

PROPOSAL 71

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

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Unit 14B as follows:

I recommend extending brown bear season through June 30 allowing these bears to be taken through the baiting season. To align with some of the other areas opened to baiting brown bears.

The new regulation change would read “One bear every regulatory year **August 10-June 30** in Unit 14B.”

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The population of brown bears in Unit 14B is growing rapidly. In the span of eight years my trail cameras in Unit 14B over bait have shown five-six brown bears and five-six black bears in 2015 and in 2023, 10-15 brown bears and only one black bear.

Brown bear season closes on May 31, depending on the spring the brown bears are not showing up until around the first week of June. If the population of brown bears is not controlled I believe we will continue to see increasing brown bear populations and decreased black bear populations until eventually the area will be depleted of black bears completely.

Also in Unit 14B, the moose population is on the lower end of the acceptable objective. Why not try to get ahead of it with extending the brown bear season and giving hunters more hunting opportunity to harvest brown bears.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

PROPOSED BY: Dominic Nickles

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