

PROPOSAL 101

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

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

Allow brown/grizzly bears to be taken over bait in Unit 19C, and to be taken at a bait site the same day a hunter has flown as follows:

Allow the harvest of brown/grizzly bear at bear bait stations in Unit 19C as follows:

5 AAC 92.044(1)(13), Unit 19C

(1) a person may establish a black bear bait station, or a black and brown bear bait station in Units 7, 11, 12, 13, 14(A), 14(B), 14(C) remainder, 15, 16, 18, 19(A), **19(C)**, 19(D), 19(E), 20(A), 20(B), 20(C), 20(D) north of the Tanana River, 20(E), 20(F), 21(C), 21(D), 23, 24(C), 24(D), 25(C) and 25(D), only if that person obtains a permit under this section;

...

(13) in Units 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14(A), 14(B), 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26(B), and 26(C), a hunter who has been airborne may take or assist in taking a black bear at a bait station with the use of bait or scent lures under a permit issued by the department, and if the hunter is at least 300 feet from the airplane at the time of taking; in Units 7, 11, 12, 13, 14(A), 14(B), 14(C) remainder, 15, 16, 18, 19(A), **19(C)**, 19(D), 19(E), 20(A), 20(B), 20(C), 20(D) North of the Tanana river, 20(E), 20(F), 21(C), 21(D), 23, 24(C), 24(D), 25(C) and 25(D), a hunter who has been airborne may take or assist in taking a brown bear at a bait station with the use of bait or scent lures under a permit issued by the department, and if the hunter is at least 300 feet from the airplane at the time of taking.

Unit 19C open for brown/grizzly bear baiting April 15-May 31.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In recent years within Unit 19C we have seen brown/grizzly bears more frequently at black bear bait stations. In the past five years I have personally witnessed a steady increase in the population of brown/grizzly bears in Unit 19C and a steady decrease in bison, moose, caribou and a sharp decrease in Dall sheep. Causing ADF&G to decrease the number of bison permits issued from 30 to 20 and the Board of Game (BOG) to implement a nonresident moose draw within the registration hunt area of Unit 19C and furthermore a complete shutdown of nonresident Dall sheep hunting in Unit 19C. I've watched numerous brown/grizzly bears take down bison calves, moose calves and Dall sheep lambs in the spring and have had multiple Dall sheep stalks blown by a brown/grizzly bear. While brown/grizzly bears aren't overly successful in catching Dall sheep in the fall, the constant harassment of getting pushed off good grazing ground has detrimental effects to the sheep in the long run. Being able to harvest a brown/grizzly over a bait station will allow hunters to harvest a brown/grizzly bear that they wouldn't necessarily be able to otherwise. The harvest of a brown/grizzly bear will in turn help all ungulates in Unit 19C. If nothing is changed the ungulate populations will struggle to rebound and the department will have to confiscate or destroy any defense of life or property (DLP) or problem bear.

PROPOSED BY: Spencer Pape, Seth Kroenke, and Jeff Rost

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