

PROPOSAL 29

5 AAC 85.030. Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer.

Require an antler restriction for bucks harvested in Unit 1C, Douglas Island to at least one forked antler on one side as follows:

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

Unit 1C Douglas Island: Four deer total only one of which may be a doe, **all bucks must have at least one forked antler on one side** Aug. 1 – Sept. 14 (bucks), Sept. 15 - Dec 31. (any deer)

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

Quality Deer Herd Management (QDHM) practices for this area require a larger, more mature deer herd. QDHM is necessary on Douglas Island to contend with it's ongoing decline due primarily to predation and what became avoidable over-harvest during years of high predation had the allowable harvest during the years of decline been reduced more drastically, and habitat loss due to development, and additionally loss of remote safe harbor habitat due to increased access. If the regulation(s) are not changed the herd will continue to suffer decline in both numbers and maturity. Restricting the harvest to bucks with at least one forked antler on one side will ensure the opportunity for more bucks to survive longer and mature as an integral part of an overall increase in the size and maturity of the herd while still allowing for reasonable local harvest opportunity. This type of regulation (antler requirement(s)) is commonly done for other deer species, primarily moose, in Alaska already.

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

*These proposals shall be shared with local fish and game advisory committee(s).

PROPOSED BY: David Summers

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