

PROPOSAL 18

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

Shift the hunting season for grouse in Units 1-5 to August 10 through May 31 as follows:

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

Change the start date to August 10, (to align with other units) and extend the close date to May 31.

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

Sooty Grouse (formerly Blue Grouse, locally referred to as “Hooters”), is a favorite pastime of hunters in Southeast. Sooty’s are targeted during their breeding season in April and May, as males are hooting to acquire potential mates. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to hunting, but often time access to these birds is limited by snow covered roads, hillsides and inclement weather. The window of opportunity is often small, and the season always ends just as the snow has melted and access has been made easier. Conversely, the season opens on August 1, the same as deer season. During this time, broods of immature grouse are still together and are often harvested opportunistically in their entirety alongside the road.

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

This proposal has been discussed and submitted by the Wrangell Advisory Committee with its full support.

PROPOSED BY: Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F25-013)
