

Dear Alaska Board of Game,

I recently became aware of Proposal 73 which as I understand it would reduce the non-resident deer limit to one deer, buck only from a previous bag limit of 3 deer. I believe this proposal will have further reaching negative consequences than intended. For most non-resident hunters considering the time, expense and uncertainty of weather involved in planning an Alaskan hunt; the reduction bag limit to a single deer simply will not be "worth" the time, effort and expense involved. Simply put, most people that would have gone previously, now just won't go. I spent several seasons as fishing guide on the rivers of the Bristol Bay watershed and dearly love Alaska and all it has to offer. An Alaskan Blacktail deer hunt has something that I've always wanted to return to Alaska for, but personally I wouldn't be able to justify the trip and time away for a single deer when similar species can be hunted in the lower 48 states. I very much appreciate the Game Board and Department of Fish and Game and all the challenging work and decisions that go into protecting wildlife and ensuring a sustainable resource in perpetuity in the state of Alaska. I believe a buck only, 2 deer bag limit, would be a sufficient compromise that would still offer enough incentive for non-residents to want to come to Alaska with the sole intention of hunting Sitka Black-tailed Deer. Thank you very much for your time and consideration of my comment and perspective.

Best Regards,

Zachary Larsen