

PROPOSAL 120 – 5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game. Align the hunting seasons and reduce the bag limit for ptarmigan in Units 13E and 13B as follows:

Align Unit 13E and 13B ptarmigan season by changing season dates to August 10 through January 31, and reduce harvest limit to five a day and possession limit of ten total.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Denali Fish and Game Advisory Committee feels that the population of ptarmigan has decreased from historical levels. The ptarmigan population decrease over the years has been caused from many factors but a major factor is from springtime recreation users along the corridors of the Denali Highway and popular recreation areas in Units 13E and 13B. Shortening the season will decrease the vulnerability of springtime ptarmigan. Decreasing the bag limit will help prevent overharvest. Aligning season dates will simplify enforcement and assist hunters with date compliance between areas. Despite the decreased opportunity to harvest, this could help repopulation the ptarmigan and in future, reinstitute previous bag limits with higher limits and longer seasons.

PROPOSED BY: Denali Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F17-002)
