Board of Game 2023 Proposals

Unit 8 - Kodiak Archipelago

1

1

Proposal 65 – Establish a new registration hunt for goats in Unit 8.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: This proposal would establish a new goat registration hunt area on the Aliulik Peninsula, a unique 2-month hunt season from Sept. 1–Nov. 15, and a reduced bag limit to one goat within a portion of the Unit 8 RG480 registration hunt area on the Aliulik Peninsula.

Department Recommendation: OPPOSED

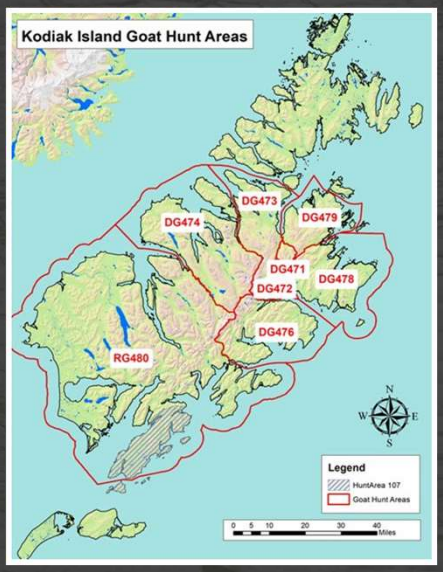
Proposal 65

2

2

Current Regulations and Hunt Administration

- RG480
- Bag Limit: Two goats, only one of which may be a billy, taking of nannies with kids is prohibited
- Season Dates: Aug. 20 – Mar. 31
- Aliulik Peninsula identified in gray cross hatch



Proposal 65

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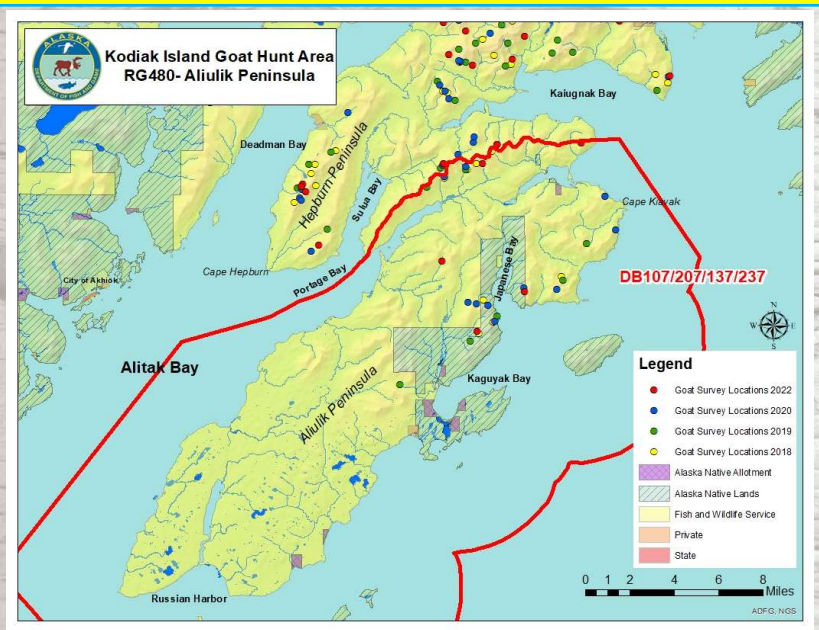

Proposal 65

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- Survey results from 2019, 2020, and 2022 indicate 101, 99, and 74 goats on peninsula, respectively (no 2021 survey)
  - Goats regularly move on and off the peninsula from areas with higher density
- RY2016 – RY2020, most harvest occured in Oct. (29%), Nov. (23%) and Mar. (22%)
- On average, 122 hunters harvest 61 goats (36 M, 25 F) annually

5

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Department Recommendation: OPPOSED

6

Proposal 66 – Establish an archery only hunt for mountain goats within the RG480 Hunt Area in Unit 8.

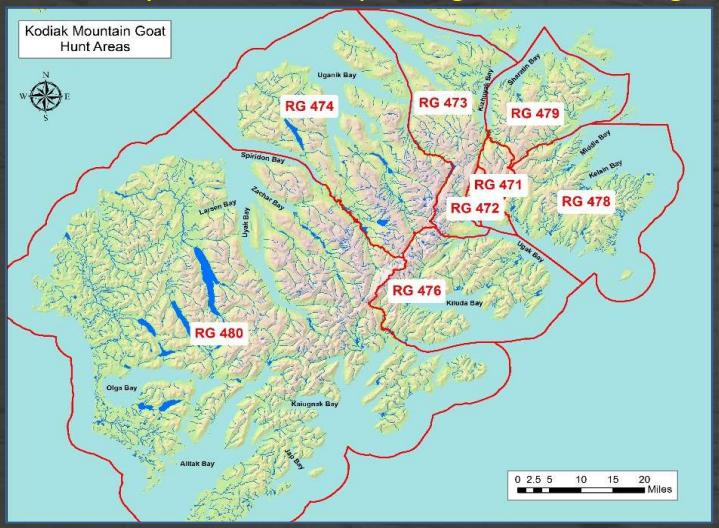
Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Establish a separate archery only registration hunt area within the current RG480 hunt boundary, with a 2-goat bag limit and a season Aug. 20-Mar. 31

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL on all allocative aspects of the proposal and OPPOSED to a reduction in harvest.

7

- RG480 Southwestern portion of island; variable goat habitat
- Registration only hunt; Season open Aug. 20–Mar. 20; 2-goat limit



8

Current Archery Hunting Opportunities

- RG480 allows for the take of goats with any weapon
- Archery-only Hunting opportunities
  - RG478 and RG479 (North and South Road System)
  - Season: Nov. 1 – Dec. 15
  - Bag Limit: 1 Goat
  - Subject to E.O. Closures
- Restricted Weapons Hunting opportunities
  - Archery, Crossbow and Muzzleloader
  - RG488 and RG489 (North and South Road System)
  - Season: Dec. 16 – Jan. 31
  - Bag Limit: 1 Goat
  - Subject to E.O. Closures

9

Kodiak Road System Archery-only Hunt

- RY2016 – RY2021 (RY2020, no open season):
  - Issued an average 99 road system archery-only permits annually (range 56 – 141)
  - Averaged 29 archery hunters afield annually
  - Average archery harvest = 8 goats annually (range 4 – 14)
  - Harvest occurs primarily in Nov. (71%) and Dec. (29%)
  - Average success rate for archery hunters = 25%

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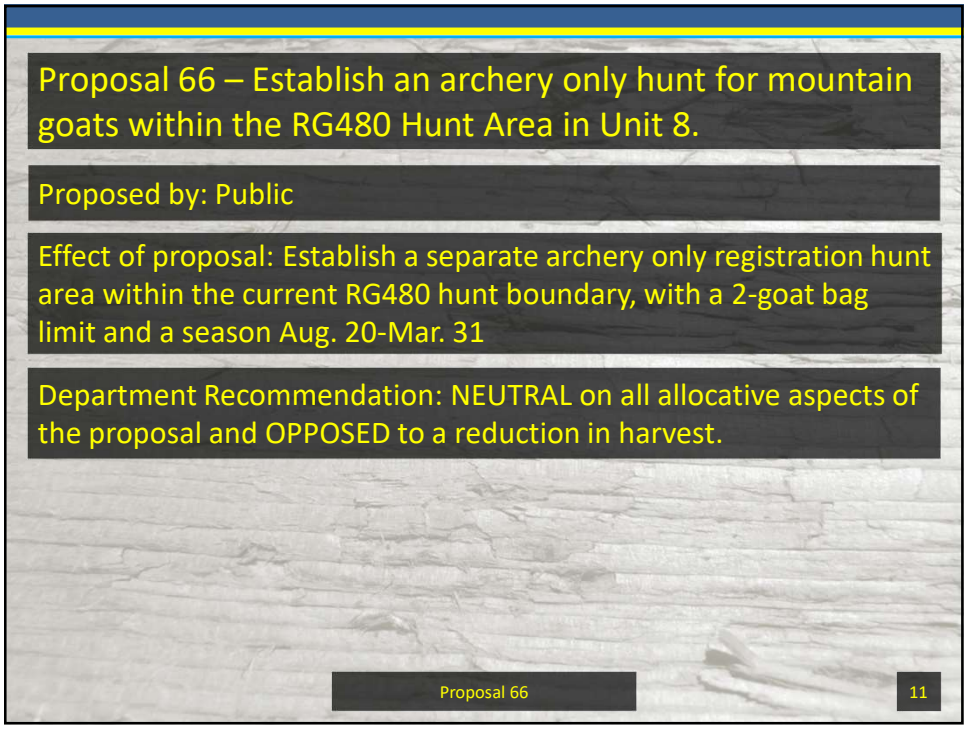
Proposal 66 – Establish an archery only hunt for mountain goats within the RG480 Hunt Area in Unit 8.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Establish a separate archery only registration hunt area within the current RG480 hunt boundary, with a 2-goat bag limit and a season Aug. 20-Mar. 31
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL on all allocative aspects of the proposal and OPPOSED to a reduction in harvest.
Proposal 66
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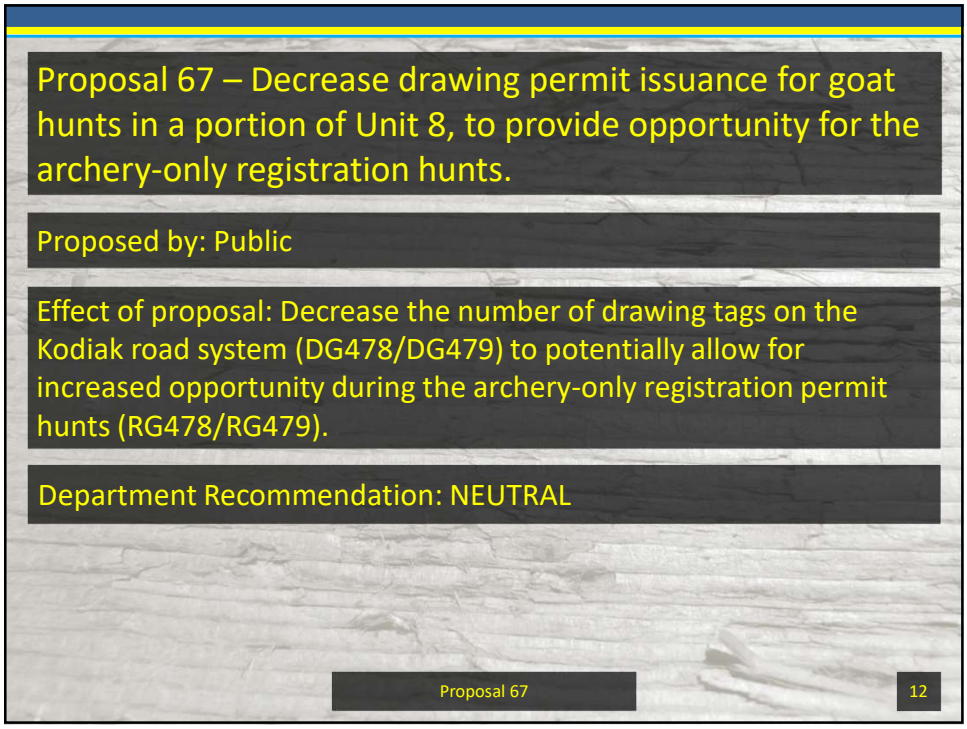
Proposal 67 – Decrease drawing permit issuance for goat hunts in a portion of Unit 8, to provide opportunity for the archery-only registration hunts.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Decrease the number of drawing tags on the Kodiak road system (DG478/DG479) to potentially allow for increased opportunity during the archery-only registration permit hunts (RG478/RG479).
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 67
12

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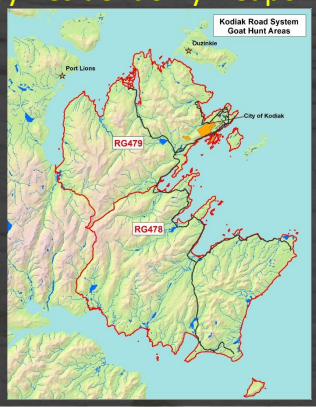
Kodiak Road System Goat Hunts

- Drawing followed by 2 registration hunts
- Harvest quota: 15%-20% of most recent minimum count per area
- Quotas not met during drawing hunt, archery-only registration hunt (Alaska residents only), followed by resident only weapons restricted hunt
  - RG478/RG479; Archery-only
  - RG488/RG489; Archery, muzzleloader, crossbow
- Registration hunts have not closed by EO
- Quotas (5-year Average): RG478: 39–74; RG479: 21–30



Proposal 67 13

13

Kodiak Road System Archery-only Hunt

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  - Harvest occurs primarily in Nov. (71%) and Dec. (29%)
  - Average success rate for archery hunters = 25%

Proposal 67 14

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RY2016 – RY2021 (5-year average):

- 16 goats available for harvest in RG478; 10 goats available for harvest in RG479 following drawing hunt
- 13 goats remaining in quota in RG488; 7 goats remaining in RG489 following archery-only season
- In 2019, BOG added weapons restricted hunt following archery only hunt; only 1 goat has been harvested in that hunt since inception

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Proposal 67 – Decrease drawing permit issuance for goat hunts in a portion of Unit 8, to provide opportunity for the archery-only registration hunts.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Decrease the number of drawing tags on the Kodiak road system (DG478/DG479) to potentially allow for increased opportunity during the archery-only registration permit hunts (RG478/RG479).

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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Proposal 68 – Change the Unit 8 caribou general season harvest ticket hunt to a registration hunt.

Proposed by: Department

Effect of proposal: Modify the Unit 8 caribou hunting season from a general season harvest ticket to a registration hunt.

Department Recommendation: SUPPORTS

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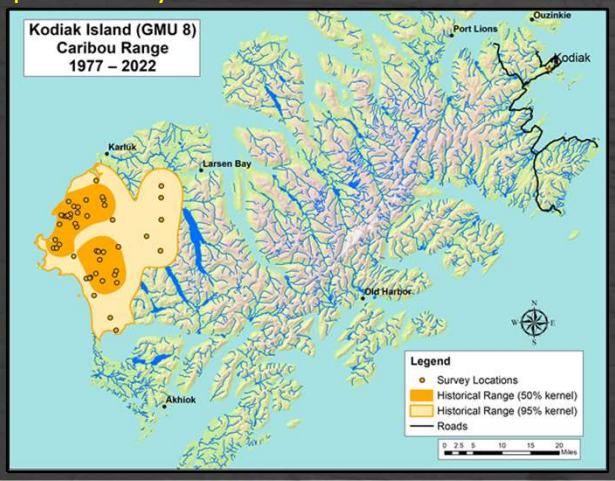
Current Regulations and Hunt Administration

- General Season Caribou Harvest Ticket: GC000
- Season Dates: Aug. 1 – Jan. 31
- Bag Limit: One Caribou
- There is a negative C&T finding for caribou in Unit 8
- Current hunt administration does not allow for the department to utilize its discretionary permit authority (5AAC 92.052).

18

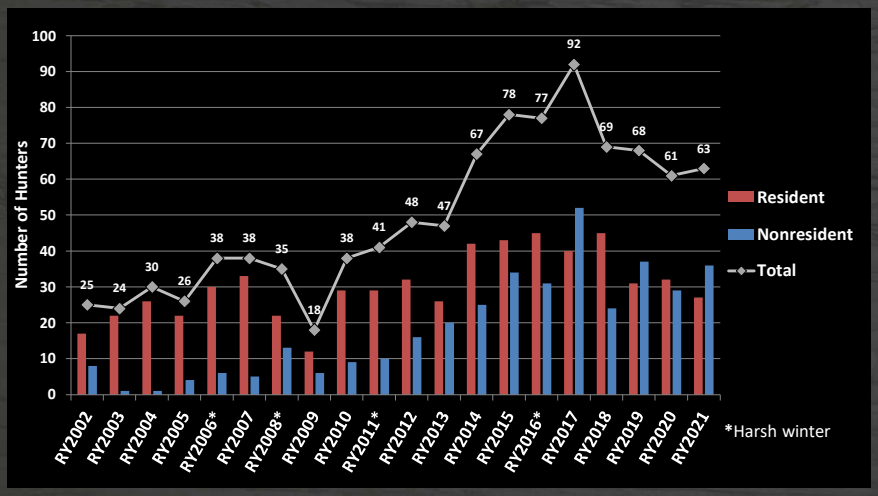
Estimated Abundance

- 2009-2018: 350-400 caribou; 2019-2022: 250-300 caribou
  - Poor productivity: 1-10 calves: 100 Adults



19

Unit 8 Caribou Hunter Participation by Residency



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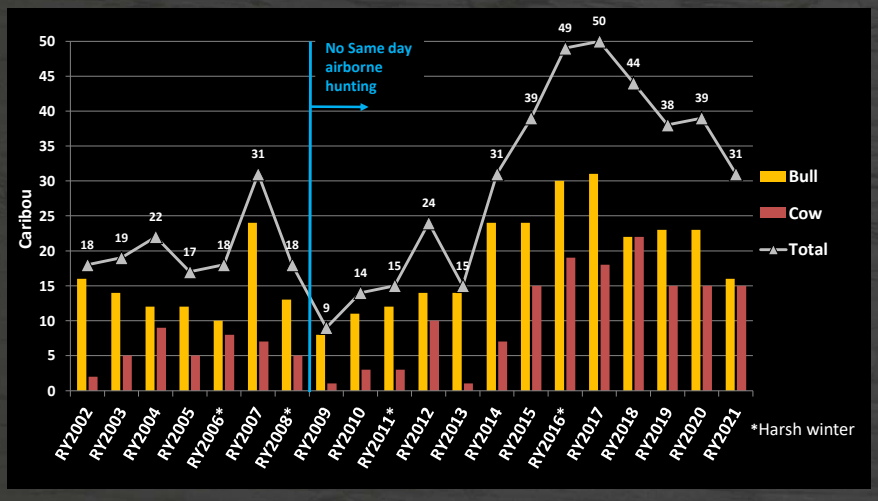
Unit 8 Caribou Harvest by Sex of Harvest



Proposal 68 21

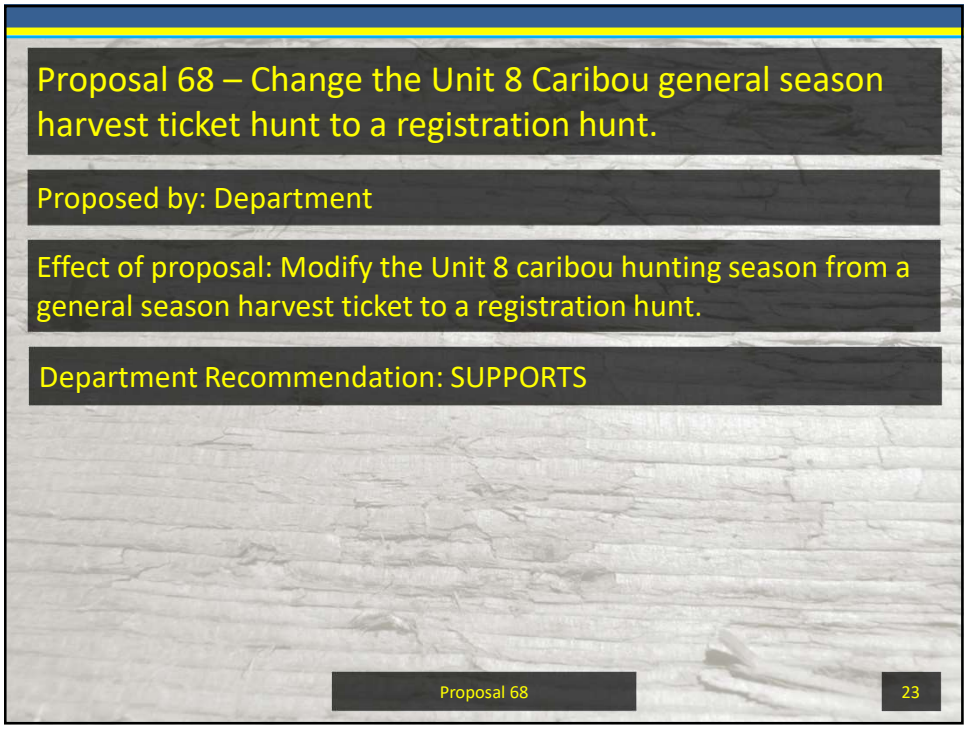
21

Proposed Regulations and Hunt Administration

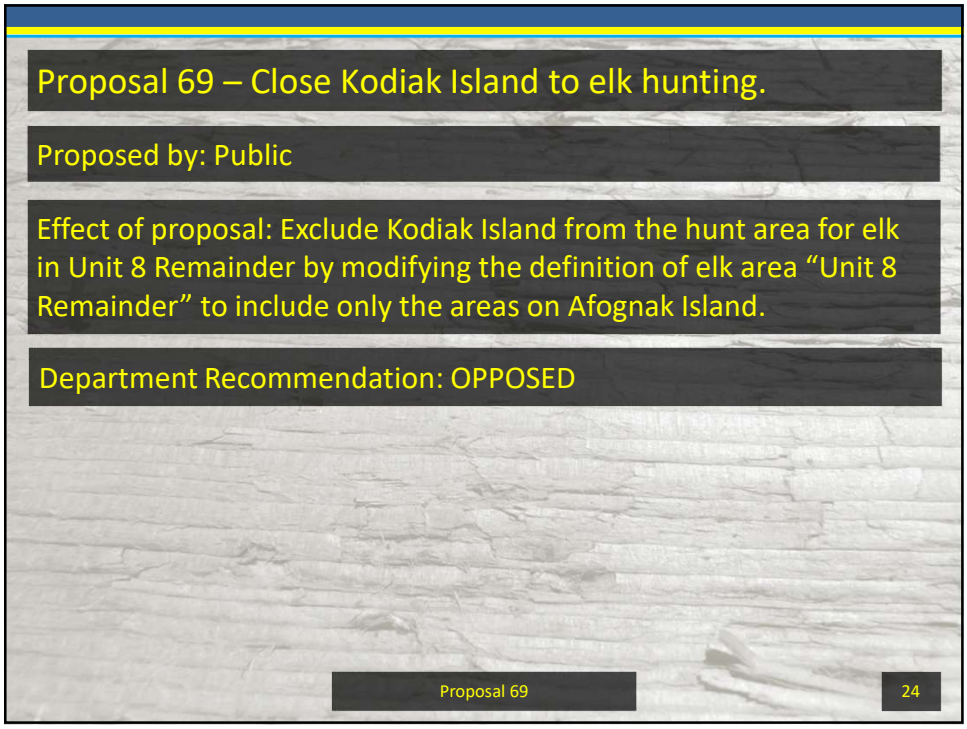
- Registration Permit Hunt
- Season Dates: Aug. 1 – Jan. 31
- Reporting: Successful hunters report within 5 days of completing the hunt.
- Bag Limit: One Caribou
- Permit Availability: Unlimited, permits available online and at ADF&G offices.
- Department use of Discretionary permit authority (5AAC 92.052)
  - Issue Emergency Order Closures when harvest objectives met
  - Restrict harvest to Bulls Only initially and modify bag limit as need be in the future to meet management objectives

Proposal 68 22

22


Proposal 68 – Change the Unit 8 Caribou general season harvest ticket hunt to a registration hunt.
Proposed by: Department
Effect of proposal: Modify the Unit 8 caribou hunting season from a general season harvest ticket to a registration hunt.
Department Recommendation: SUPPORTS
Proposal 68
23

23


Proposal 69 – Close Kodiak Island to elk hunting.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Exclude Kodiak Island from the hunt area for elk in Unit 8 Remainder by modifying the definition of elk area "Unit 8 Remainder" to include only the areas on Afognak Island.
Department Recommendation: OPPOSED
Proposal 69
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- Roosevelt elk primarily exist on Afognak and Raspberry Islands
- Elk are powerful and proficient swimmers that occasionally swim to Kodiak Island

- Reports on Kodiak Island are uncommon, frequency is unknown
- Domestic Rocky Mountain elk exist on grazing lease on Kodiak Island
- Kodiak Archipelago is one of last places hunters can hunt genetically "pure" Roosevelt elk, the largest elk species in the world
  - Disease transmission and hybridization are concerns
  - Jeopardize health and genetic integrity of Roosevelt elk

Proposal 69 25

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Proposal 69 – Close Kodiak Island to elk hunting.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Exclude Kodiak Island from the hunt area for elk in Unit 8 Remainder by modifying the definition of elk area “Unit 8 Remainder” to include only the areas on Afognak Island.

Department Recommendation: OPPOSED

Proposal 69 26

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Proposal 70 – Change the drawing permit hunt for cow elk on Raspberry Island to a registration permit hunt.

Proposed by: Department

Effect of proposal: Modify the Unit 8, Raspberry Island hunting season and bag limit by changing the drawing hunt for antlerless elk to a registration hunt.

Department Recommendation: SUPPORT

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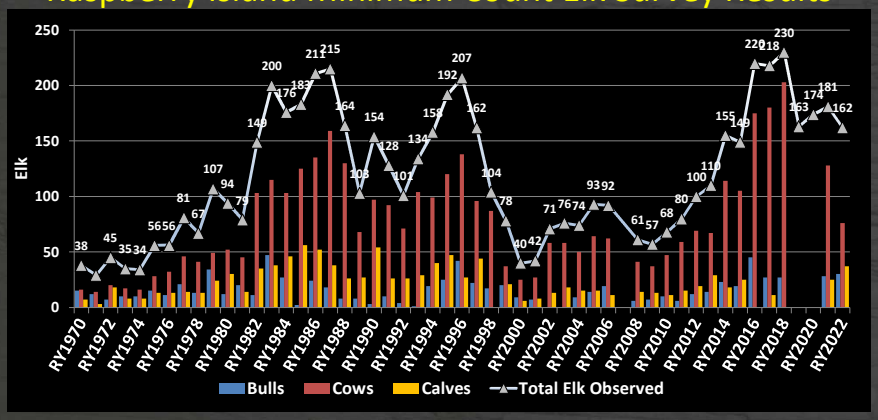
Raspberry Island Minimum Count Elk Survey Results



- Cow population fluctuates, declines observed in excess ~100-150 cows
- No information on K, but total population appears most stable at ~150-200 individuals
- Don't observe die off; likely emigrating off island

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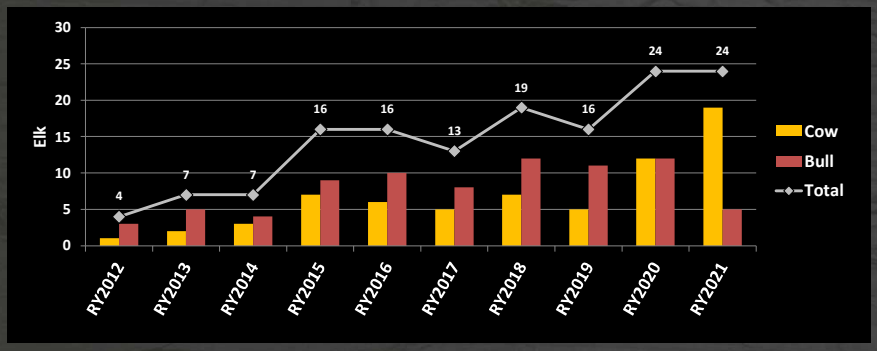
Raspberry Island Elk Harvest



- Department increased DE706 (antlerless) tags to promote harvest opportunity
- RY2017 = 60 permits, RY2019 = 100, RY2020 = 150; marginal increase in harvest
- Hunter Participation DE706: ~41% participation with ~20% success
- Management objective: 150-200 elk with 20-25:100 bull:cow ratio

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Proposal 70 – Change the drawing permit hunt for cow elk on Raspberry Island to a registration permit hunt.

Proposed by: Department

Effect of proposal: Modify the Unit 8, Raspberry Island hunting season and bag limit by changing the drawing hunt for antlerless elk to a registration hunt.

Department Recommendation: SUPPORT

30

Proposal 71 – Establish an archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk in a portion of Unit 8.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Establish an early season archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk on the Southwestern Portion of Afognak Island in Unit 8, with up to 10 permits.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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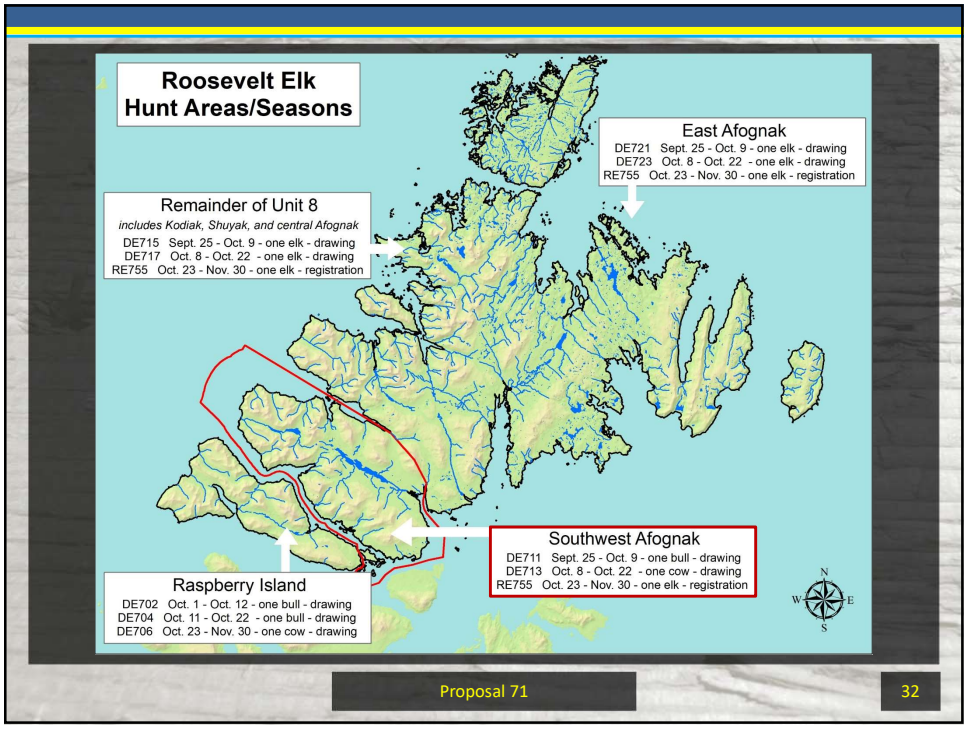

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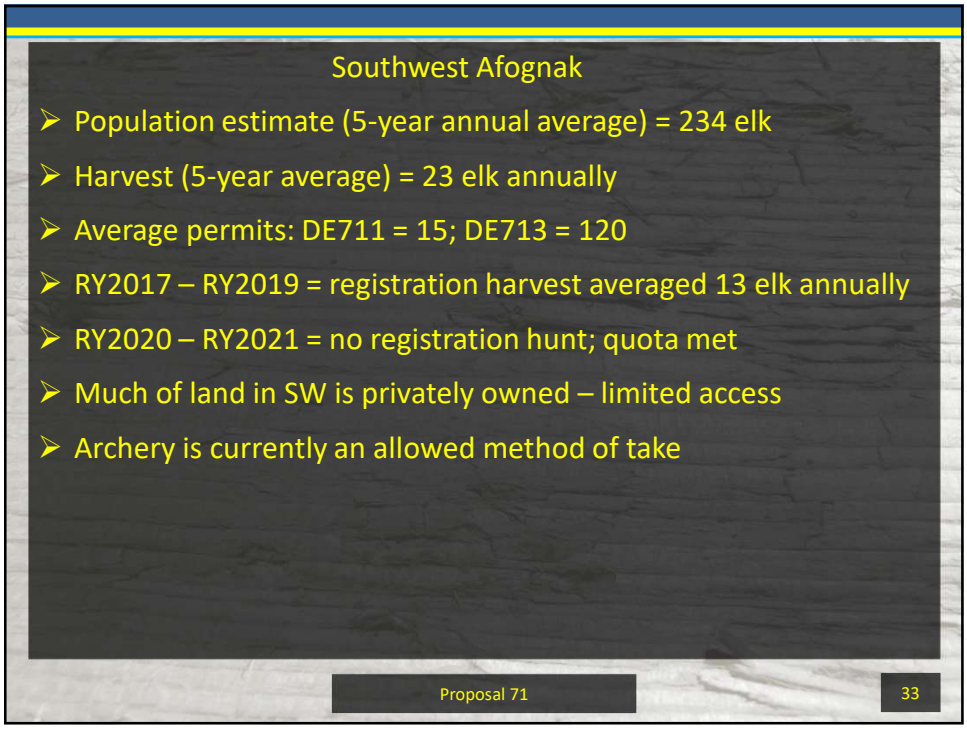
Southwest Afognak
Population estimate (5-year annual average) = 234 elk
Harvest (5-year average) = 23 elk annually
Average permits: DE711 = 15; DE713 = 120
RY2017 – RY2019 = registration harvest averaged 13 elk annually
RY2020 – RY2021 = no registration hunt; quota met
Much of land in SW is privately owned – limited access
Archery is currently an allowed method of take
Proposal 71
33

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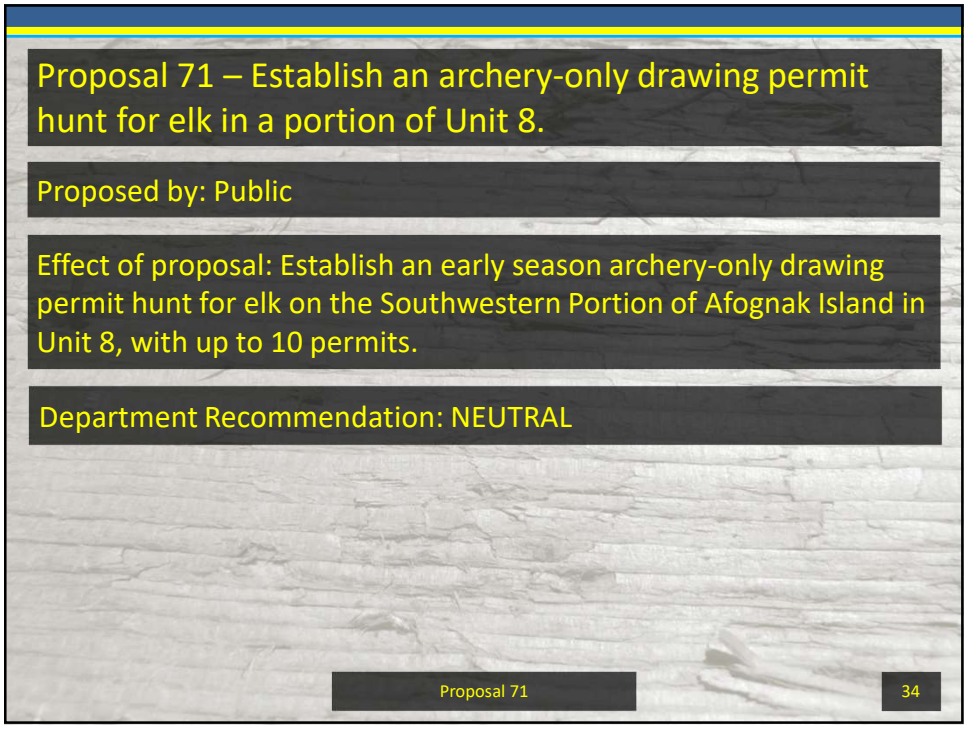
Proposal 71 – Establish an archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk in a portion of Unit 8.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Establish an early season archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk on the Southwestern Portion of Afognak Island in Unit 8, with up to 10 permits.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 71
34

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Proposal 72 – Establish an archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk in a portion of Unit 8.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Establish an early season archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk on Raspberry Island in Unit 8, with up to 6 permits.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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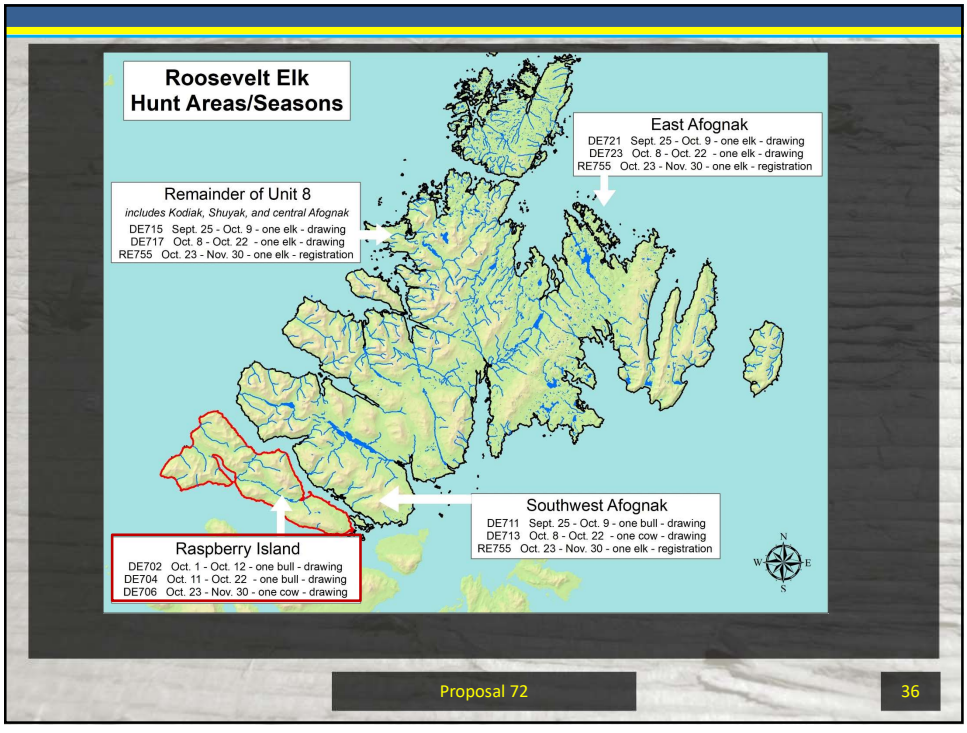

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Raspberry Island

- Population estimate (5-year annual average) = 250 elk
- Harvest (5-year average) = 19 elk annually
- Average permits: DE702 & DE704 = 6 per hunt
- Average permits: DE706 = 60 to 100 to 150; low participation and success
- Total harvest was below harvest objective 3 of last 5 years
- Archery is currently an allowed method of take
- Currently, no registration hunt

*NOTE: Proposal 70 – change antlerless hunt from drawing to registration

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Proposal 72 – Establish an archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk in a portion of Unit 8.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Establish an early season archery-only drawing permit hunt for elk on Raspberry Island in Unit 8, with up to 6 permits.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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Proposal 209 – Establish 2 registration elk hunts on Afognak Island in Unit 8 with restricted permit availability.

Proposed by: Alaska Board of Game

Effect of Proposal: This proposal would create 2 registration permit hunts for Elk on Afognak Island with a limited number of permits available in the communities of Ouzinkie and Port Lions. A portion of the hunting opportunity currently provided through drawing permit hunts would be reallocated to the registration hunts.

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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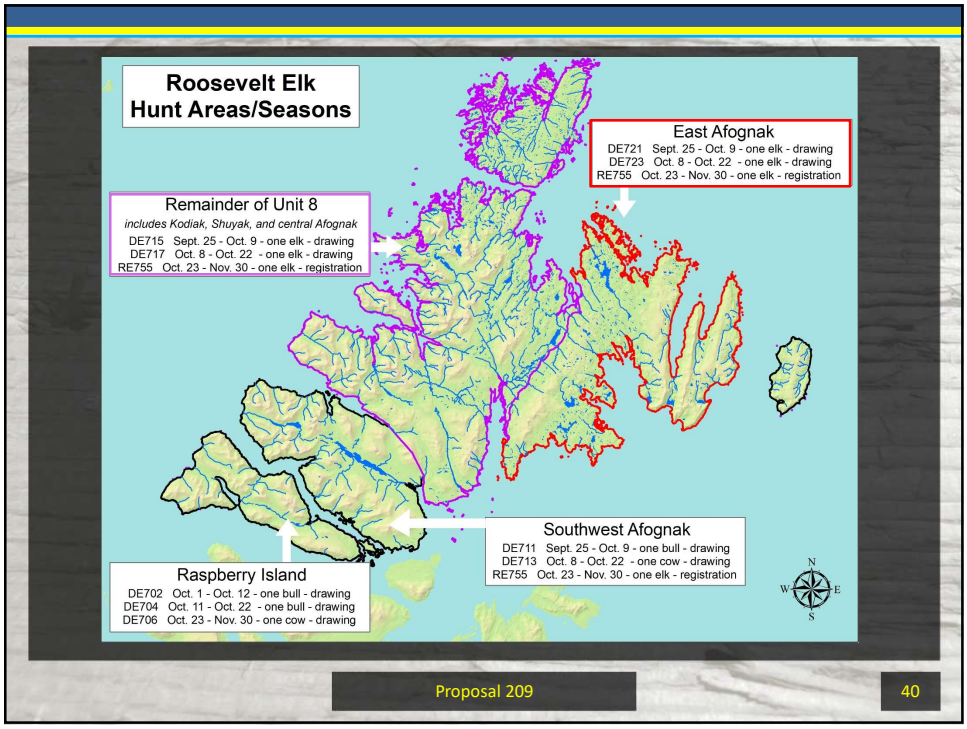

40

Remainder Elk Hunt Area

- 5-year average Remainder population estimate = 467 elk
- 5-year average Remainder harvest = 37 elk annually
- Average permits: DE715 = 46; DE717 = 50
- RY2017 – RY2018 = registration harvest averaged 5 elk annually
- RY2019 – RY2021 = no registration hunt; quota met
- Much of land in Unit 8, Remainder is privately owned; limited access
- Elk harvest on KNWR Lands in Unit 8, Remainder permitted under Federal Subsistence Regulations Sept 15- Nov 30
  - 5-year average subsistence harvest 2 elk annually (range 0-6)

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East Afognak Elk Hunt Area

- 5-year average East Afognak population estimate = 227 elk
- 5-year average East Afognak harvest = 22 elk annually
- Average permits: DE721 = 39; DE723 = 39
- RY2017 – RY2021 = registration harvest averaged 15 elk annually
- Much of land in Unit 8, Eastern Afognak is privately owned – limited access

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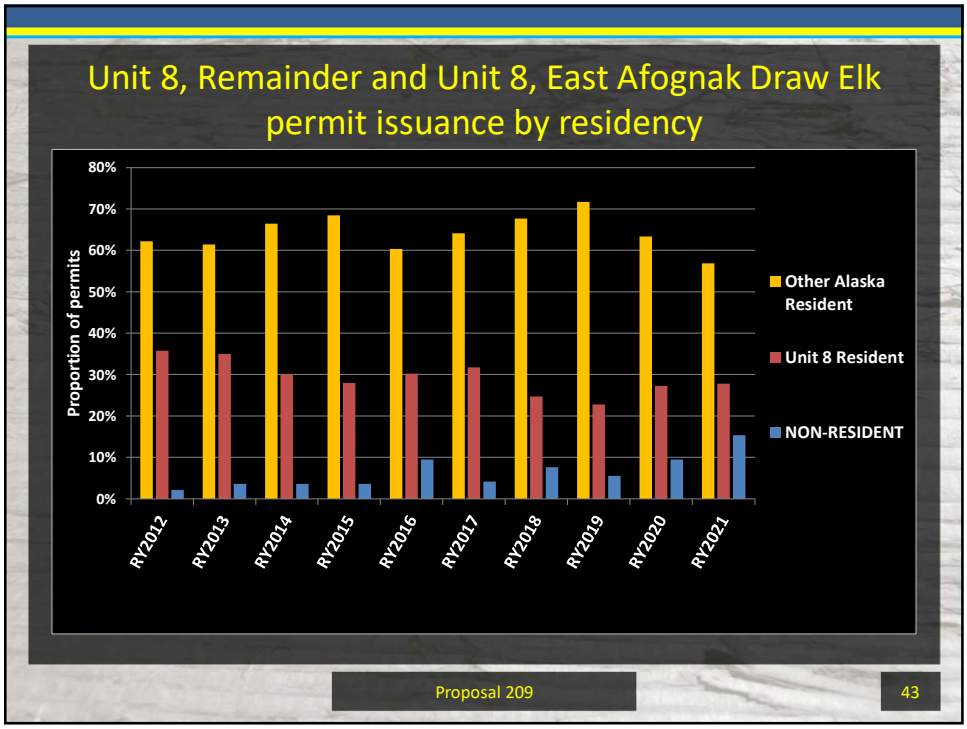

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	DE715			DE717		
	Apps Received	Permits Available	%Drawn	Apps Received	Permits Available	%Drawn
2017	575	40	7%	374	50	13%
2018	662	40	6%	463	50	11%
2019	705	50	7%	627	50	8%
2020	1105	50	5%	652	50	8%
2021	1312	50	4%	983	50	5%

	DE721			DE723		
	Apps Received	Permits Available	%Drawn	Apps Received	Permits Available	%Drawn
2017	589	40	7%	604	40	7%
2018	574	40	7%	473	40	8%
2019	594	40	7%	739	40	5%
2020	705	40	6%	757	40	5%
2021	981	35	4%	834	35	4%

Proposal 209 44

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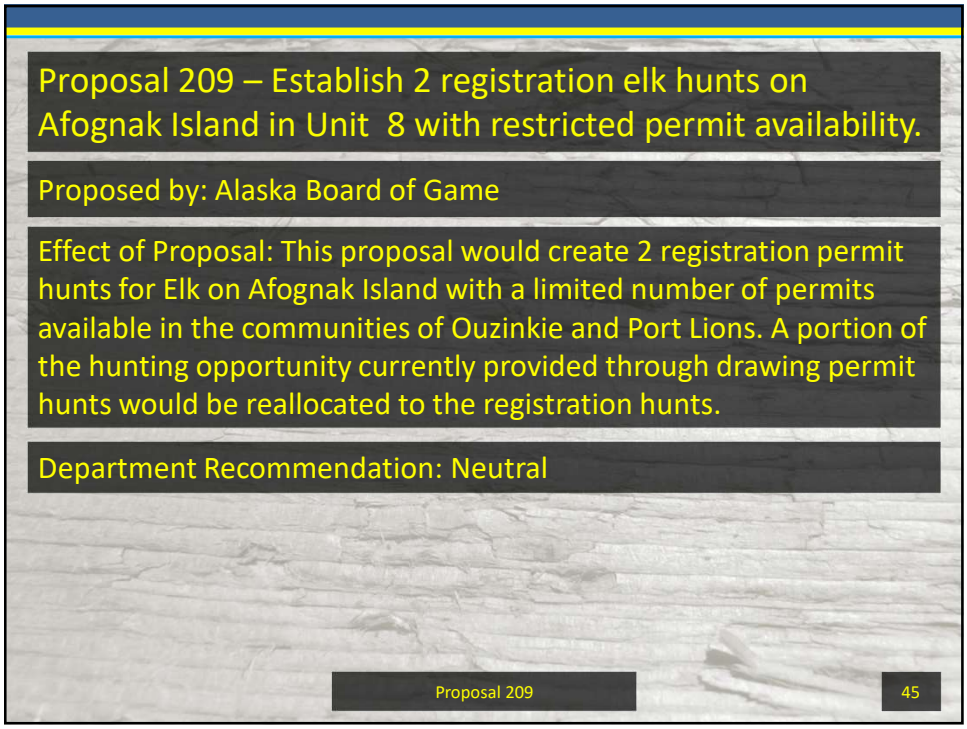
Proposal 209 – Establish 2 registration elk hunts on Afognak Island in Unit 8 with restricted permit availability.
Proposed by: Alaska Board of Game
Effect of Proposal: This proposal would create 2 registration permit hunts for Elk on Afognak Island with a limited number of permits available in the communities of Ouzinkie and Port Lions. A portion of the hunting opportunity currently provided through drawing permit hunts would be reallocated to the registration hunts.
Department Recommendation: Neutral
Proposal 209
45

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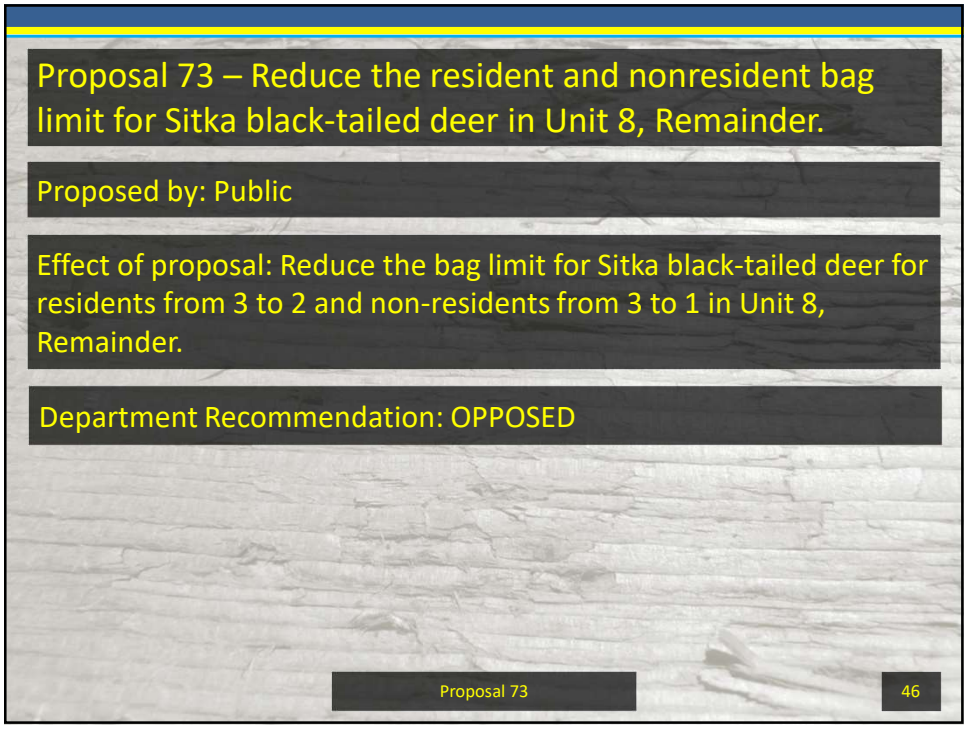
Proposal 73 – Reduce the resident and nonresident bag limit for Sitka black-tailed deer in Unit 8, Remainder.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Reduce the bag limit for Sitka black-tailed deer for residents from 3 to 2 and non-residents from 3 to 1 in Unit 8, Remainder.
Department Recommendation: OPPOSED
Proposal 73
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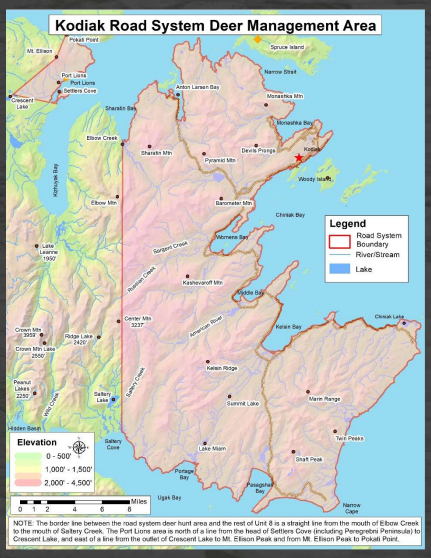
Current Regulations – Road System

- Resident and NR Seasons/Limits
  - Aug. 1 – Oct. 31:
    - 1 buck
    - Any weapon
  - Nov. 1 – Nov. 14
    - 1 deer
    - Archery/Crossbow/ Muzzleloader
  - Nov. 16 – Dec. 31
    - 1 deer
    - Youth Hunt
    - Archery/Crossbow/ Muzzleloader



Proposal 73 47

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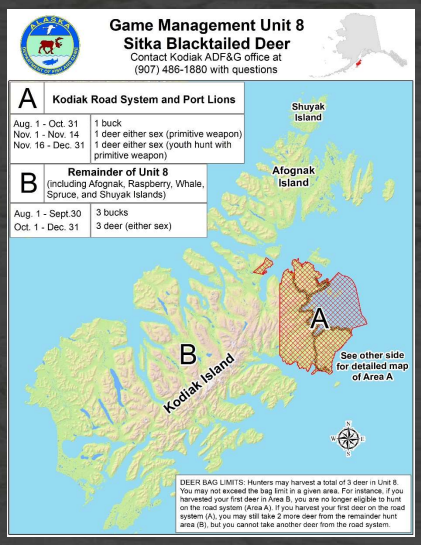
Current Regulations – Remainder

- Resident and NR Seasons and Bag limits
  - Aug. 1 – Sept. 30:
    - 3 bucks
      - Any weapon
  - Oct. 1 – Dec. 31
    - 3 Deer
    - Any weapon



Proposal 73 48

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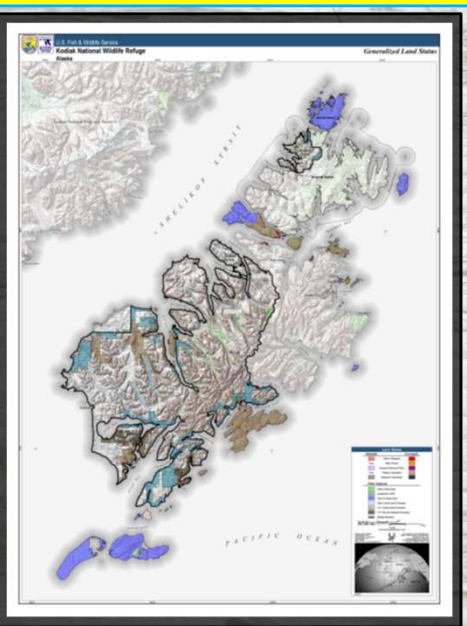
Federal Subsistence Regulations

- Residents of Unit 8 can harvest deer within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge under Federal Subsistence Regulations
- Aug. 1 – Jan. 31
  - 3 deer
  - Antlerless Deer may only be taken Oct. 1 – Jan. 31
- Designated Hunter Program



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- Winter severity; primary factor influencing deer abundance in Unit 8
- Hunter harvest does not appear to be a major limiting factor impacting deer abundance at the population level
  - Intensive harvest at smaller spatial scales (e.g., beaches)
    - Result in source-sink dynamics
    - Influence the growth and recovery of isolated subpopulations
- Recent history: RY2011 – RY2021
  - Severe Winters: 2011 – 2012, 2016 – 2017
    - High overwinter mortality
  - Moderately Severe Winter: 2019 – 2020

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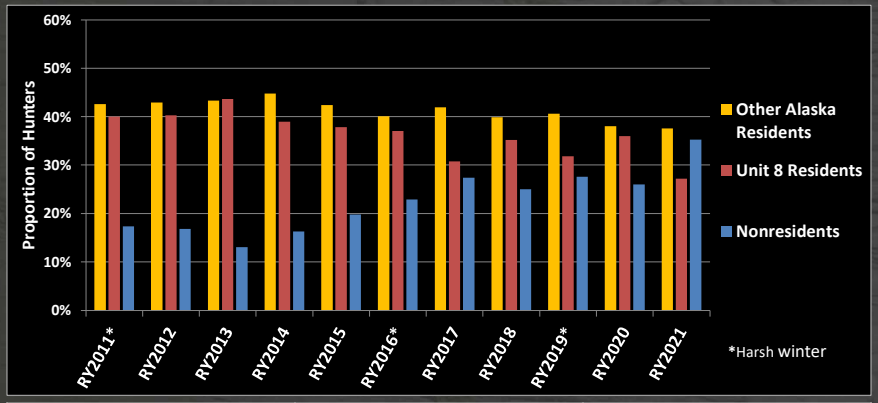
Unit 8 Deer Hunter participation by Residency



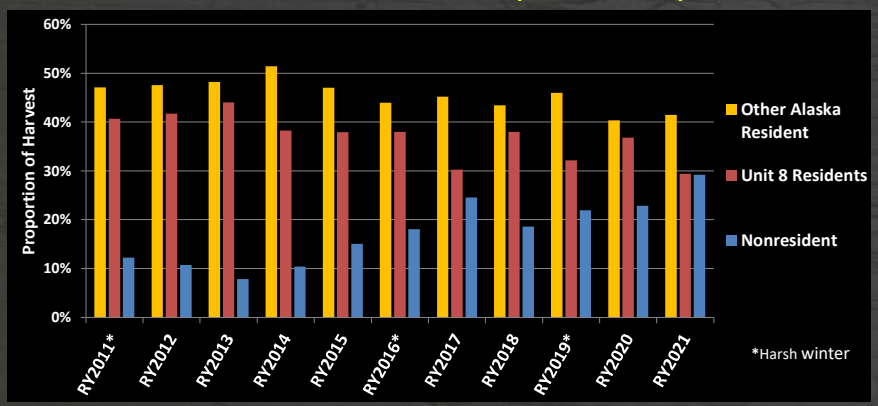
	RY2012-RY2016	RY2017-RY2021
Other Alaska Residents	43% (Avg)	40% (Avg)
Unit 8 Residents	39% (Avg)	32% (Avg)
Nonresidents	17% (Avg)	28% (Avg)

Proposal 73

51

51

Unit 8 Deer Harvest by Residency



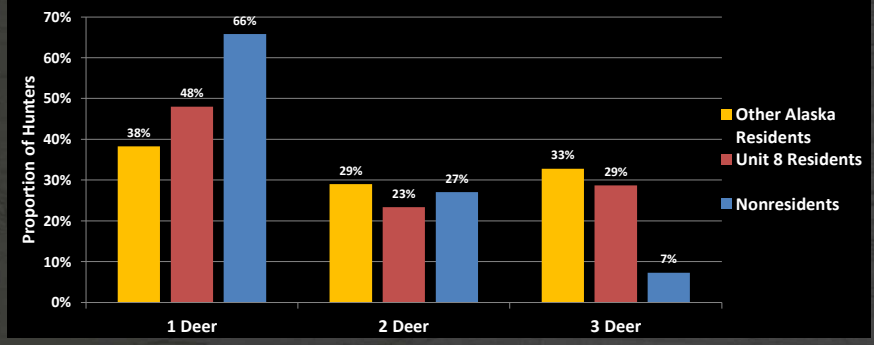
	RY2012-RY2016	RY2017-RY2021
Other Alaska Residents	48% (Avg)	43% (Avg)
Unit 8 Residents	40% (Avg)	33% (Avg)
Nonresidents	12% (Avg)	23% (Avg)

Proposal 73

52

52

Unit 8 Deer Harvest Metrics by Residency RY2012-RY2021



	Success Rates	Number of Deer per Successful Hunter	Proportion Buck Harvest
Other Alaska Residents	71%	1.9	80%
Unit 8 Residents	71%	1.8	84%
Nonresidents	67%	1.4	92%

53

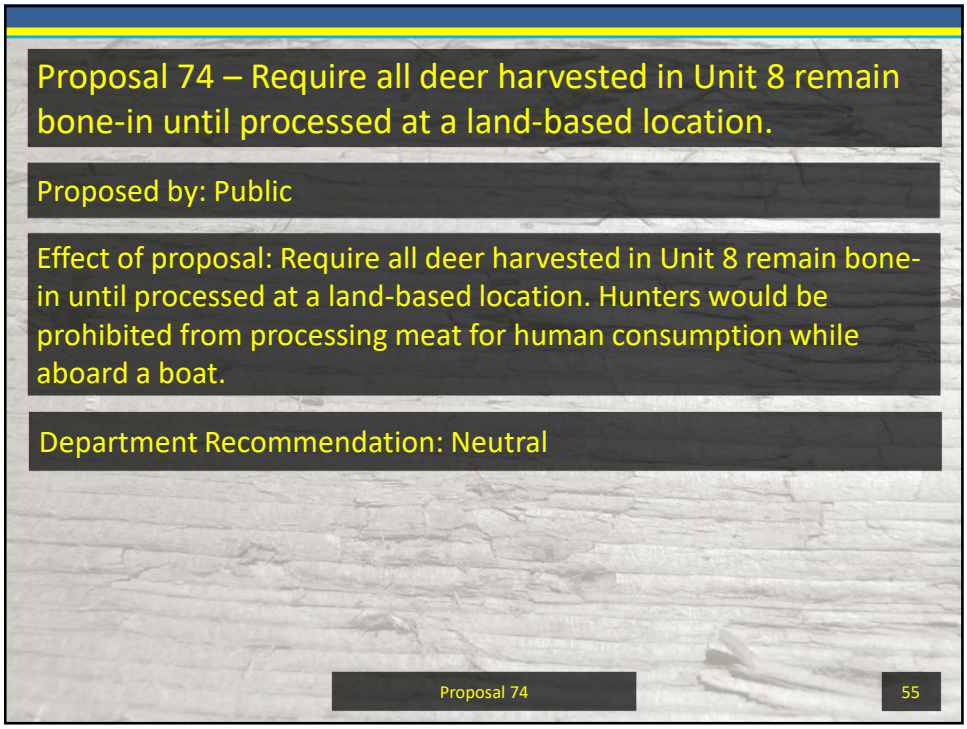
Proposal 73 – Reduce the resident and nonresident bag limit for Sitka Black-tailed deer in Unit 8, Remainder.

Proposed by: Public

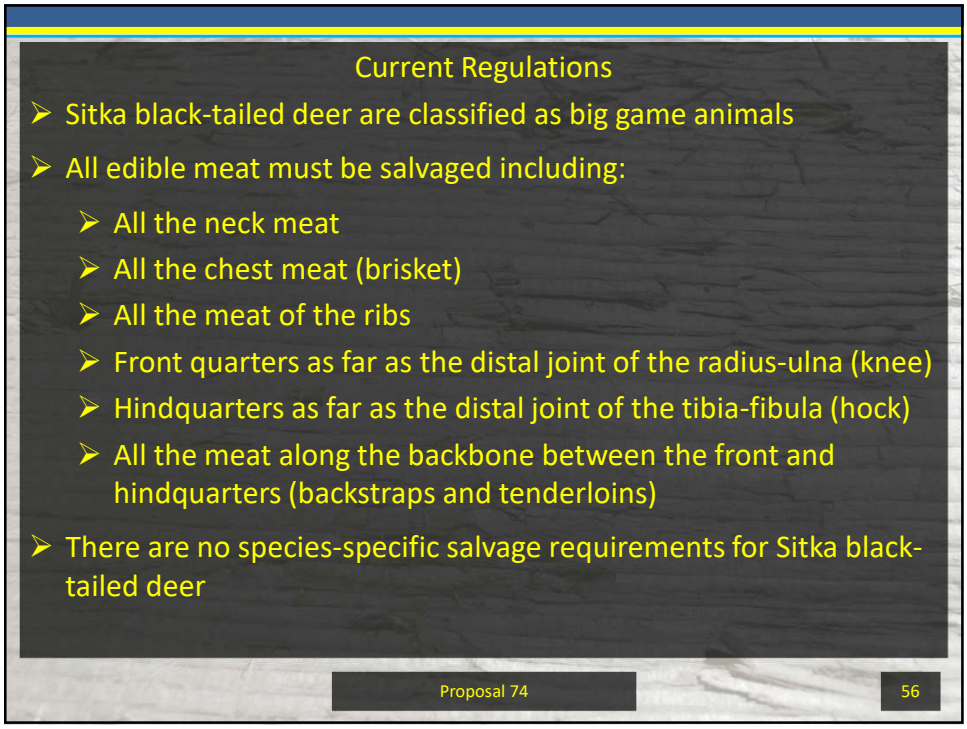
Effect of proposal: Reduce the bag limit for Sitka Black-tailed deer for Residents from 3 to 2 and Non-residents from 3 to 1 in Unit 8, Remainder.

Department Recommendation: OPPOSED

54

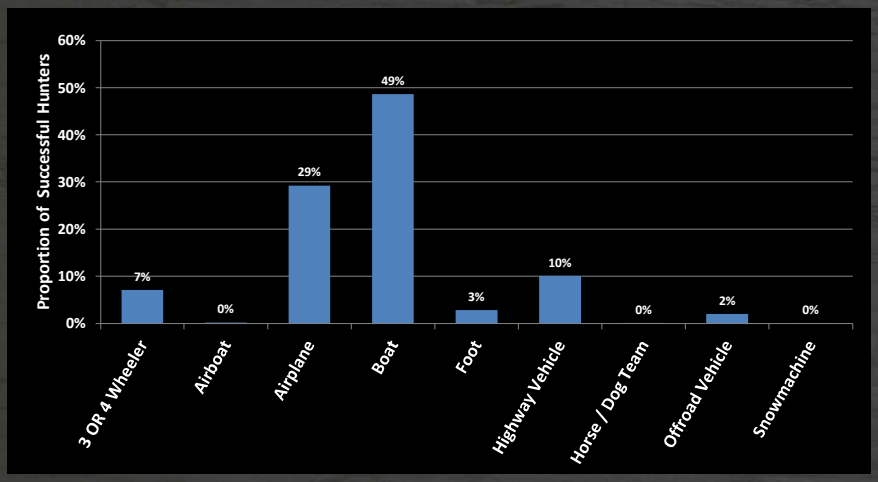

Proposal 74 – Require all deer harvested in Unit 8 remain bone-in until processed at a land-based location.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Require all deer harvested in Unit 8 remain bone-in until processed at a land-based location. Hunters would be prohibited from processing meat for human consumption while aboard a boat.
Department Recommendation: Neutral
Proposal 74
55

55


Current Regulations
Sitka black-tailed deer are classified as big game animals
All edible meat must be salvaged including:
All the neck meat
All the chest meat (brisket)
All the meat of the ribs
Front quarters as far as the distal joint of the radius-ulna (knee)
Hindquarters as far as the distal joint of the tibia-fibula (hock)
All the meat along the backbone between the front and hindquarters (backstraps and tenderloins)
There are no species-specific salvage requirements for Sitka black-tailed deer
Proposal 74
56

56

Unit 8 Mode of Transport for Successful Hunters RY2017 – RY2021



Proposal 74 57

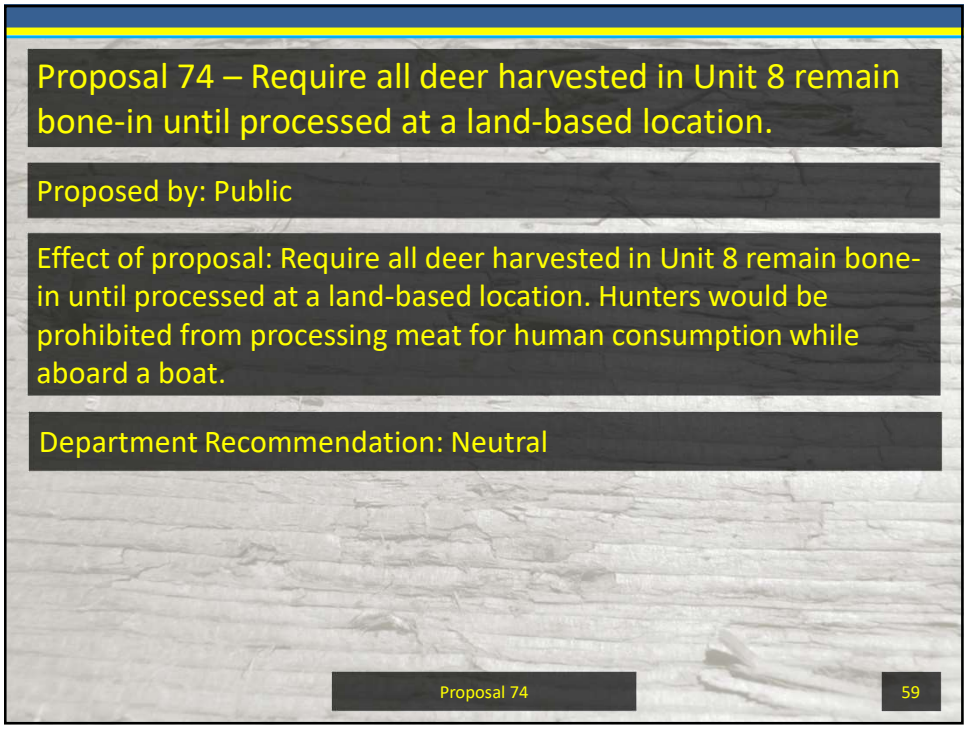
57

Other Considerations

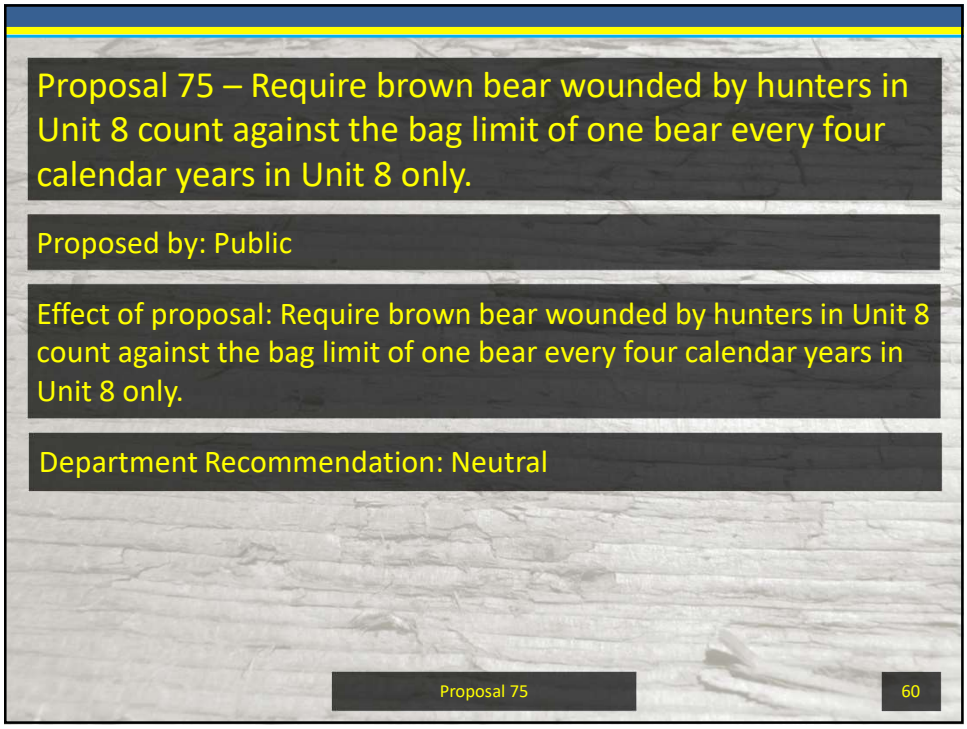
- As written the proposal does not limit the application of this requirement to specific portions of edible meat
- What constitutes a land-based facility for the purposes of processing game for human consumption is not currently defined
- Hunter outreach and education
  - Unit 8 deer hunters are encouraged to quarter harvested deer in the field and carry them away from the kill site in order to reduce conflicts with bears
  - Boning out portions of edible meat is common practice

Proposal 74 58

58


Proposal 74 – Require all deer harvested in Unit 8 remain bone-in until processed at a land-based location.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Require all deer harvested in Unit 8 remain bone-in until processed at a land-based location. Hunters would be prohibited from processing meat for human consumption while aboard a boat.
Department Recommendation: Neutral
Proposal 74
59

59


Proposal 75 – Require brown bear wounded by hunters in Unit 8 count against the bag limit of one bear every four calendar years in Unit 8 only.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Require brown bear wounded by hunters in Unit 8 count against the bag limit of one bear every four calendar years in Unit 8 only.
Department Recommendation: Neutral
Proposal 75
60

60

- Current Regulations
  - Brown Bears wounded in Unit 8 count against bag limit for current regulatory year only
- RY2012 – RY2020 (20 seasons), 15 bears were reported wounded
- On average, 1-2 bears are wounded per year



- Potentially decrease the number of wounded bears
- As written, proposal only applies to GMU 8 and not other "1 bear every 4 regulatory years" areas

Proposal 75 61

61

Proposal 75 – Require brown bear wounded by hunters in Unit 8 count against the bag limit of one bear every four calendar years in Unit 8 only.

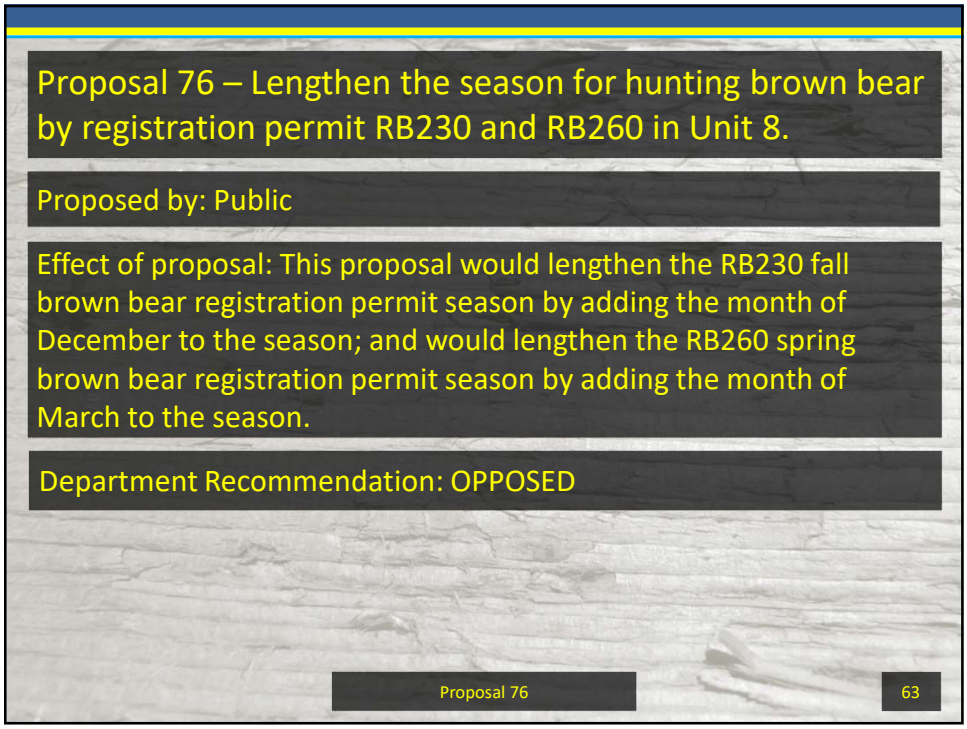
Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: Require brown bear wounded by hunters in Unit 8 count against the bag limit of one bear every four calendar years in Unit 8 only.

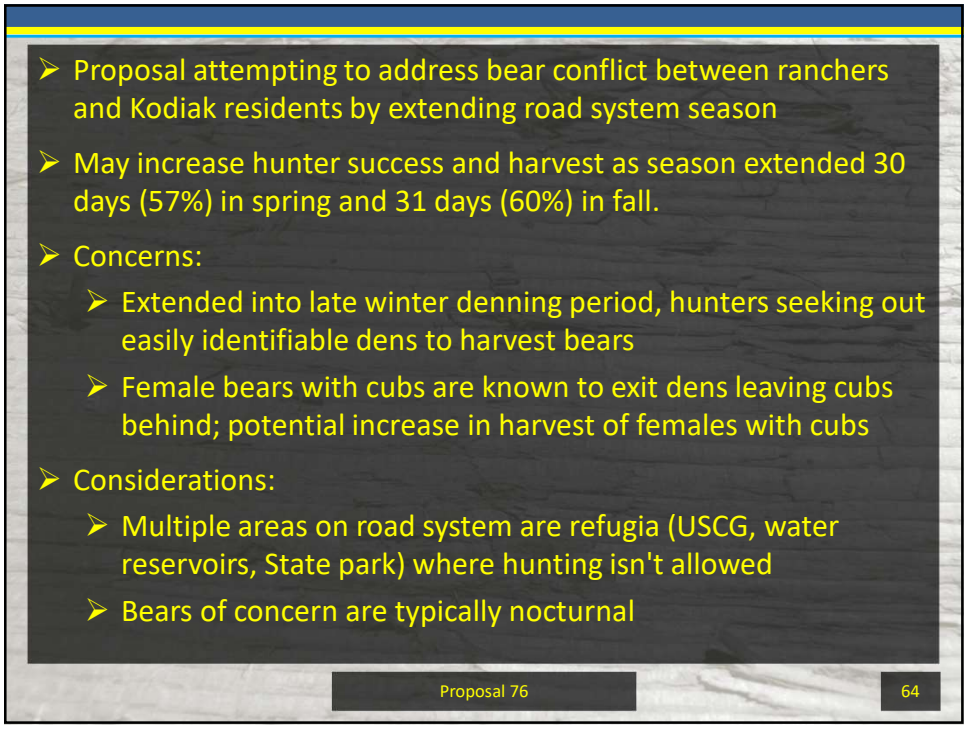
Department Recommendation: Neutral

Proposal 75 62

62

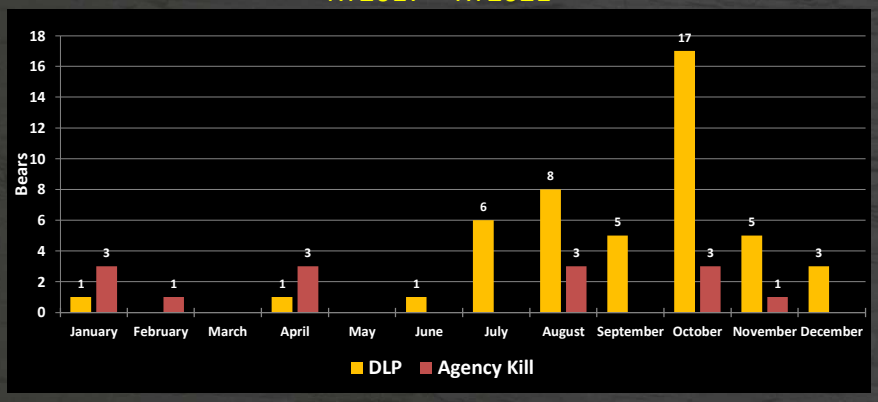

Proposal 76 – Lengthen the season for hunting brown bear by registration permit RB230 and RB260 in Unit 8.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: This proposal would lengthen the RB230 fall brown bear registration permit season by adding the month of December to the season; and would lengthen the RB260 spring brown bear registration permit season by adding the month of March to the season.
Department Recommendation: OPPOSED
Proposal 76
63

63


Proposal attempting to address bear conflict between ranchers and Kodiak residents by extending road system season
May increase hunter success and harvest as season extended 30 days (57%) in spring and 31 days (60%) in fall.
Concerns:
Extended into late winter denning period, hunters seeking out easily identifiable dens to harvest bears
Female bears with cubs are known to exit dens leaving cubs behind; potential increase in harvest of females with cubs
Considerations:
Multiple areas on road system are refugia (USCG, water reservoirs, State park) where hunting isn't allowed
Bears of concern are typically nocturnal
Proposal 76
64

64

Chronology of DLP and Agency Kills of Brown Bears in Unit 8 RY2017 – RY2021



- Most conflicts do not occur during proposed extended season (Dec. and Mar.), proposal is unlikely to be effective at addressing concern

Proposal 76 65

65

Proposal 76 – Lengthen the season for hunting brown bear by registration permit RB230 and RB260 in Unit 8.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: This proposal would lengthen the RB230 fall brown bear registration permit season by adding the month of December to the season; and would lengthen the RB260 spring brown bear registration permit season by adding the month of March to the season.

Department Recommendation: OPPOSED

Proposal 76 66

66

Proposal 77 – Reduce drawing permit issuance in response to female harvest for hunts in Kodiak bear management units 8-16.

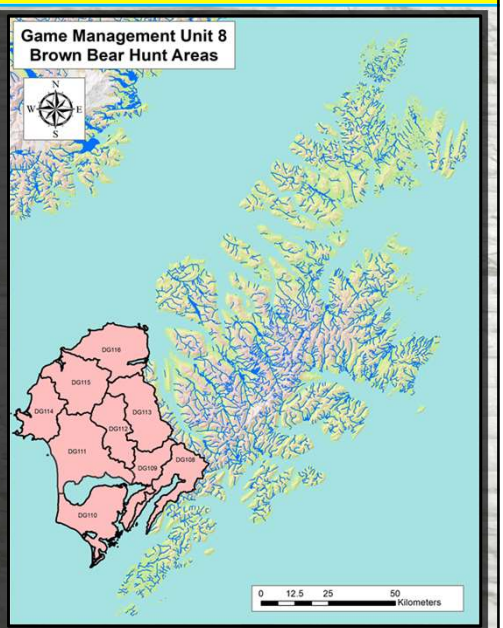
Proposed by: Public (Kodiak AC)

Effect of proposal: If a resident or nonresident hunter kills a female brown bear in Kodiak bear management units 8-16, the department will eliminate a permit from the hunt area in which the harvest occurred during the next regulatory year. Permits will be eliminated from the corresponding nonresident or resident allocation, during the spring or fall season, respectively.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

67

- Proposal intended to discourage and reduce female harvest in SW Kodiak (hunt areas 8-16) due to population concerns



68

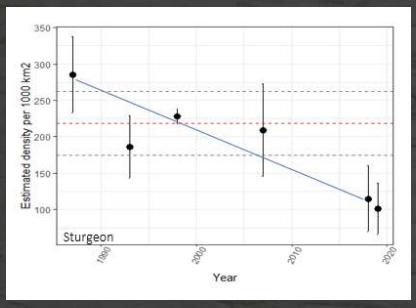
- Recent survey data suggests the bear population in SW Kodiak is experiencing a decline:

Survey Area	Year	Replicate Surveys	Survey Rate (min/km^2)	Observed Independent Bears/hr	Observed Independent Bears/1000km^2	Sightability	Est. Density Ind.Bears/ 1000 km^2	±90% CI	Est. # Ind.Bears in study area
Sturgeon River	1987	4	1.6	4.3	120	0.41	293	53	77
Sturgeon River	1992	4	1.8	2.6	77	0.41	190	43	50
Sturgeon River	1998	4	1.9	3.0	94	0.41	227	10	60
Sturgeon River	2007	4	1.5	3.9	95	0.41	231	58	61
Sturgeon River	2018	4	1.6	1.7	46	0.41	113	45	30
Sturgeon River	2019	5	1.7	1.4	42	0.41	102	36	27

- Two consecutive surveys (2018 & 2019) reveal >50% reduction in bears and bear density in the area compared to historical surveys
- Estimated density of independent bears recorded in 2019 was only 58% (102) of the lowest accepted management target for SW Kodiak (175–263) per the Kodiak Brown Bear Management Plan

69

- Previous actions (skull size restrictions) were implemented in 1995 when the population estimate in SW Kodiak fell below the 175 – 263 management objective



Courtesy of KNWR

- Reasons for apparent decline are unclear, but Department and federal partners are investigating potential reasons for the decline including resource availability and distribution

70

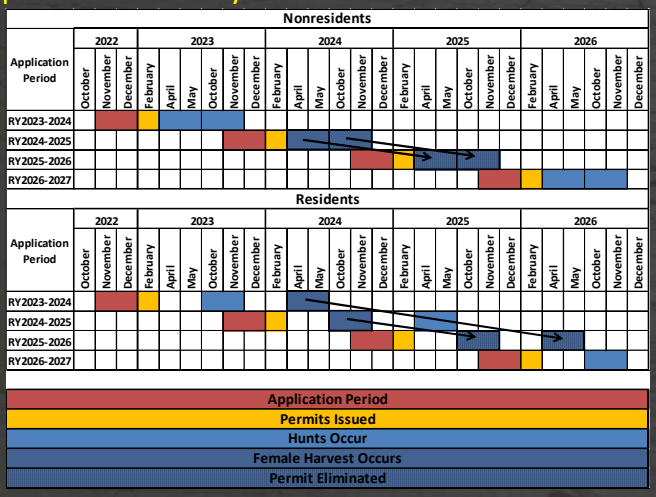
Due to potential complexities of removing permits, 3 options are being presented for consideration:

- Option 1: Remove permits from the corresponding allocation and season in which the harvest occurred during the following regulatory year
  - If a female bear is harvested during the spring season by resident or 2DK hunter, the department would need to revoke a permit already awarded to a resident or nonresident 2DK hunter the following spring due to timing of drawing.
  - As written, adoption of this proposal would impact resident and nonresident 2DK hunters differently than nonresidents accompanied by Alaska-licensed guides.

Proposal 77 71

71

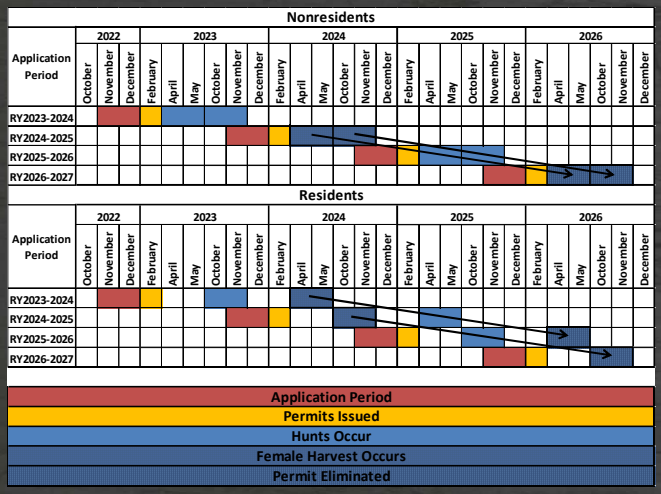
- Option 2: Remove permits from the corresponding allocation and season in which the harvest occurred during the next season for which permits have not yet been issued.



Proposal 77 72

72

➢Option 3: Maintain Consistency between User Groups



*Preferred option

73

Proposal 77 – Reduce drawing permit issuance in response to female harvest for hunts in Kodiak bear management units 8-16.

Proposed by: Public (Kodiak AC)

Effect of proposal: If a resident or nonresident hunter kills a female brown bear in Kodiak bear management units 8-16, the department will eliminate a permit from the hunt area in which the harvest occurred during the next regulatory year. Permits will be eliminated from the corresponding nonresident or resident allocation, during the spring or fall season, respectively.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

74

Proposal 78 – Require prospective hunters to file a draw permit application to be eligible for Kodiak brown bear drawing permit hunts and eliminate the option to issue permits as undersubscribed hunts.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: All prospective hunters would be required to file a draw permit application and pay the application fee during the application period. Hunters who do not submit an application during the draw application period would be ineligible to receive a permit over the counter.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

75

- Kodiak brown bear hunting opportunity is provided to resident and nonresident hunters in 2 ways:
  - Drawing permit hunts thru statewide drawing permit application process
  - Kodiak road system registration permit hunts (RB230/RB260)
- Guided nonresidents may submit 1 application for a fall and 1 application for a spring drawing hunt
- Residents may submit up to 6 applications total for spring and fall drawing hunts
- Guides can submit client applications < or = to the number of permits available per hunt (3 permits = 3 NR applications)
- Cost = $5 / application

76

- 21 of 31 Kodiak brown bear drawing hunt areas are partially or entirely comprised of an "Exclusive Guide Use Area" (EGUA)
- Exclusive Guide Use Areas are federal areas (Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge) in which only certain guides can provide guiding services to nonresident bear hunters
- Some NR and/or guides in EGUAs do not put names in drawing or pay application fee
- When guides/hunters do not submit draw applications for hunts, or fewer applications are received than permits available, the hunts are deemed "undersubscribed"

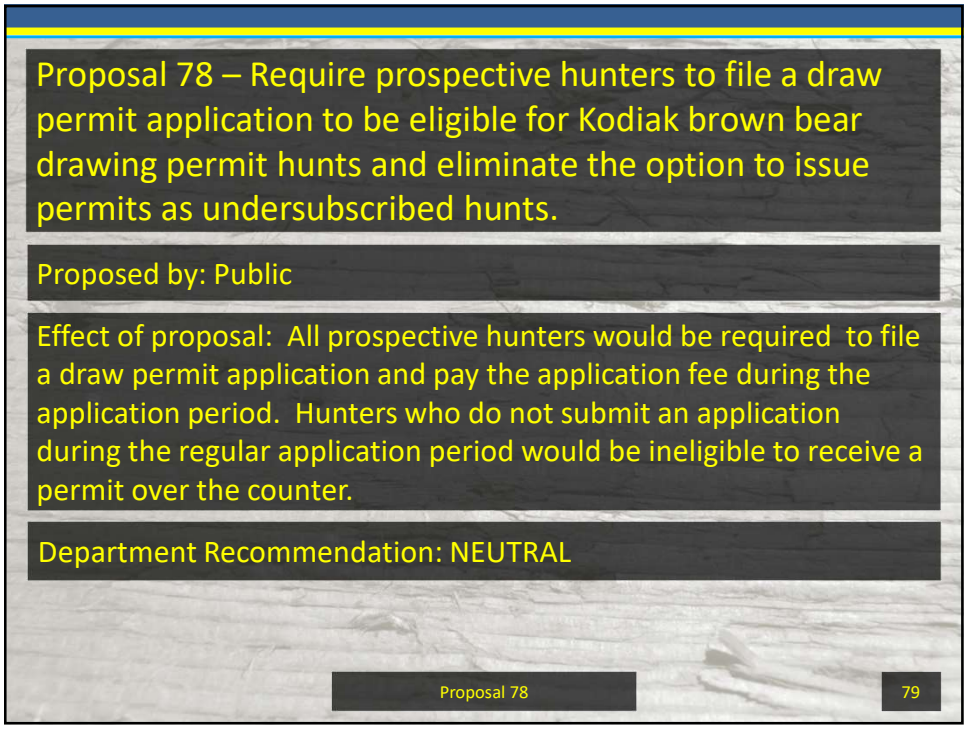
77

- Permits for undersubscribed hunts become available OTC
- However, undersubscribed hunts in EGUAs can only be issued to clients of guides with exclusive guiding privileges
- Some guides in EGUAs choose not to submit hunt applications for these areas, instead rely on 5 AAC 92.061 (4)(D) which allows permits for undersubscribed hunts to be made available OTC
- Leads to confusion when hunters are seeking information in the Alaska Drawing Permit Hunt Supplement regarding permit availability and odds of being drawn

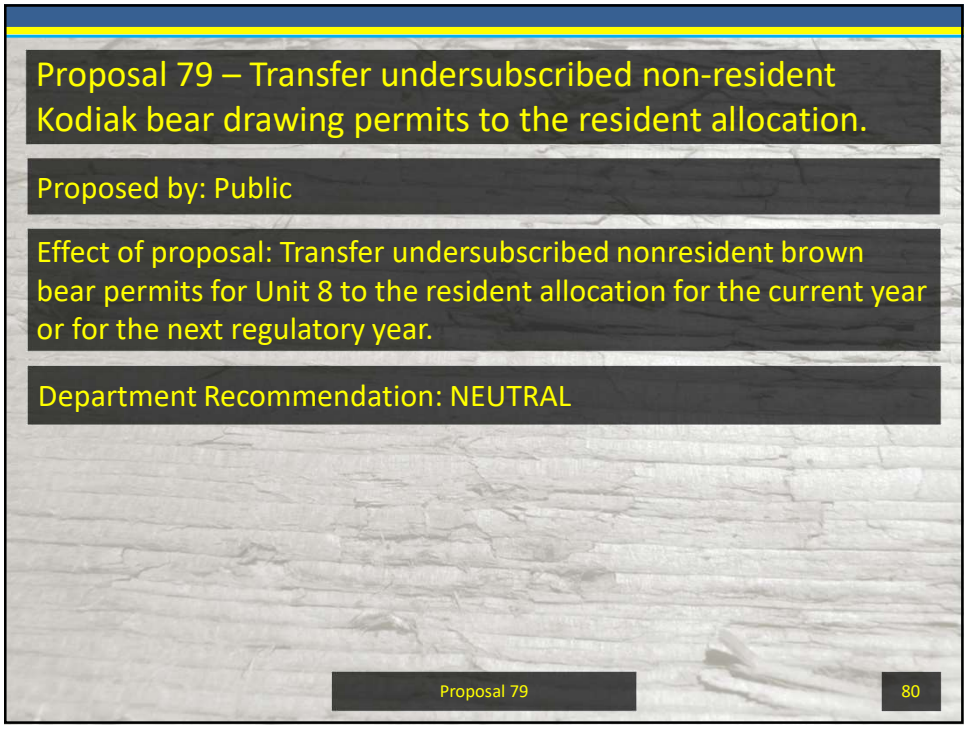
Results of the 2021 Permit Hunt Drawing

Hunt Number	Apps Received	Permits Available	% Drawn	Hunt Number	Apps Received	Permits Available	% Drawn	Hunt Number	Apps Received	Permits Available	% Drawn
Brown Bear				DB158	7	4	57	DB255	83	6	7
DB077	20	3	15	DB161	11	3	27	DB256	57	6	11
DB088	8	2	25	DB162	8	3	38	DB257	82	15	18
DB089	2	2	100	DB163	12	3	25	DB258	82	15	18
DB101	5	1	20	DB191	7	5	71	DB261	434	7	2
DB102	11	4	36	DB192	8	5	63	DB262	309	7	2
DB103	20	4	20	DB193	5	5	100	DB263	618	7	1
DB104	14	3	21	DB201	57	3	5	DB291	221	17	8
DB105	1	3	100	DB202	92	5	5	DB292	148	17	11
DB106	8	2	25	DB203	313	5	2	DB293	154	17	11
DB107	0	2	0	DB204	217	4	2	DB375	608	8	1
DB108	7	2	29	DB205	277	4	1	DB376	701	2	<1
DB109	1	1	100	DB206	214	3	1	DB468	252	20	8

78


Proposal 78 – Require prospective hunters to file a draw permit application to be eligible for Kodiak brown bear drawing permit hunts and eliminate the option to issue permits as undersubscribed hunts.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: All prospective hunters would be required to file a draw permit application and pay the application fee during the application period. Hunters who do not submit an application during the regular application period would be ineligible to receive a permit over the counter.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 78
79

79


Proposal 79 – Transfer undersubscribed non-resident Kodiak bear drawing permits to the resident allocation.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Transfer undersubscribed nonresident brown bear permits for Unit 8 to the resident allocation for the current year or for the next regulatory year.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 79
80

80

- Kodiak brown bear hunting opportunity is provided to resident and nonresident hunters in 2 ways:
  - Drawing permit hunts thru statewide drawing permit application process
  - Kodiak road system registration permit hunts (RB230/RB260)
- Guided nonresidents may submit 1 application for a fall and 1 application for a spring drawing hunt
- Residents may submit up to 6 applications total for spring and fall drawing hunts
- Guides can submit client applications < or = to the number of permits available per hunt (3 permits = 3 NR applications)
- Cost = $5 / application

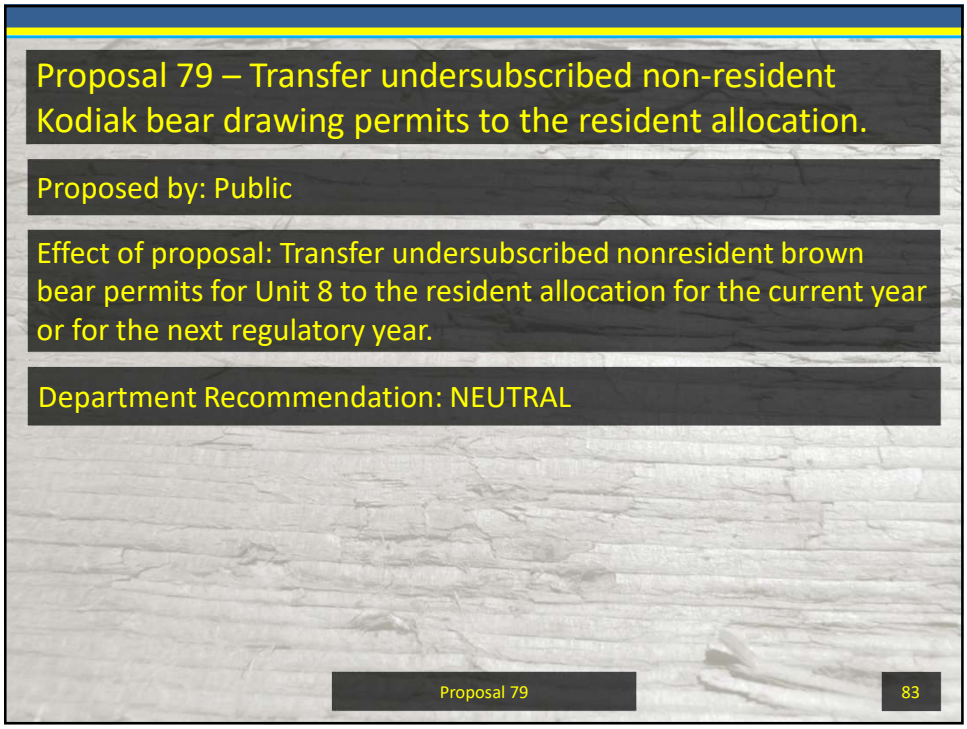
Proposal 78 81

81

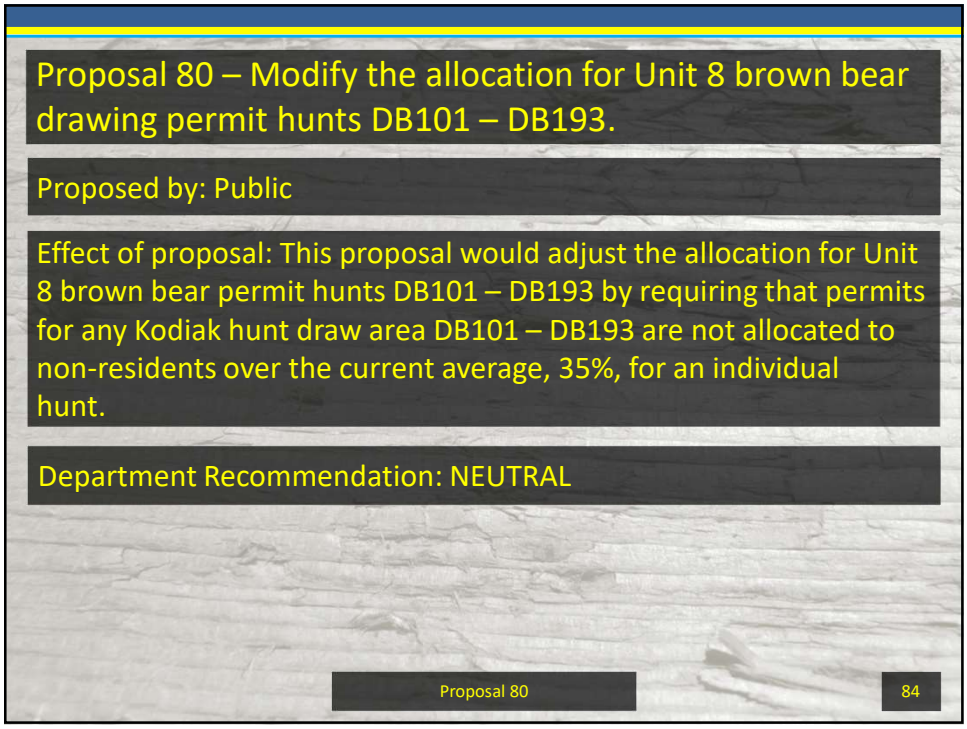
- If guides do not submit draw applications for hunts, or fewer applications are received than permits available, the hunts are deemed undersubscribed
- Permits for undersubscribed hunts are offered OTC on a first come, first served basis on a predetermined date
- 62 Nonresident draw hunts are administered annually in Unit 8 (31 spring, 31 fall)
- Between RY2017-RY2021 an average of 14 nonresident draw hunts (range 10-18) with a combined average of 31 permits (range 22-42) went undersubscribed with permits available over the counter
- However, undersubscribed hunts in EGUAs can only be issued to clients of guides with exclusive guiding privileges
- Leads to confusion among applicants when looking at draw odds

Proposal 79 82

82


Proposal 79 – Transfer undersubscribed non-resident Kodiak bear drawing permits to the resident allocation.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: Transfer undersubscribed nonresident brown bear permits for Unit 8 to the resident allocation for the current year or for the next regulatory year.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 79
83

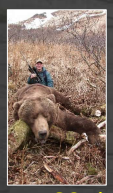
83


Proposal 80 – Modify the allocation for Unit 8 brown bear drawing permit hunts DB101 – DB193.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: This proposal would adjust the allocation for Unit 8 brown bear permit hunts DB101 – DB193 by requiring that permits for any Kodiak hunt draw area DB101 – DB193 are not allocated to non-residents over the current average, 35%, for an individual hunt.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 80
84

84

- Kodiak brown bear population has a long history of producing some of the largest bears in the world
- Primary objectives of the Kodiak brown bear management strategy are to:
  - Limit human caused mortality of female bears
  - Maintain annual harvest composed of at least 60% males






- Current regulations require a minimum 60%, maximum 40% split between resident and nonresident permits, respectively
- In practice this distribution is variable, but averages closer to 65% of permits to residents and 35% to nonresidents

Proposal 80 85

85

RY2017 – RY2021

- Participation rate for resident and nonresident brown bear hunters was 52% and 87%, respectively
- Overall (spring and fall) success rate for resident and nonresident hunters was 45% and 62%, respectively
- Nonresidents, on average, harvest fewer females than residents with residents harvesting 27 females annually and nonresidents harvesting 12 females annually

Proposal 80 86

86

Proposal 80 – Modify the allocation for Unit 8 brown bear drawing permit hunts DB101-DB193.

Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: This proposal would adjust the allocation for Unit 8 brown bear permit hunts DB101-DB193 by requiring that permits for any Kodiak hunt draw area DB101-DB193 are not allocated to non-residents over the current average, 35%, for an individual hunt.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

87

Proposal 81 – Require all trapping snares on the Kodiak Road System be equipped with a breakaway mechanism.

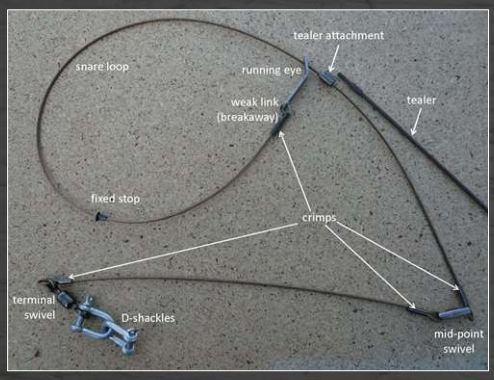
Proposed by: Public

Effect of proposal: This proposal would require all trapping snares set on the Kodiak Road System to have a breakaway mechanism (of a designated minimum poundage) on the loop end of the snare, and the snare cable and anchor must be stronger than the breakaway mechanism.

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

88

- Snaring is one of oldest methods to capture wild animals and has evolved significantly
- In many areas, the use of snares is restricted due to public concern over snares capturing non-target species
- In response, there has been a recognized need and effort to improve breakaway mechanisms to avoid injury to non-targets

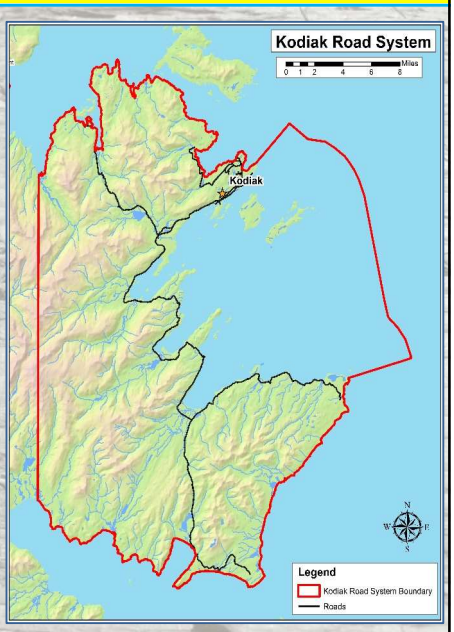


Anatomy of a common snare set-up

Proposal 81 89

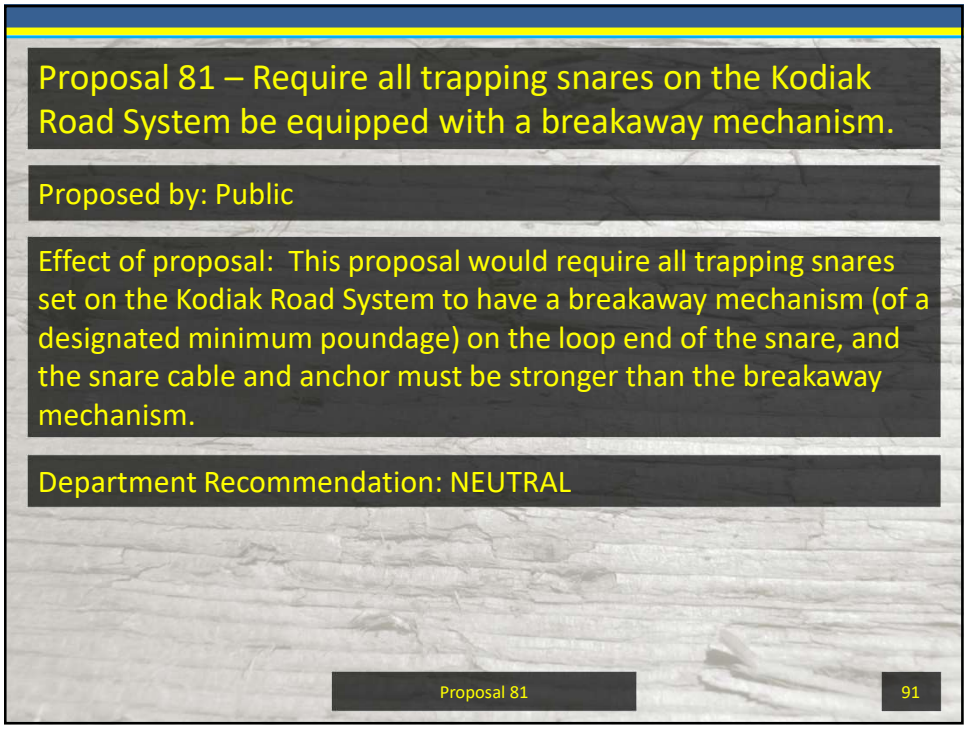
89

- On Kodiak most snaring occurs in Nov., Dec., and Jan. when most desirable fox, beaver, and otter seasons are open
- In 2016 and 2017, ADFG received calls regarding 4 brown bears captured in snares set for furbearer species; 2 released, 2 dispatched
- Kodiak office occasionally receives complaints regarding domestic animals snared in popular, high traffic areas along road system



Proposal 81 90

90


Proposal 81 – Require all trapping snares on the Kodiak Road System be equipped with a breakaway mechanism.
Proposed by: Public
Effect of proposal: This proposal would require all trapping snares set on the Kodiak Road System to have a breakaway mechanism (of a designated minimum poundage) on the loop end of the snare, and the snare cable and anchor must be stronger than the breakaway mechanism.
Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL
Proposal 81
91

91