

PROPOSAL 19

5 AAC 85.035. Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk.

Change the hunt structure for elk on Etolin Island in Unit 3 as follows:

Make the following changes to the Etolin Island elk hunting seasons:

Shorten DE318:

DE318 September 1 - **15** [30] 25 tags Archery Only

Create a new hunt DE319

DE319 **Sep. 16 - 30** **25 tags** **Residents Only**

Reduce the number of tags for DE321:

DE321 Oct. 1-15 40 tags

Eliminate DE32:

DE323 [OCT16 - 31 50 TAGS]

Start the registration hunt earlier:

RE325 **Nov. 1 - Dec. 1**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

- The Etolin Island elk hunt consistently produces a low harvest.
- The resource is underutilized.
- The vast majority of hunting effort during the month-long archery season regularly occurs within the first two weeks of the season, leaving the latter half of the month largely un-hunted.
- The number of DE321 tags allotted annually creates crowding in the field, effectively diminishing the quality, productivity and safety of the hunt.
- The season dates of both DE323 and RE325 reduce the productivity of the hunts due to short days and typically inclement weather.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(HQ-F22-014)
