

PROPOSAL 82

5 AAC 85.015(a)(2). Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Shorten the spring hunting season for black bear in Unit 6D by 10 days as follows:

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

Current Black Bear harvest season in Unit 6D is Sept. 10th to June 10th.

Proposed new season date as follows:

Open Sept. 10th but closing at the earlier date and time of May 31st at midnight.

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

To address the risks of overharvesting black bears in subunit 6D. Black bear harvest in Unit 6D peaked in 2007 and was a steady decrease over the next eight years. Since 2015 there has been a significant increase year to year. With increased harvest (2024 was third highest ever recorded), and increased efforts (2024 highest recorded since data collection began in 2009). There is probable concern that harvest levels will reach a level that will result in reduced long term hunting opportunity. The current harvest level is not sustainable at this rate.

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

This is a Prince William Sound - Copper River Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee submitted proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committees
(OI-F25-054)
