PROPOSAL 86

5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Reduce the bag limit for spruce grouse in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

Reduce spruce grouse limit to five per day, ten in possession.

Retain current ruffed grouse limit of one per day, two in possession.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Units 7 and 15 are similar to Unit 14C in that they have a growing number of hunters and much of the hunting pressure is concentrated along the road system. Grouse populations are cyclic and susceptible to over harvest, especially when a liberal limit may encourage the taking of entire cohorts.

Changing the spruce grouse limit to conform with 14C would be a prudent move to insure grouse hunting opportunities in the future.