

Proposal 127

5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals.

Adopt regulations in Unit 19 that mirror Unit 18 by allowing year round harvest of beaver with no bag limit under the small game hunting regulations as follows:

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

Adopt regulations in Unit 19 that mirror Unit 18 by allowing year round harvest of beaver with no bag limit under the small game hunting regulations.

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

Currently, there is no open small game hunting season for beaver in Unit 19, while the neighboring Unit 18 allows year-round harvest with no bag limit. This inconsistency in regulations creates unnecessary restrictions for residents of Unit 19, particularly those who rely on beaver as a subsistence food source.

Beaver have a long history of use in Alaska for both their meat and fur. Under current regulations, residents of Unit 19 are prevented from harvesting beaver opportunistically for food when they encounter them outside of trapping seasons. This limits access to a valuable subsistence resource and creates confusion between adjacent units with similar ecological conditions.

If no change is made, Unit 19 residents will continue to face unnecessary barriers to harvesting beaver for food, despite healthy populations and more liberal regulations in neighboring Unit 18. Aligning regulations would improve subsistence opportunity and regulatory consistency without negatively impacting the resource.

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

This proposal is being submitted by the Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(OI-F26-083)
