PROPOSAL 17

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

Lengthen the spring and fall brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9E for residents and nonresidents as follows:

Change the brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9E, for both resident and nonresident hunters, (RB368) and (RB370). Lengthen the bear season to mirror Units 9A & C.

Unit 9E (RB 368) brown bear season date: <u>Oct. 1 - Oct. 21</u>, [Oct. 7 to Oct. 21] odd number years. (RB 370) brown bear season date: <u>May 10 - May 31</u>, [May 10- May 25] even number years.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Change the brown bear hunting seasons in Unit 9E, for both resident and nonresident hunters, (RB 368) and (RB370). Lengthen the bear season to mirror Units 9A and C.

The brown bear population in Unit 9E has been increasing for the last eight - ten years. Sows are routinely birthing three - four cubs, per litter, (personal observation).

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's plan, to help the population of the Northern Alaska Peninsula grow, is as follows:

- **5 AAC 92.111. Intensive Management Plans I.** Northern Alaska Peninsula (NAP) Caribou Herd Intensive Management Plan, in unit 9(C) and 9(E)
- (2) Caribou, brown bear and wolf objectives are as follows:
- (D) the brown bear population objectives for Unit 9 is to maintain a high density bear population with a sex and age structure that can sustain a harvest composed of 60 percent males, with 50 males eight years of age or older during combined fall and spring season.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee? I have been guiding hunters every year on the Alaska Peninsula since 1978. I spend an average of 120 days per year in Unit 9E, guiding hunters and fisherman.

PROPOSED BY: Tracy Vrem	(EG-F24-068)
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