

Proposal 10

Decrease bag limit for Unit 4 Remainder from six to four deer

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Opposed

AC Recommendation:
Sitka AC: Opposed 4-10
Juneau-Douglas AC: Opposed 1-7-3
Pelican AC: Support 6-0

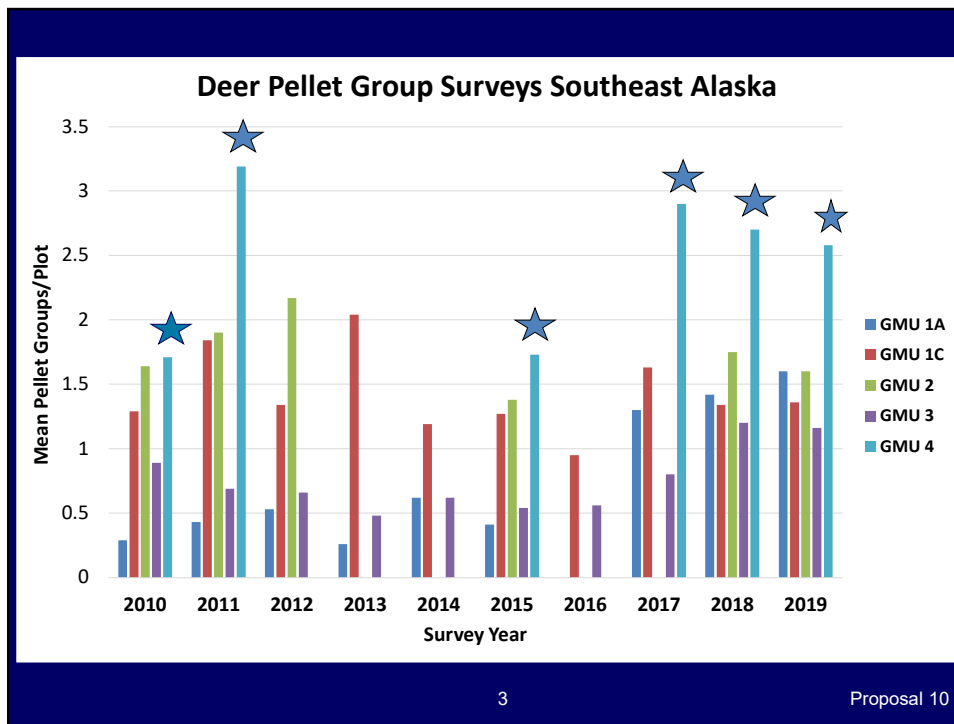
1 Proposal 10

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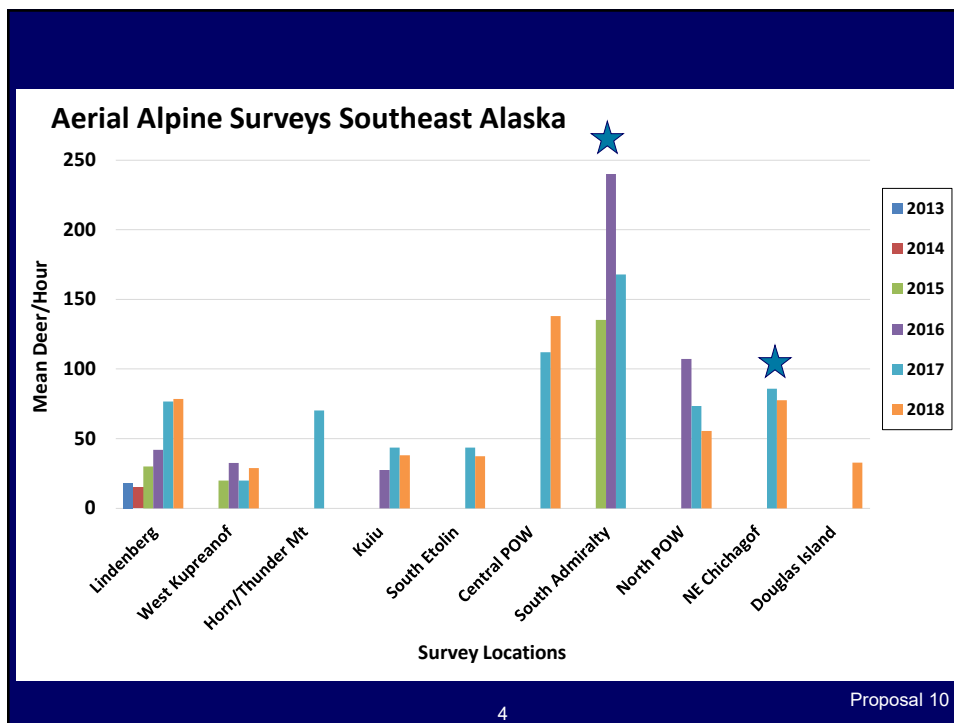
GMU 4 Northeast Chichagof	Season: Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident & NR) Bag Limit: 3 deer (bucks only to Sept. 14 th)
GMU 4 Remainder	Season: Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident & NR) Bag Limit: 6 deer (bucks only to Sept. 14 th)

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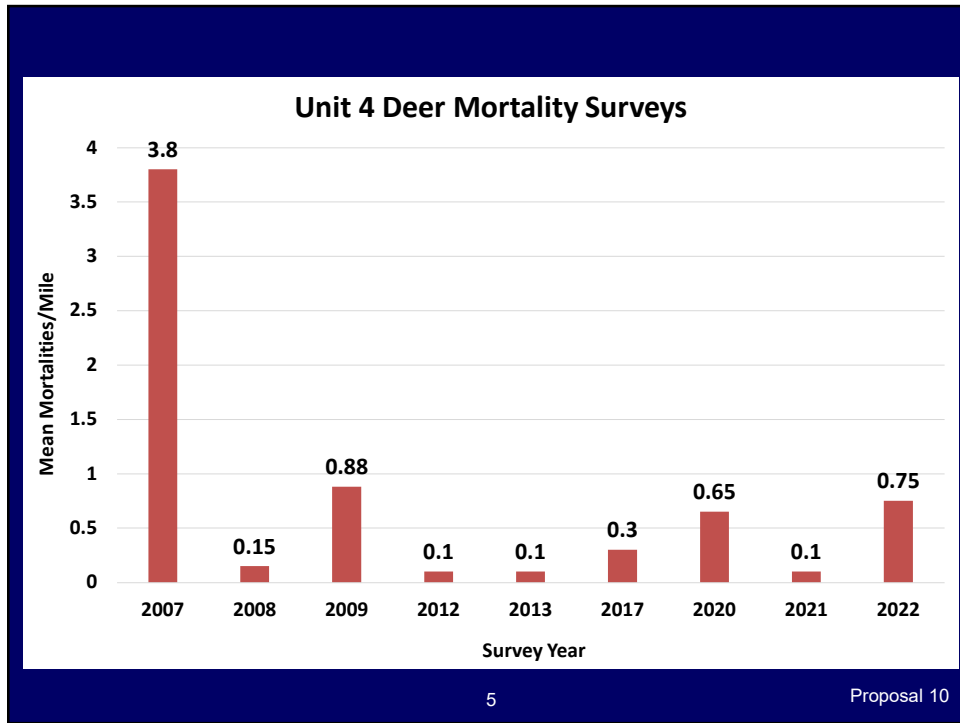
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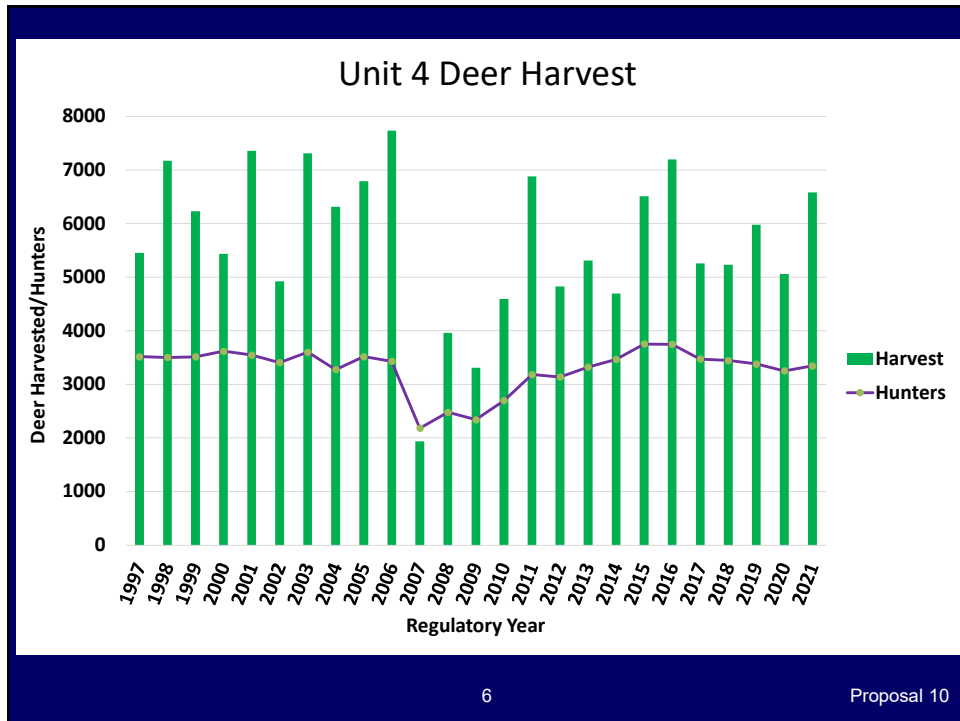
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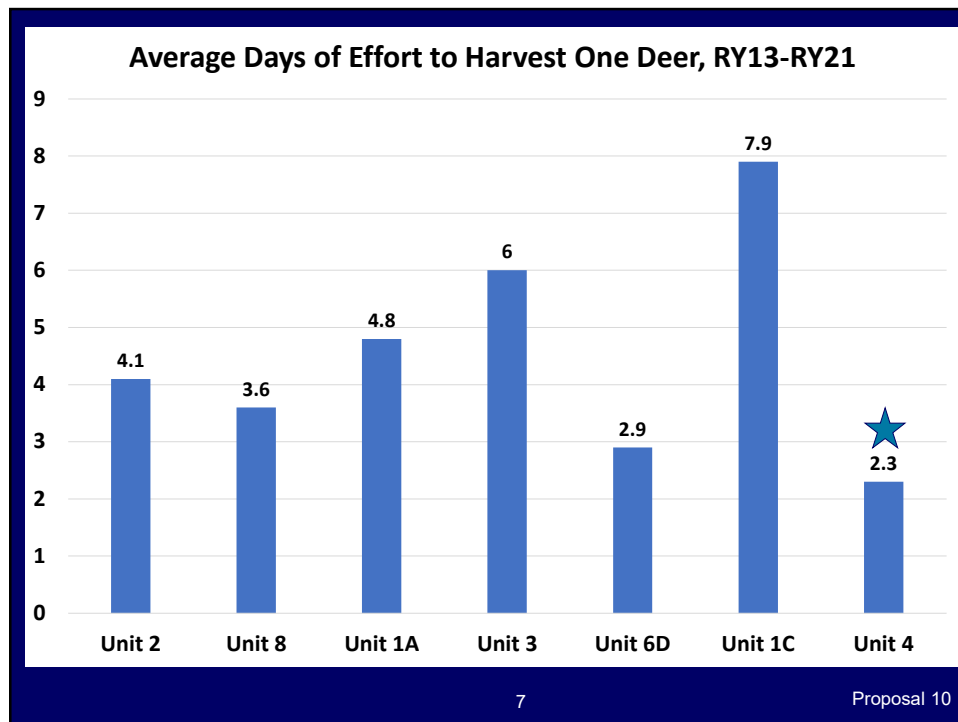
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Discussion

- Bag limit raised from 4 to 6 at 2019 BOG meeting.
- Prior to 2019 bag limit was 4 since before statehood.
- Federally qualified hunters:
 - 6 deer on federal lands
 - August 1 to January 31
- Juneau residents most affected.

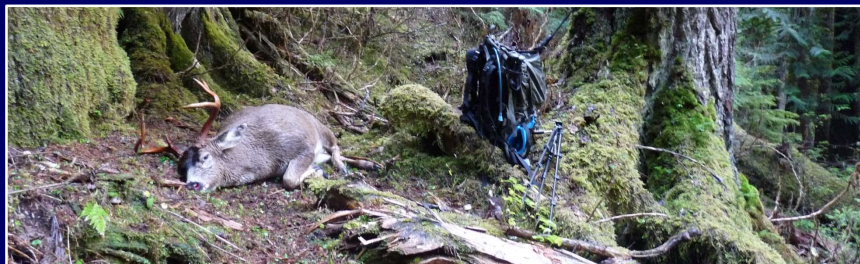
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RY2019-RY2021 New Bag Limit

- Average 30 NFQs took 5 deer
- Average 29 NFQs took 6 deer
- Average ~88 additional deer/year
- 80% by Juneau hunters

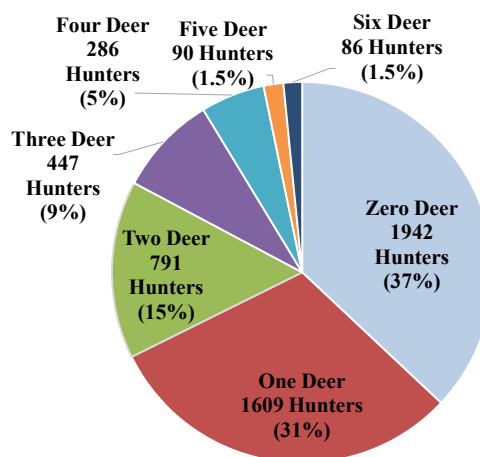


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**Non-Federally Qualified Hunters That Harvested
0 to 6 Deer, RY19-RY21**



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Discussion

- 97% of NFQ hunters took ≤ 4 deer
 - 4 deer bag limit is adequate for most hunters.
- 1.5% increase in total Unit 4 harvest
 - 6 deer bag limit provides sustainable increased opportunity.



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Discussion

Proposal submitted specifically to re-establish a clearer priority for federally qualified hunters in an effort to avoid closures associated with current federal subsistence proposals.



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Federal Subsistence Proposals

WP22-07

Close deer hunting by NFQUs on west side of Admiralty Is. from Sept. 15 to Nov. 30.



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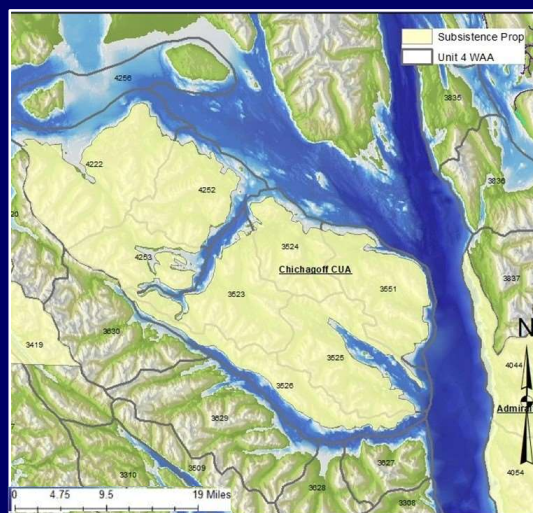
Proposal 10

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Federal Subsistence Proposals

WP22-08

Reduce deer bag limit for NFQUs on NE Chichagof Controlled Use Area from 3 deer (east of Port Frederick) and 6 deer (west of Port Frederick) to Two bucks.



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Federal Subsistence Proposals

WP22-10

Reduce deer bag limit for NFQUs in the Lisianski Inlet area from 6 deer to 4 deer.



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Conclusion

- ADF&G is strongly opposed to federal proposals.
- Unit 4 deer populations are high and stable.
- 4 deer bag limit is adequate for most NFQ hunters. However, 6 deer limit is sustainable and provides additional opportunity.

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Proposal 10
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from six to four deer

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Department Recommendation:
Opposed

AC Recommendation:
Sitka AC: Opposed 4-10
Juneau-Douglas AC: Opposed 1-7-3
Pelican AC: Support 6-0

17 Proposal 10

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Proposal 11
Decrease bag limit for Unit 4 Remainder
from six to four deer

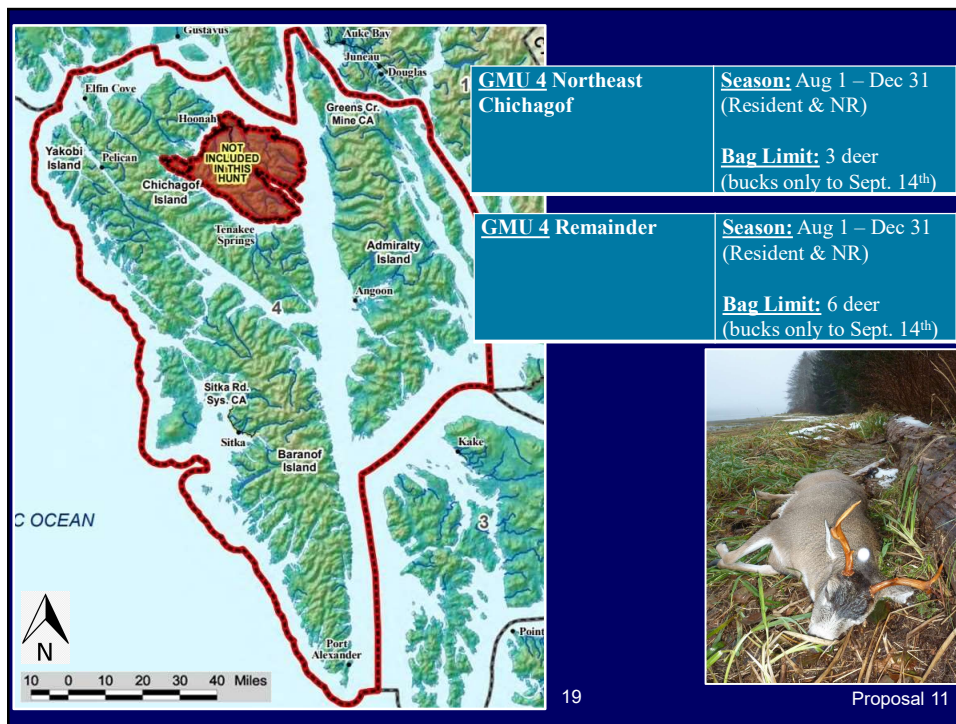
Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:
Opposed

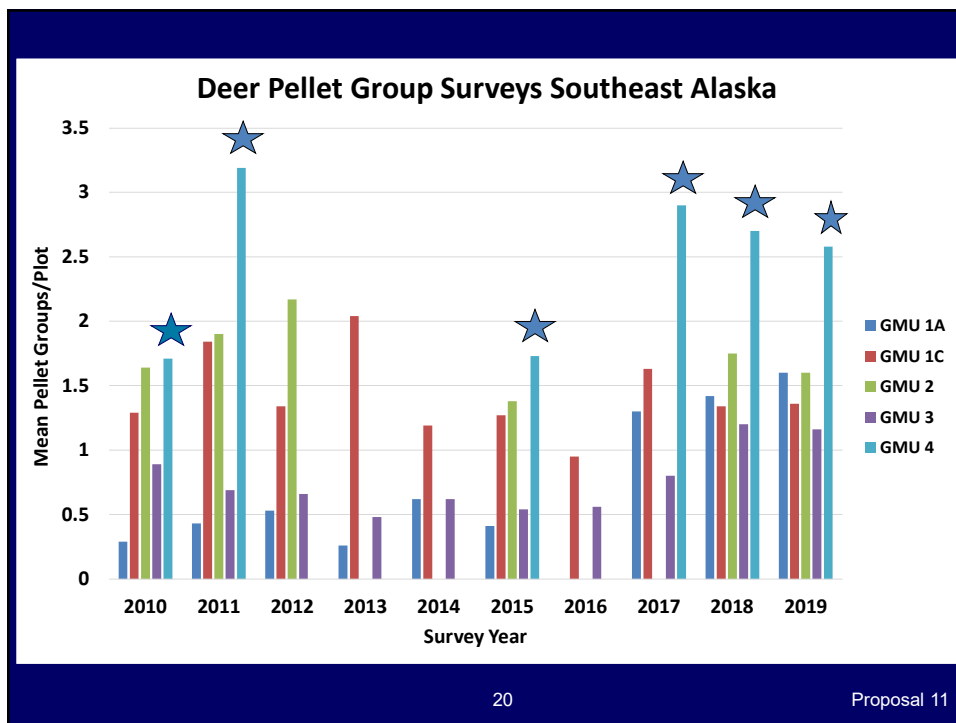
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18 Proposal 11

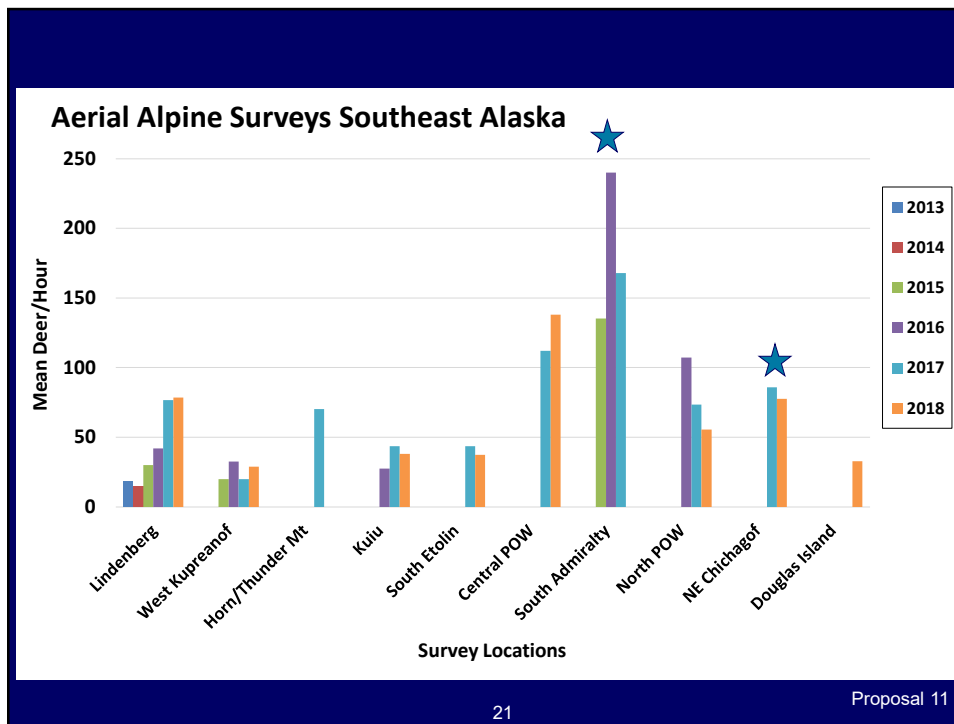
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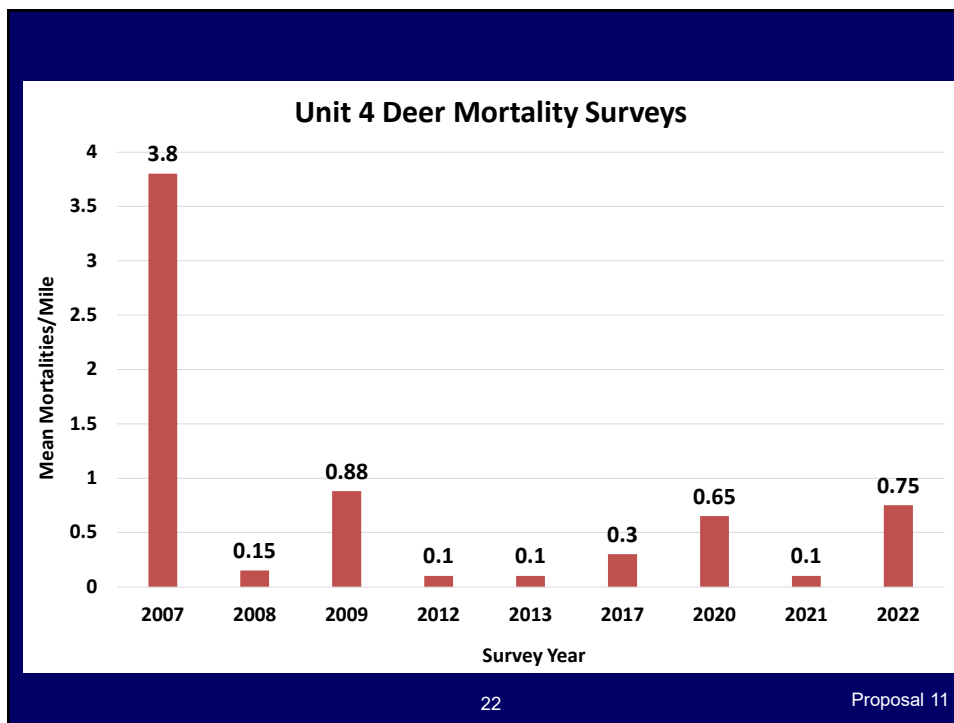
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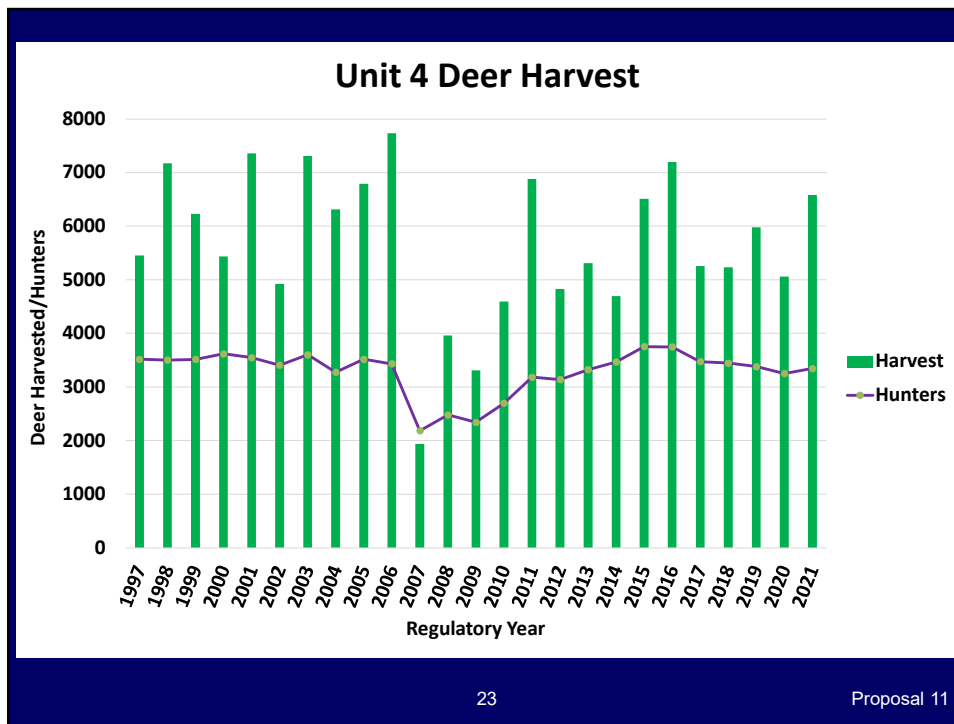
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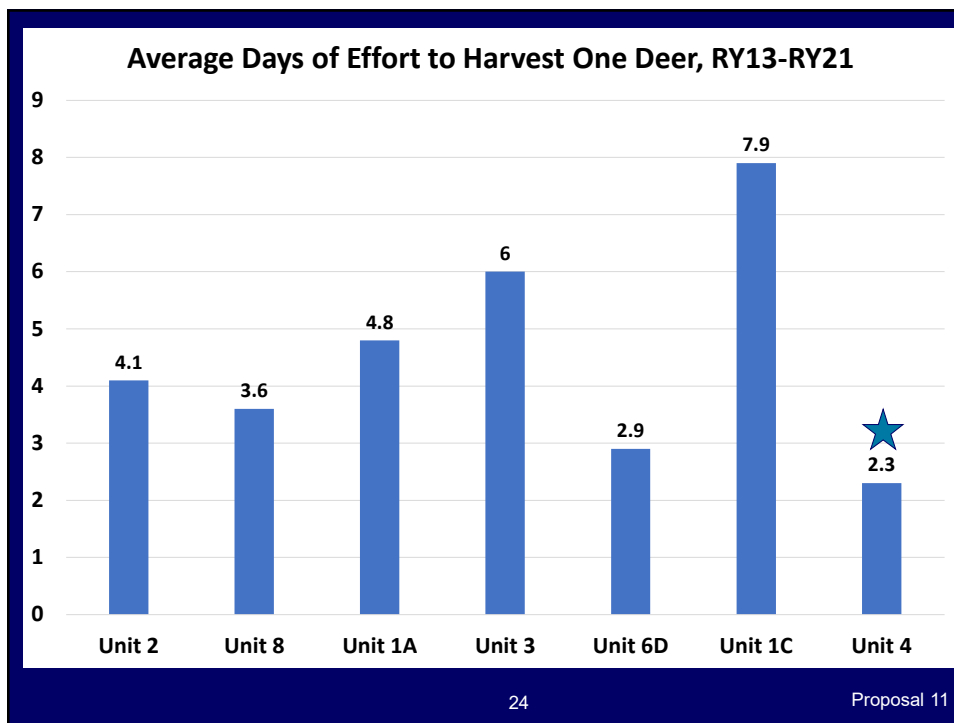
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Discussion

- Bag limit raised from 4 to 6 at 2019 BOG meeting.
- Prior to 2019 bag limit was 4 since before statehood.
- Federally qualified hunters:
 - 6 deer on federal lands
 - August 1 to January 31
- Juneau residents are most affected.

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RY2019-RY2021 New Bag Limit

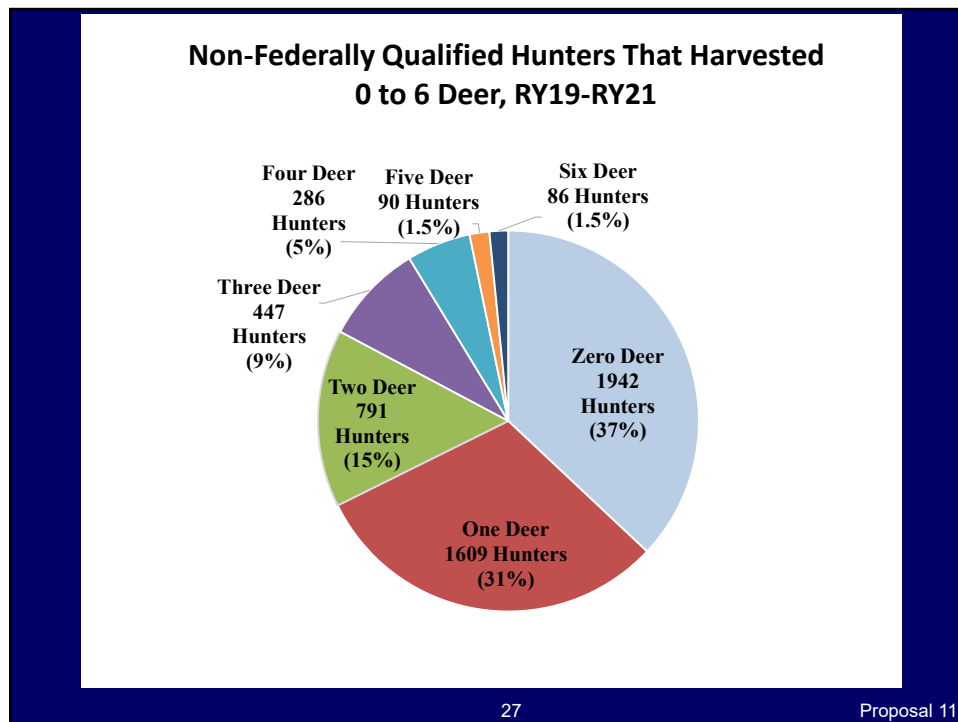
- Average 30 NFQs took 5 deer
- Average 29 NFQs took 6 deer
- Average ~88 additional deer/year
- 80% taken by Juneau hunters



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Discussion

- 97% of NFQ hunters took ≤ 4 deer
 - 4 deer bag limit is adequate for most hunters.
- 1.5% increase in total Unit 4 harvest
 - 6 deer bag limit provides a sustainable increased opportunity.



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Discussion

Proposal submitted specifically to re-establish a clearer priority for federally qualified hunters in an effort to avoid closures associated with current federal subsistence proposals.



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Federal Subsistence Proposals

WP22-07

Close deer hunting by NFQUs on west side of Admiralty Is. from Sept. 15 to Nov. 30.



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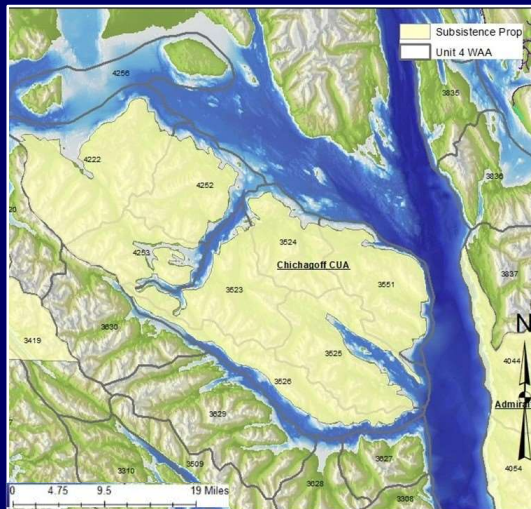
Proposal 11

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Federal Subsistence Proposals

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Reduce deer bag limit for NFQUs on NE Chichagof Controlled Use Area from 3 deer (east of Port Frederick) and 6 deer (west of Port Frederick) to Two bucks.



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Federal Subsistence Proposals

WP22-10

Reduce deer bag limit for NFQUs in the Lisianski Inlet area from 6 deer to 4 deer.



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Conclusion

- ADF&G strongly opposed to federal proposals.
- Unit 4 deer populations are high and stable.
- 4 deer bag limit is adequate for most NFQ hunters. However, 6 deer limit is sustainable and provides additional opportunity.

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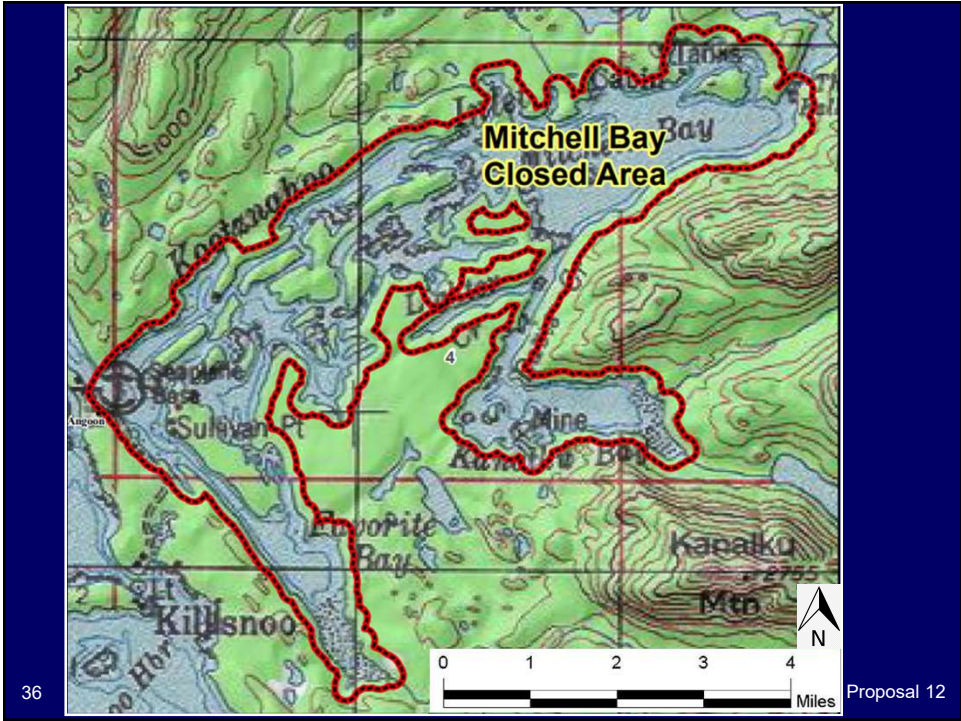
Proposal 11

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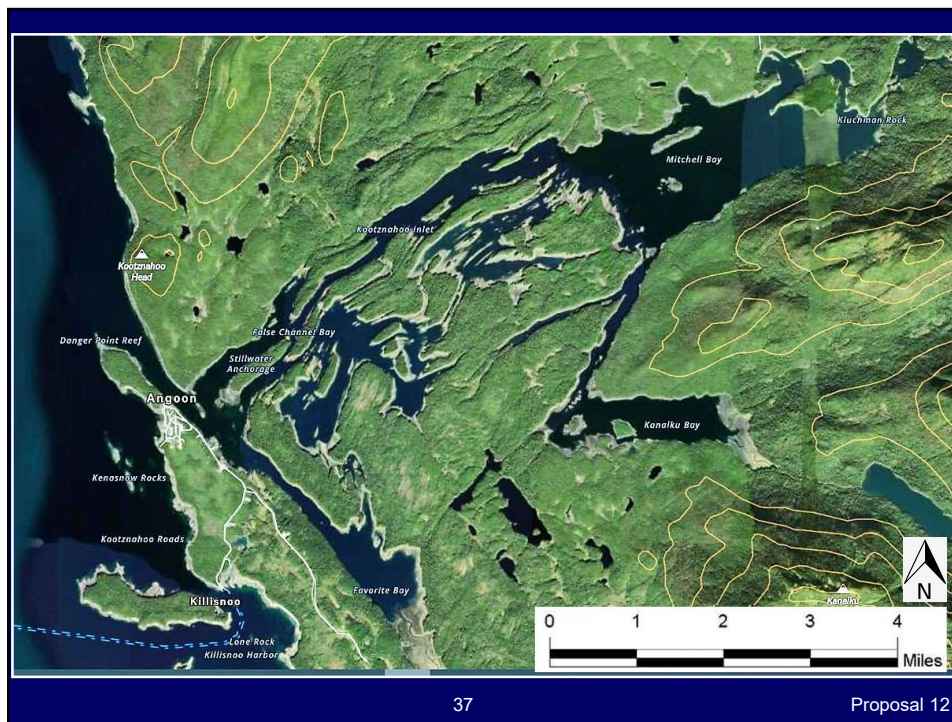
Proposal 12
Open the Mitchell Bay Closed Area to
Brown Bear Hunting in Unit 4
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation:
Neutral
AC Recommendation:

35 Proposal 12

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Discussion

- Admiralty Is. population estimate = 1560 bears
- Admiralty GHL = 62 Bears
RY12-RY21 average = 42 (86% Male)
- Kootznoowoo, Inc. is major landowner.
– Cooperative Land management zone
- Mitchel Bay CA created in 1991 for bear viewing/economic development.
- This area and the issues surrounding it are highly polarizing with significant history.

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Proposal 12

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Discussion

- 2004 BOG reviewed closed areas and voted to retain.
 - Reduce conflicts between hunters and locals
 - Provide safety for local users
 - Recognize cultural importance of bears to Angoon
- 2020 FS Best Management Practices Agreement between hunting guides and small cruise ship industry.
 - Reduce crowding and conflicts

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Proposal 12

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Brown Bear Predation

- Proposal suggests brown bear closure may limit the available deer to Angoon hunters.
- A 1989 study found deer remains in bear scats:
 - 10% of spring (fawns/scavenged) (n=81)
 - 14% of summer alpine (n=29)
 - 0% of summer low elevation (n=132)
 - 0% of fall (n=32)

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Proposal 12

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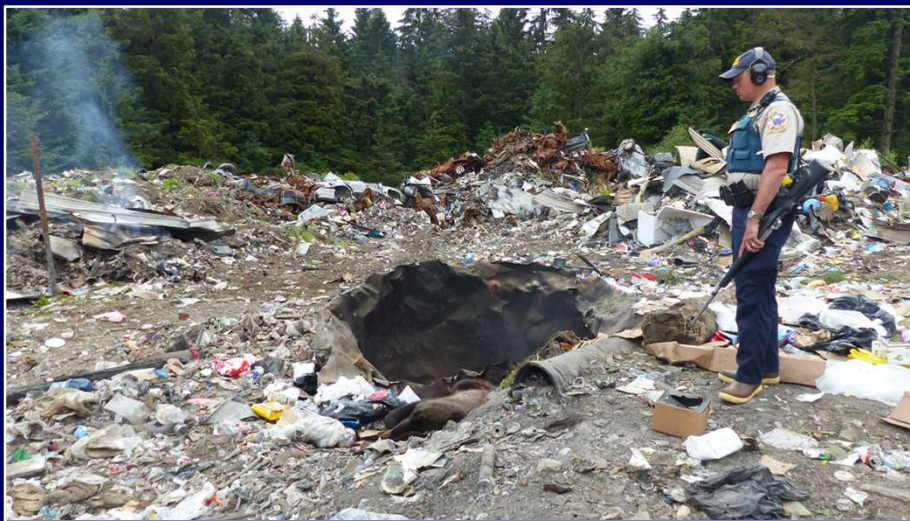
Brown Bear Predation

- ADF&G studies in 1990 (n=30) and 2015 (n=28) reported zero predation mortalities.
- Biologists/hunters/guides/others report deer and bears in close proximity exhibiting no apparent concern.



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Bear/Human Conflict



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Bear/Human Conflict

- Proposal suggests opening the area may result in fewer human/bear conflicts associated with the Angoon village dump.
- RY12-RY21, 6 DLP's in Angoon.
- Brown bear hunting is not a common use in the area by local hunters.



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Proposal 12

Open the Mitchell Bay Closed Area to
Brown Bear Hunting in Unit 4

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

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Proposal 12

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Proposal 13
 Change spring bear hunt boundaries
 &
 Raise GHL in part of Unit 4
 Public Proposal
 Department Recommendation:
Opposed
AC Recommendation:

45 Proposal 13

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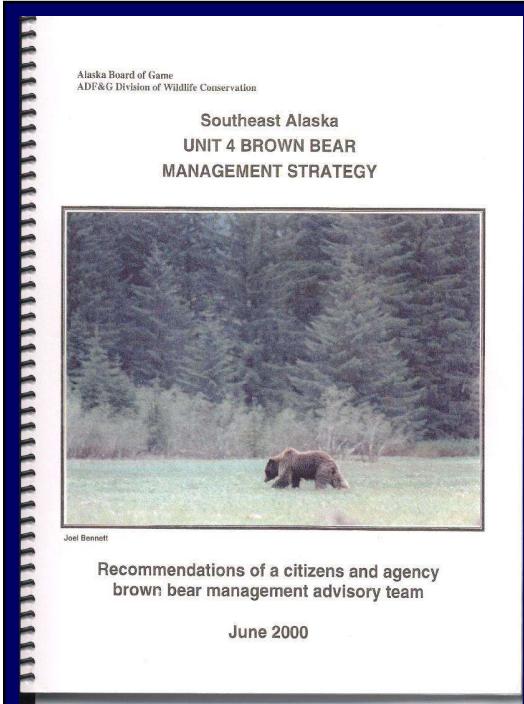
Two-Part Proposal

1. Change spring brown bear hunt boundaries to include NE Chichagof Island within RB/DB088.
2. Raise GHL from 4% to up to 15% in GUAs 04-11, 04-15 and 04-16.

46 Proposal 13

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BBMT & BBMS

- 15 individuals representing landowners, resource agencies, special interest groups, BOG, and other diverse entities.

- BOG request: develop comprehensive management recommendations for Unit 4 brown bears.

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BBMS - Goals

- Long-term conservation of GMU 4 brown bears and their habitats.

- Provide for a broad spectrum of public enjoyment and sustainable uses (hunting and nonhunting).

- Improve communication among the public and agencies involved in brown bear management.

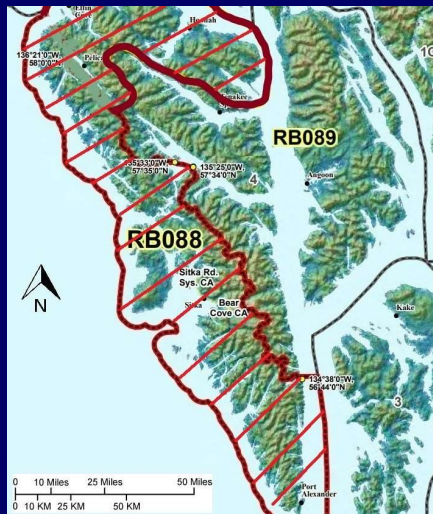
48 Proposal 13

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RB/DB088 March 15-May 31



Current



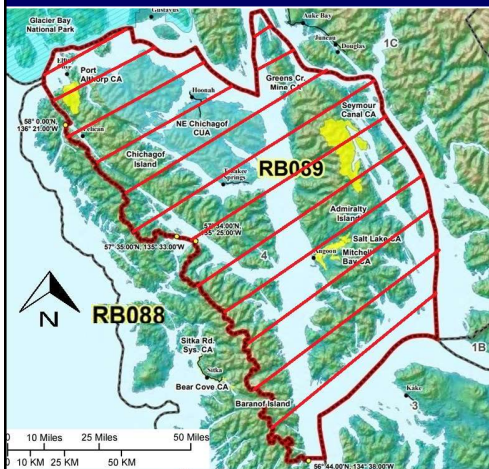
Proposed

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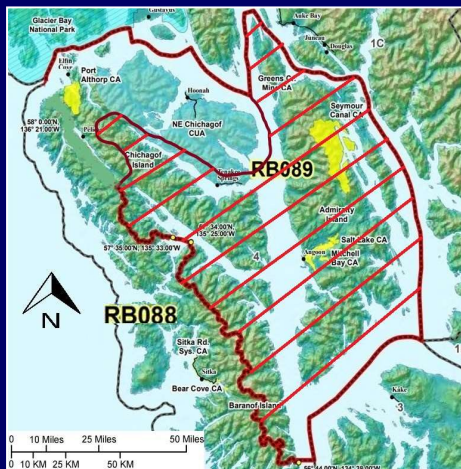
Proposal 13

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RB/DB089 March 15-May 20



Current



Proposed

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Proposal 13

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Discussion - Boundaries

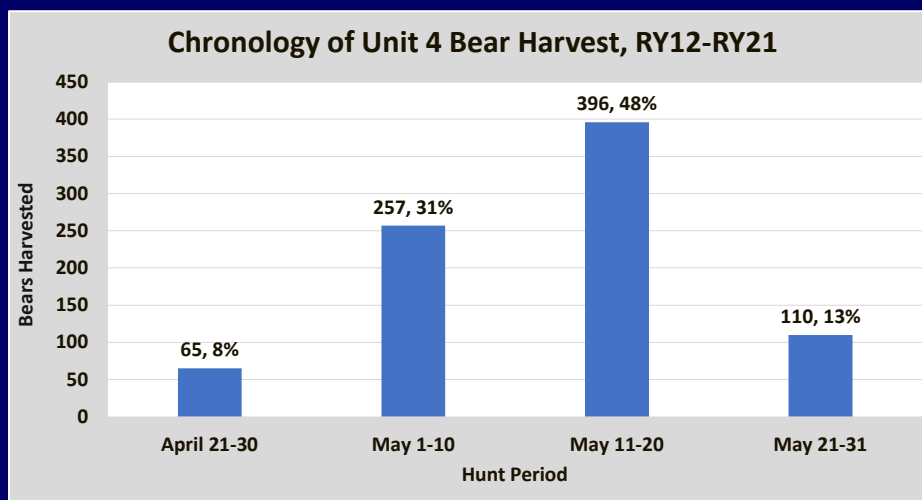
- 80% of spring harvest from “inside drainages”.
- 50% of GMU 4 spring harvest occurs May 11-20.
- Season would be extended by 11 days (May 21-31).
- “Outside drainages” are generally more difficult access with fewer anchorages.

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Proposal 13

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RB088/089 Combined Harvest



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Proposal 13

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Discussion - Boundaries

- Current boundaries have been in place for 42 years.
- Current regulations and BBMS guidelines have been successful.
- 2020 FS Best Management Practices Agreement between hunting guides and small cruise ship industry.

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Proposal 13

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Discussion – GHL

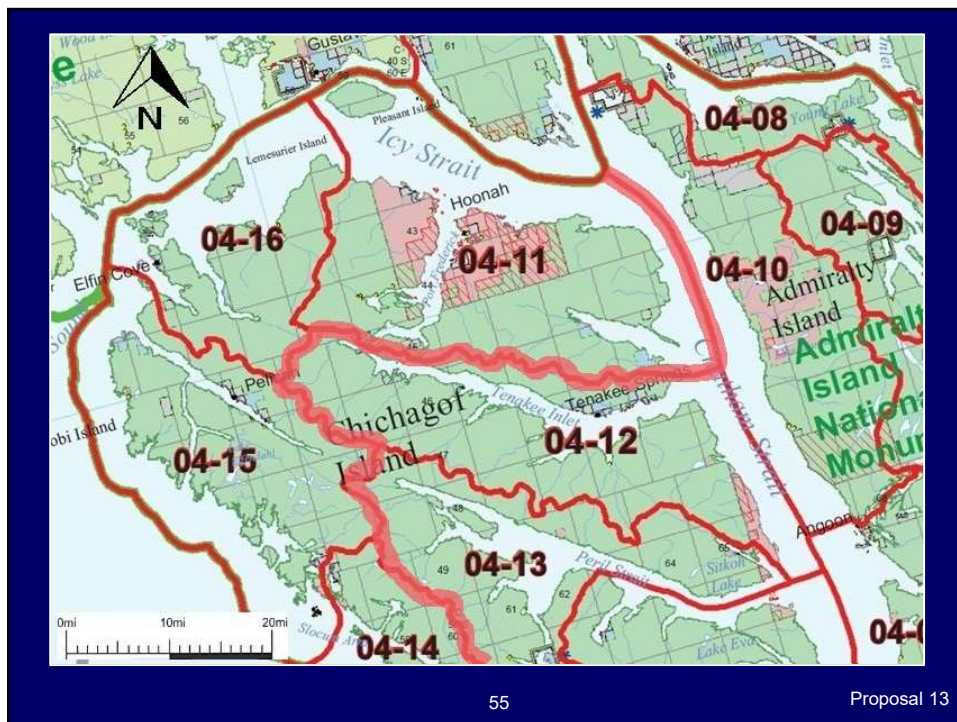
- BBMS sets GHL at 4%
- NE Chichagof GHL = 18 Bears
 - RY12-RY21 average = 12 (76% Male)
 - 40% non-hunting related
- Remainder of Chichagof GHL = 50 Bears
 - RY12-RY21 average = 37 (81% male)



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Proposal 13

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Proposal 13

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Discussion - GHL

- 15% GHL for NE Chichagof = 68 bears
- 15% GHL for Remainder Chich = 186 bears

Four island strategy does not align with GUAs, confounding management.

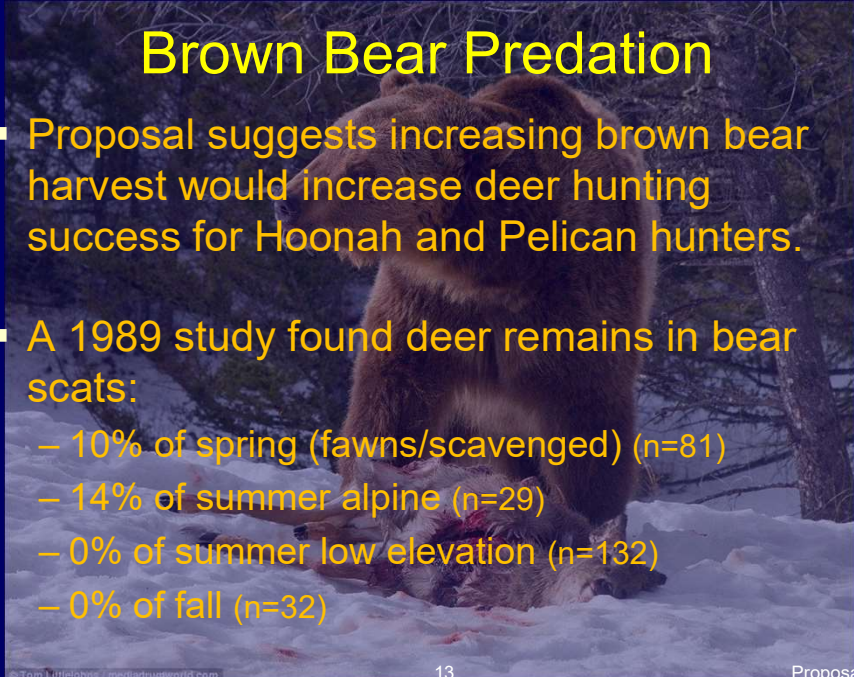
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Proposal 13

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Brown Bear Predation

- Proposal suggests increasing brown bear harvest would increase deer hunting success for Hoonah and Pelican hunters.
- A 1989 study found deer remains in bear scats:
 - 10% of spring (fawns/scavenged) (n=81)
 - 14% of summer alpine (n=29)
 - 0% of summer low elevation (n=132)
 - 0% of fall (n=32)




13

Proposal 13

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Brown Bear Predation

- ADF&G studies in 1990 (n=30) and 2015 (n=28) reported zero predation mortalities.
- Biologists/hunters/guides/others report deer and bears in close proximity exhibiting no apparent concern.



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Proposal 13

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Bear/Human Conflict

- Proposal suggests raising the GHL will help reduce human/bear conflict.
- Between RY12-RY21, 46 human-caused mortalities that are not hunting related.



Proposal 13

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Conclusions

- Current boundaries have been in place for 42 years.
- Brown bears are being successfully managed for both hunting and non-consumptive uses under current regulations.
- ADF&G has conservation concerns if proposal is adopted.
- User group conflicts may increase.
- Unlikely to address issues raised in the proposals.

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Proposal 13

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Proposal 13
Change spring brown bear hunt boundaries
&
Raise GHL in part of Unit 4
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation:
Opposed
AC Recommendation:

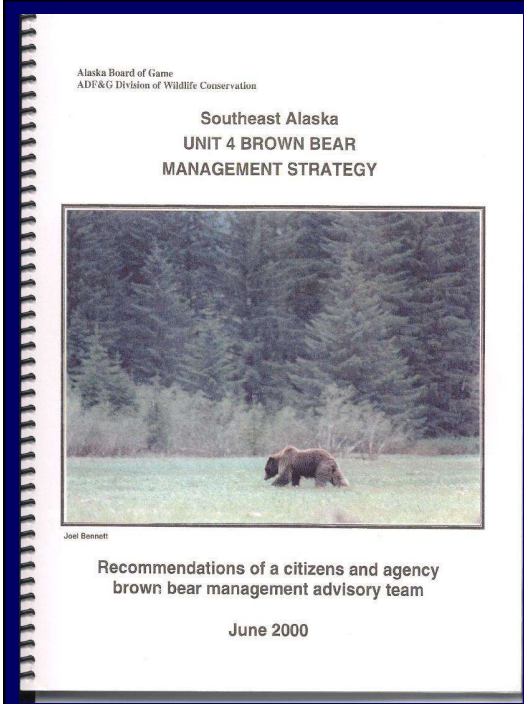
17 Proposal 13

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Proposal 14
Change spring brown bear hunt boundaries
to include all Lisianski Inlet drainages
within RB/DB088
Public Proposal
Department Recommendation:
Neutral
AC Recommendation:
Icy Straits AC:

62 Proposal 14

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BBMT & BBMS

- 15 individuals representing landowners, resource agencies, special interest groups, BOG, and other diverse entities.

- BOG request: develop comprehensive management recommendations for Unit 4 brown bears.

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Proposal 14

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BBMS - Goals

- Long-term conservation of GMU 4 brown bears and their habitats.

- Provide for a broad spectrum of public enjoyment and sustainable uses (hunting and nonhunting).

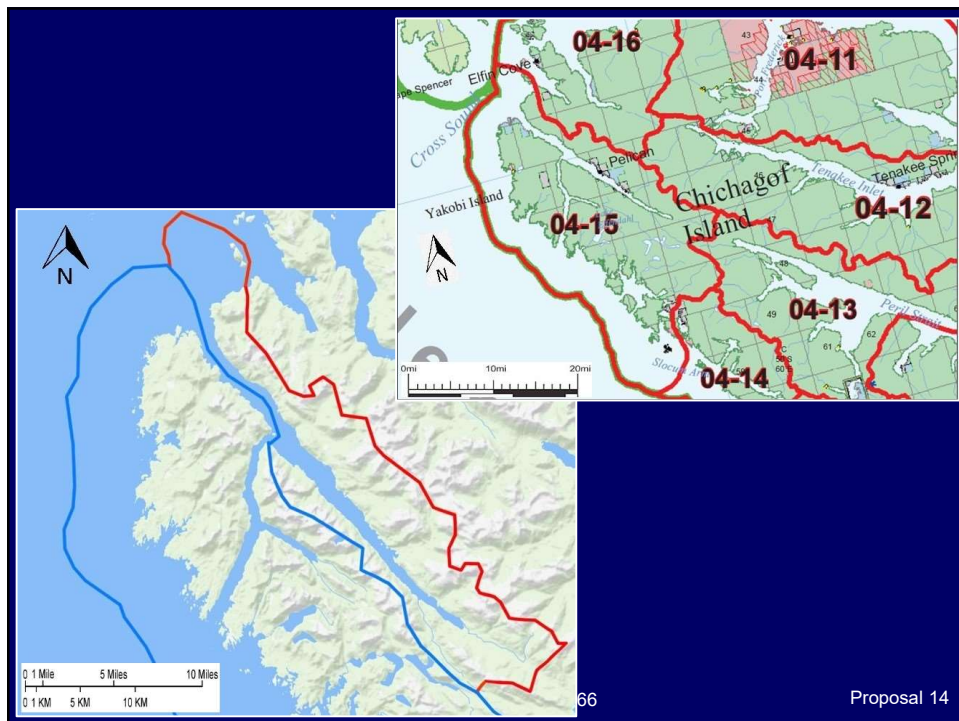
- Improve communication among the public and agencies involved in brown bear management.

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Proposal 14

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Discussion

- Remainder of Chichagof GHL = 50 Bears
 – RY12-RY21 average = 37 (81% male)
- Proposal's intent is to align GUA boundary with hunt boundary.

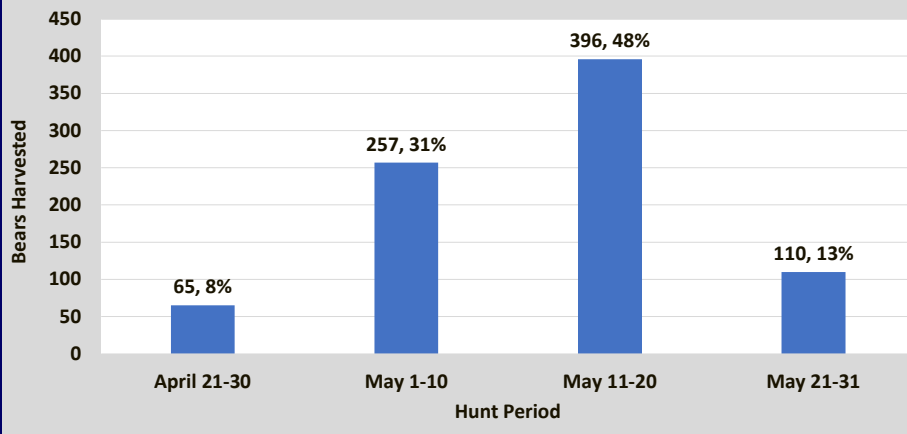


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Proposal 14

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Chronology of Unit 4 Bear Harvest, RY12-RY21



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Proposal 11

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Discussion

- 80% of spring harvest from “inside drainages”.
- 50% of GMU 4 spring harvest May 11-20.
- Season would be extended by 11 days (May 21-31).
- 2020 FS Best Management Practices Agreement between hunting guides and small cruise ship industry.

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Proposal 14

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Conclusion

- Current boundaries/dates have been in place for 42 years.
- Current regulations have been successful.
- Likely increased harvest in localized area but biological concerns are not anticipated.
- Potential user group conflicts.



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Proposal 14

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Proposal 14

Change spring brown bear hunt boundaries
to include all Lisianski Inlet drainages
within RB/DB088

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation:

Neutral

AC Recommendation:

Icy Straits AC:

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Proposal 14

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