

Proposal 186

5 AAC 85.020 (a)(24). Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Eliminate the drawing permit for nonresident hunters in Unit26B for brown bears as follows:

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

Eliminate the drawing permit for nonresident hunters in Unit26B for brown bears.

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(24)		
...		
Unit 26(B), that portion within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area		
[RESIDENT HUNTERS:] 1 bear every regulatory year by bow and arrow only;	Aug. 10–June 15	<u>Aug. 10–June 15</u>
[NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 BEAR EVERY REGULATORY YEAR BY DRAWING PERMIT ONLY; BY BOW AND ARROW ONLY; UP TO 20 PERMITS MAY BE ISSUED IN COMBINATION WITH THE REMAINDER OF 26(B)]		[AUG. 10–JUNE 15]
Remainder of Unit 26(B)		
[RESIDENT HUNTERS:] 1 bear every regulatory year	Aug. 10–June 15	<u>Aug. 10–June 15</u>
[NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 BEAR EVERY REGULATORY YEAR BY DRAWING PERMIT		[AUG. 10–JUNE 15]

ONLY; BY BOW AND ARROW
ONLY; UP TO 20 PERMITS
MAY BE ISSUED IN COMBINATION
WITH THAT PORTION OF UNIT 26(B)
WITHIN THE DALTON HIGHWAY
CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT AREA]

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

The management objectives for brown bears in Unit 26B includes managing for a 3-year mean annual human-caused brown bear mortality of ≤ 27 bears ≥ 2 -years old of which no more than 12 are female.

Hunting pressure for brown bears in Unit 26B remains low. The 5-year (regulatory year (RY) 24-RY20) mean annual harvest from all hunts was 16 bears per year (range =12-23), of which an average of 4 per year were female (range= 2-8). For the past 5 years (RY24-RY20), an average of 7 nonresident hunters (range = 4-10) participated in the drawing harvest (DB987) with an average harvest of 4 bears per year. By removing the requirement for nonresidents to have a drawing permit, more nonresident hunter participation will be allowed to utilize the harvestable surplus.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F26-033)
