### **PROPOSAL 43**

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

Increase the deer bag limit and extend the season length for residents and nonresidents on the Cleveland Peninsula as follows:

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

Lengthen the season and increase the bag limit for deer in Unit 1A on the southern portion of the Cleveland Peninsula by aligning seasons and bag limits with the rest of Unit 1A. The bag limit will increase from two bucks to four bucks, and the season will increase by one month.

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

Units and Bag Limits	Resident	Nonresident
	Open Season	<b>Open Season</b>
	(Subsistence and	•
	<b>General Hunts</b> )	

(1)

Unit 1 (A) [THAT PORTION Aug. 1 – <u>Dec. 31</u> [NOV. 30] Aug. 1 – <u>Dec. 31</u> [NOV. 30] ON THE CLEVELAND PENINSULA BOUNDED BY AN EAST-WEST LINE FROM YES BAY TO SANTA ANNA INLET]

4 [2] bucks

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

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game proposes increasing the bag limit and season length for deer on the portion of the Cleveland Peninsula south of the divide between Santa Anna Inlet and Yes Bay in Unit 1A. That area has a shorter season and lower bag limit for deer than the remainder of Unit 1A, including the adjacent mainland. Deer harvest in Unit 1A has consistently increased over the past 10 years (2014–2023) while the average days of hunting effort needed to harvest a deer have decreased, suggesting an increase in abundance. Trends on the southern portion of the Cleveland Peninsula have mirrored trends elsewhere in Unit 1A, indicating that additional harvest opportunity is available in that area.

In addition to offering greater sustainable harvest opportunity, aligning the season dates and bag limit with the rest of Unit 1A would simplify regulations. The rest of Unit 1A currently has a 4-buck bag limit and an August 1 to December 31 open season.

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

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F25-032)