

PROPOSAL 98

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

Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 19C by one month to align with Units 19A, 19D, and 19E as follows:

Change the season dates of brown/grizzly bears in Unit 19C to 8/10 - 6/30 which aligns with neighboring Units 19A, D, and E.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Season dates of 9/1 - 5/31 for brown/grizzly bears in Unit 19C. Recent closure for nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C was implemented due to a severely depressed population. Moose and caribou in the area have been struggling as well due to predation and hard winters with elevated snowpack. Opening the season on September 1st prevents the majority of sheep hunters from opportunistic harvest of a brown/grizzly bear when they're still in the field. Additionally, closing the season May 31st prevents access to areas which have been receiving elevated snow levels that do not recede fully until the following month.

PROPOSED BY: Kyle Virgin

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