

PROPOSAL 20

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

Extend the season for the RB088 brown bear registration hunt from May 20 to May 31, to align the season for all of Lisianski Inlet in Unit 4 as follows:

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

(Outside Drainages) from Point Lucan, outside of the Port Althorp closed area, following the ridge of the Althorp Peninsula along the common boundary of GUA 04-15, the area includes Chichagof Island south and west of a line that follows the island's crest to coordinates (57.82701, -135.86404), then to (57.79173, -135.99264), continuing south and west along the island crest to Point Nismeni (57°34' N. lat., 135°25' W. long), and then to the entrance of Gut Bay (56°44' N. lat., 134°38' W. long). This includes Yakobi Island, Kruzof Island, and other adjacent islands, as well as the drainages into Gut Bay.

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

Request: Adjust RB088 boundary to open all of Lisianski Inlet, extending the season from May 20 to May 31.

Justification:

Clarity and Safety: Simplifies hunt boundaries, reducing confusion. Allows hunters to use both sides of the inlet during foul weather, improving safety when open seas limit access in the final 11 days of brown bear season.

Bear Viewing: Port Althorp remains closed to hunting under the Brown Bear Management Strategy, allowing bear-viewing tourism uninterrupted access. This aligns with the USFS Shoreline II BMP agreements.

Harvest Impact: Unit 4 brown bear harvest has been ~40 bears below objective for a decade. Adding 16 NM of shoreline will not significantly effect overall harvest but does provide flexibility and safety for hunters.

Summary: This minor change enhances safety and clarity without impacting conservation concerns or viewing tourism.

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

PROPOSED BY: Zach Decker

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