

PROPOSAL 37

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

Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 from four to three bucks as follows:

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

We hope to reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 2 as follows:

5 AAC 85.030 Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer/

Unit 2: Prince of Wales Island

3 Bucks [4 Bucks]

Reduce deer bag limit to 3 bucks in Unit 2 Prince of Wales Island.

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

The Sitka black tailed deer population in Unit 2 on Prince of Wales (POW) Island is declining. Deer are an important subsistence food security resource for all the local rural communities of POW Island. The Island has better road access than most other locations with deer. Factors affecting the decline of deer include habitat loss, wolf and black bear predation, deep snow years, and one of the most liberal deer bag limits in Alaska. The deer bag limit on POW is currently four bucks. Reducing the hunter bag limit to three bucks should conserve and help maintain the deer herd for the future.

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

Yes, the East Prince of Wales Island Advisory Committee members developed this proposal with input from Unit 2 residents. These residents have noticed and are concerned about the steady and significant decline in deer numbers and their availability for subsistence food resources. Scientific publications depicting trends of concern on the POW Island deer may be found on the website: www.sitkablacktaildeer.org.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (OI-F25-010)
