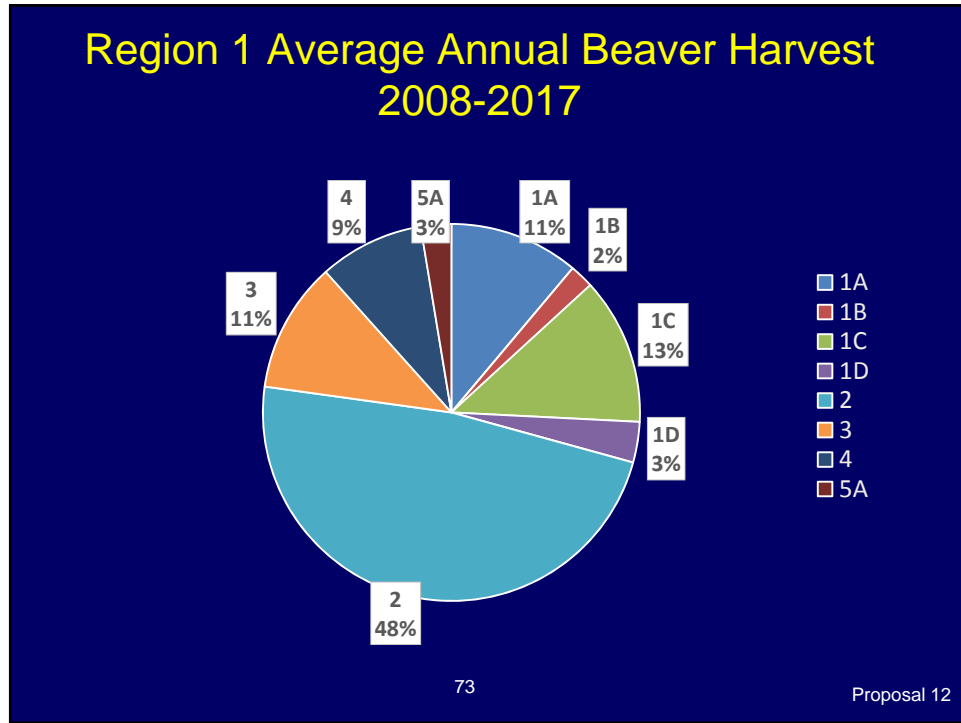
Proposal 12

Discussion

- Average harvest approx. 310
- Nuisance removal permits available
- Department expects little increase in harvest due to lack of interest in sub-prime pelts

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Proposal 12



Proposal 12

Extend Beaver Trapping Season in Unit 1 Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

74

Proposal 12

Proposal 13

Require Trap Identification Tags in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Petersburg AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Support
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Wrangell AC: Oppose

75

Proposal 13

Discussion

- BOG required region wide trap marking in 2007 (passed by one vote).
- Much of SE is federal land, FSB matched State regs in 2018.
- BOG rescinded in 2016, FSB promptly followed suit.

76

Proposal 13

Discussion

Pros

- Aids enforcement.
- Allows ADFG to contact trappers.

Cons

- Lay persons might discover trapper's name.

77

Proposal 11

Proposal 13

Require Trap Identification Tags in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig: Oppose
 Juneau-Douglas AC: Support
 Ketchikan AC: Oppose
 Petersburg AC: Oppose
 Sitka AC: Support
 Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
 Wrangell AC: Oppose

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Proposal 13

Proposal 14

Require Trap Identification Signs
in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig AC: Oppose
Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose
Petersburg AC: Oppose
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Wrangell AC: Oppose

79

Proposal 14

Discussion

- BOG required region wide trap marking in 2007 (passed by one vote)
- Much of SE is federal land, FSB matched State regs in 2018
- BOG rescinded in 2016, FSB promptly followed suit

80

Proposal 14

Discussion

Pros

- Aids enforcement.
- Allows ADFG to contact trappers.
- Warns others that trapping is occurring in the area.

Cons

- Lay persons might discover trapper's name.
- Extra effort required by trappers.

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Proposal 14

Proposal 14

Require Trap Identification Signs in Units 1-5

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Craig AC: Oppose
 Juneau-Douglas AC: Oppose
 Ketchikan AC: Oppose
 Petersburg AC: Oppose
 Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
 Wrangell AC: Oppose

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Proposal 14

Proposal 15

Expand Waterfowl Season in Southeast Alaska

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Neutral

AC Recommendation:
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 15

Discussion

- Extend waterfowl season to January or February (specific dates not given)
- Wide range of hunter preference
 - September migrants vs. wintering resident
- Proposal is out of conformity with the State's authority within USFWS waterfowl regulations framework.

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Proposal 15

Federal Waterfowl Framework

- USFWS has waterfowl management authority
- Current state authority to structure seasons:
 - Uniform across zone
 - Date range: Sept 1 – Jan 26
 - Maximum season length: 107 days
- Future options
 - Proposals to split the zone or to split season are eligible for consideration every five years (next in 2020)

85

Proposal 15

Splitting Season or Zone

- These changes require federal approval and must be justified on the basis of creating equitable opportunity – not just higher harvest
- Rationale should illustrate differences in migration paths, migration timing, habitat conditions, and weather/climate patterns.
- USFWS denied BOG zone split request (1998)

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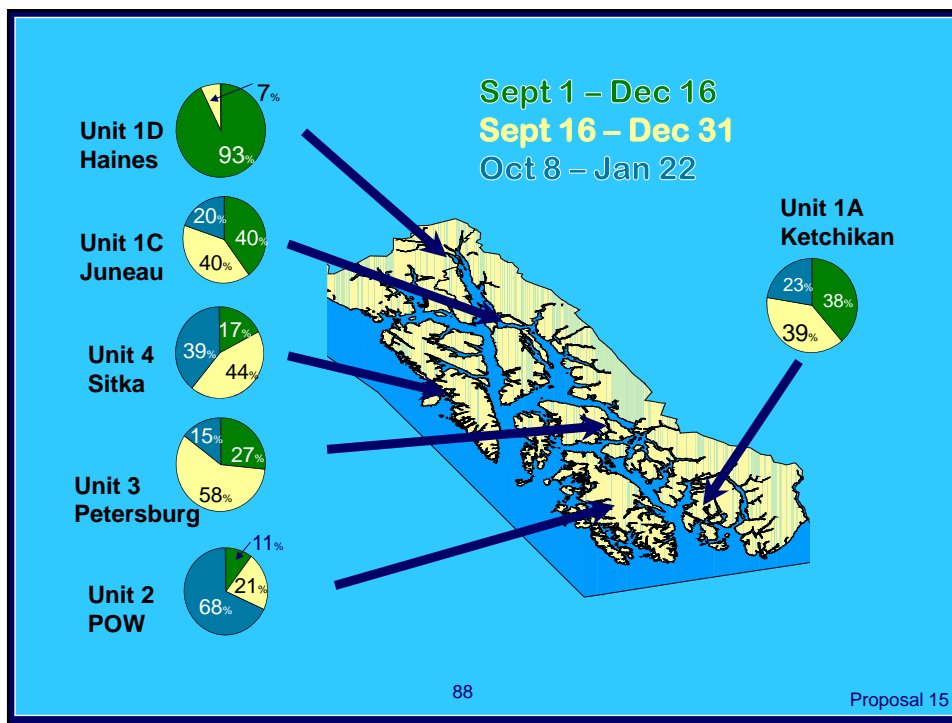
Proposal 15

2008 Survey of Hunter Preferences

- Random survey of 2006 waterfowl hunters living in Southeast Alaska
- Two question survey:
 - Preference of starting dates
 - Sept 1 – Dec 16 (current season)
 - Sept 16 – Dec 31 (two weeks later)
 - Oct 8 – Jan 22 (five weeks later)
 - Desire to have split season

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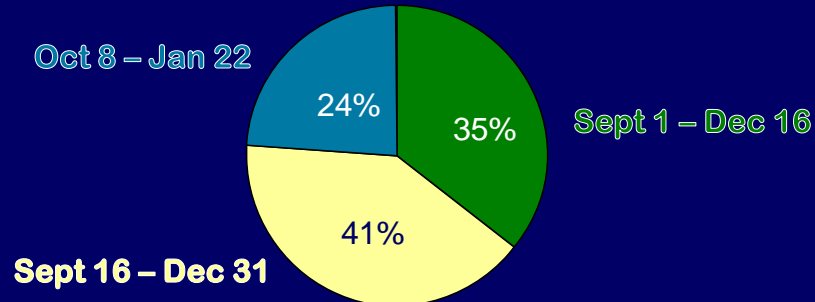
Proposal 15



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Proposal 15

Overall Weighted Preference



- The majority (65%) of respondents expressed interest in some shift in season dates to a later start
- Only 25% preferred splitting season dates

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Proposal 15

Result

- 2008 BOG shifted dates to compromise for majority of hunters (From Sept. 1 – Dec. 16 to Sept. 16 – Dec. 31)

90

Proposal 15

Pros and Cons of Shifting Later

■ Pros

- Late migrating dabblers & wintering mallards
- Better ability to select males
- Sea ducks
- Hunting during the holidays

■ Cons

- Reduces opportunity for harvest of early migrants (small and medium dabblers)
- May increase harvest of local wintering ducks and geese
- Poor weather and short daylight hours later in season
- Reduced opportunity for sandhill cranes

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Proposal 15

Proposal 15

Expand Waterfowl Season in Southeast Alaska

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Upper Lynn Canal AC: Oppose

Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 15

Proposal 16

Shift Waterfowl Season Two Weeks Earlier In Units 1-4

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Wrangell AC Oppose
Sitka AC: Support
Juneau-Douglas AC: Support
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 16

Discussion

- Waterfowl season for Units 1-4 would shift two weeks earlier: Sept. 1 – Dec. 16 [Sept. 16 – Dec. 31] for both residents and nonresidents
- Alternatively, the proponent suggests altering the season annually:
 - Odd years: Sept. 1 – Dec. 16
 - Even years: Sept. 16 – Dec. 31

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Proposal 16

Federal Waterfowl Framework

- USFWS has waterfowl management authority
- Current state authority to structure seasons:
 - Uniform across zone
 - Date range: Sept 1 – Jan 26
 - Maximum season length: 107 days
- Future options
 - Proposals to split the zone or to split season are eligible for consideration every five years (next in 2020)

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Proposal 16

Splitting Season or Zone

- These changes require federal approval and must be justified on the basis of creating equitable opportunity – not just higher harvest
- Rationale should illustrate differences in migration paths, migration timing, habitat conditions, and weather/climate patterns.
- USFWS denied BOG zone split request (1998)

96

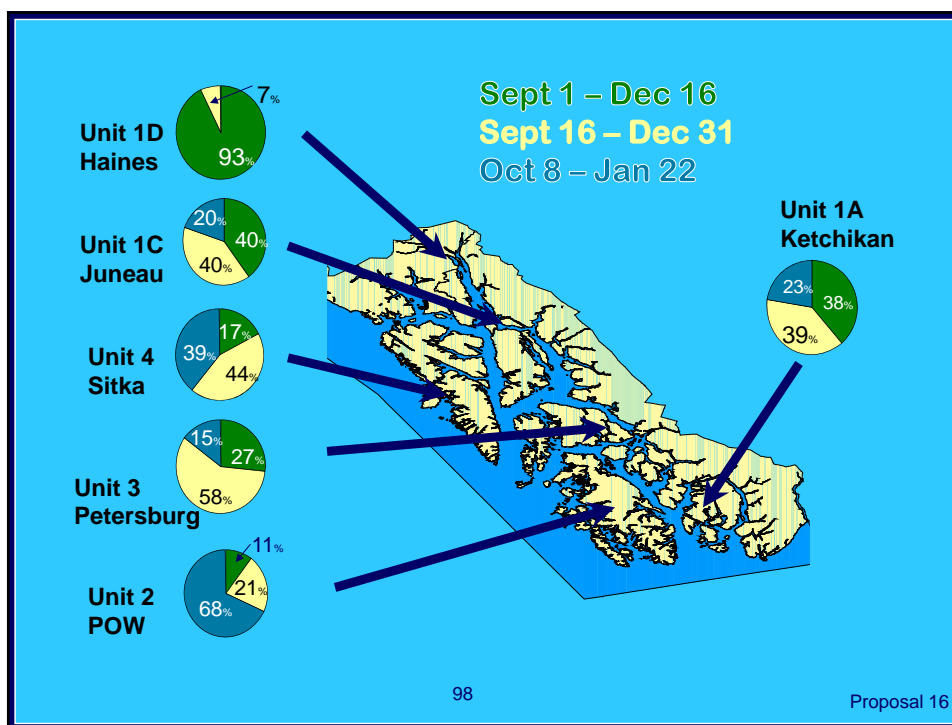
Proposal 16

2008 Survey of Hunter Preferences

- Random survey of 2006 waterfowl hunters living in Southeast Alaska
- Two question survey:
 - Preference of starting dates
 - Sept 1 – Dec 16 (current season)
 - Sept 16 – Dec 31 (two weeks later)
 - Oct 8 – Jan 22 (five weeks later)
 - Desire to have split season

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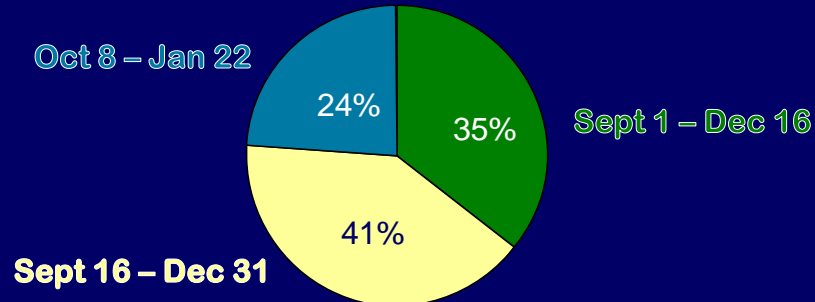
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Overall Weighted Preference



- The majority (65%) of respondents expressed interest in some shift in season dates to a later start
- Only 25% preferred splitting season dates

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Result

- 2008 BOG shifted dates to compromise for majority of hunters (From Sept. 1 – Dec. 16 to Sept. 16 – Dec. 31)

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Pros and Cons of Shifting Earlier

■ Pros

- Increased opportunity for harvest of early migrants (small and medium dabblers)
- Better weather and longer daylight hours
- Less harvest of local wintering birds
- Increased opportunity for sandhill cranes

■ Cons

- Decreased ability to select males
- Less opportunity for sea ducks
- No hunting during holidays
- Less opportunity for late migrating dabblers and wintering mallards

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Proposal 16

Proposal 16

Shift Waterfowl Season Two Weeks Earlier In Units 1-4

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Petersburg AC: Oppose
Wrangell AC: Oppose
Sitka AC: Support
Juneau-Douglas AC: Support
Upper Lynn Canal AC: Support
Ketchikan AC: Oppose

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Proposal 16