## **PROPOSAL 16**

## 5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Shift the season dates for hunting migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 1-5 to October 8-January 22 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Migratory birds and waterfowl hunt dates for Units 1-5 Southeast (OCTOBER 8-JANUARY 22).

## What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The board should alter the Units 1-5 Southeast waterfowl hunt dates to October 8-January 22.

Switching the dates to these later dates gives waterfowl hunters in the region the best opportunity at harvesting large mature birds in their prime. The change of dates also gives guides and outfitters the ability to hunt waterfowl into January creating a new source of income that is otherwise not available as the current season sits. Having the dates moved back later also gives young hunters who may be off at school a time to hunt while home on Christmas break which often extends into the new year by multiple days. This proposal also gives waterfowl hunters targeting sea ducks and diver ducks the best opportunity at harvesting birds for trophy quality. Along with sea ducks and diver ducks it also gives hunters opportunity at hunting mallards and geese in the later part of the season once they are pushed down from the northern regions.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

Yes, this proposal was discussed and agreed upon by the Ketchikan Advsiory Committee.

**PROPOSED BY:** Ketchikan Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-171)