PROPOSAL 60

5 AAC 85.040(3). Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Change the hunting seasons for goat in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

Mountain goat season Unit 7 and 15 August 10 – September 30 October 10 – October 24

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current late season mountain goat hunt is November 1 – November 14. This falls during the rut when not only is the meat of billies likely to be unpalatable, but also when hunting pressure may disrupt breeding activity. Goats have a low reproductive rate and any disturbance during the rut may have negative impact on herd recruitment.

Moving the late season up to October 10 – October 24 will still allow the Department of Fish and Game to collect data from the early season and determine harvest numbers for the late hunt while increasing the likelihood of harvested goats being edible and decreasing potential disturbance during the rut.