

PROPOSAL 183

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

Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 20A by two weeks to close on June 15 as follows:

A solution would be simple and one that the public has been asking of the board for years. Extend grizzly season in Unit 20A until at a minimum of June 15th. This would align seasons more to other areas of Unit 20 as well where grizzly season has been permitted to stay open until June 30th. Similar changes in these other subunits of 20 that have allowed grizzly baiting later into June have proven to be effective without having an overall detriment to grizzly bear populations.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In most of the Tanana Flats, grizzly's aren't moving out of the hills and becoming more apparent until late in May/June. For many hunters who bait in the flats, this becomes an issue as grizzlies take over bait stations, keeping black bears out of stations and limiting hunter success. Because of current season dates, hunters are unable to harvest grizzlies during this timeframe and help in reducing overall grizzly populations in the interior. Additionally because of this, hunters in the field are seeing an increasing abundance of grizzlies and fewer black bears as there have been traditionally in the Tanana Flats.

PROPOSED BY: Middle Nenana River Fish and Game Advisory Committee

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