PROPOSAL 19

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

Extend the resident hunting season for brown bear in Unit 4 to May 31 as follows:

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

5 AAC 85.020(3) Hunting Season and Bag Limits for Brown Bear

(3) Unit 4, Remainder - Resident Hunters: Sept 15. – Dec. 31, Mar 15 - [MAY 20] May 31

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

In all other spring hunt codes pertaining to Southeast Alaska brown bear opportunities season dates coincide with a May 31 closure. The Admiralty Island and inside drainages of Baranof and Chichagof Islands hunt (RB089) closes on May 20 for both residents and nonresidents. This area is highly popular for both residents hunters and guided nonresidents. This proposal would leave the hunt open for residents only through May 31. Considering the hunt is a registration permit the department already has the ability to close the season if quotas have been met. Because of the guided nonresident effort in this area residents seemingly have to give up 11 days of opportunity during what is often the best weather of the year for shore-based access.

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

Developed myself through discussions with other local hunters wishing to have late spring opportunity for this hunt.