

PROPOSAL 70

5 AAC 85.020. Hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear.

Change the season start date for taking brown bear in Unit 24A to align with Unit 25A as follows:

Nonresident and resident grizzly bear season in Unit 24A, July 25 - June 30

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Align the grizzly bear season start date in Unit 24A with the season start date in Unit 25A.

- The current start date is August 10.
- It is common for hunters hiking in from the Dalton Highway to hunt both units in the same hunt or even the same day.
- Many sheep hunters hike in several days before sheep season and encounter grizzly bears and the season is open in one unit and not the other.
- If someone was to drive the highway and pursue a bear with archery equipment, they could potentially cross the line and harvest a bear out of season.
- Aligning the start dates would eliminate confusion, entice the otherwise illegal harvest of grizzly bears prior to August 10th and reduce predation on the ungulate population in that area.

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