

PROPOSAL 83

5 AAC 85.015. Hunting seasons and bag limits for black bear.

Increase the resident bag limit for the RL065 black bear hunt in Unit 6 to two bears as follows:

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

Make the bag limit for RL065 two bears for Alaskan residents. Nonresidents stays 1 bear.

Even given the option to harvest two bears, the vast majority of black bear hunters in Prince William Sound will not harvest more than one bear a season given the short period of time hunters are in the field for the RL065 open period of September 10th-June 10th and the difficulty at reaching the majority of bears spotted. Most of the bears are not on the beach, rather they are up on the steep hills and cliffs.

Increasing the bag limit for RL065 to two bears will have a negligible effect on overall harvest numbers but it would give resident hunters the added flexibility at hunting other units prior to hunting the RL065 unit.

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

The one bear bag limit for RL065 black bear permit.

The one bear bag limit for RL065 is unnecessary. It prohibits residents from harvesting a black bear earlier in the regulatory year in another unit and still being able to hunt RL065.

If a hunter harvests a black bear in another unit in the fall, they are not able to hunt RL065 in the spring. This is simply not necessary for black bear conservation in Prince William Sound as the only real way to hunt RL065 is by boat and the vast majority of bears spotted are not accessible to hunters.

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

No

PROPOSED BY: Jesse Dunshie

(OI-F25-157)
