

# Proposal 19

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Extend RB089 season to May 31 for residents only

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
Neutral



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## Customary and Traditional Use Finding

Unit 4 Brown Bear = Positive  
ANS = 5 - 10

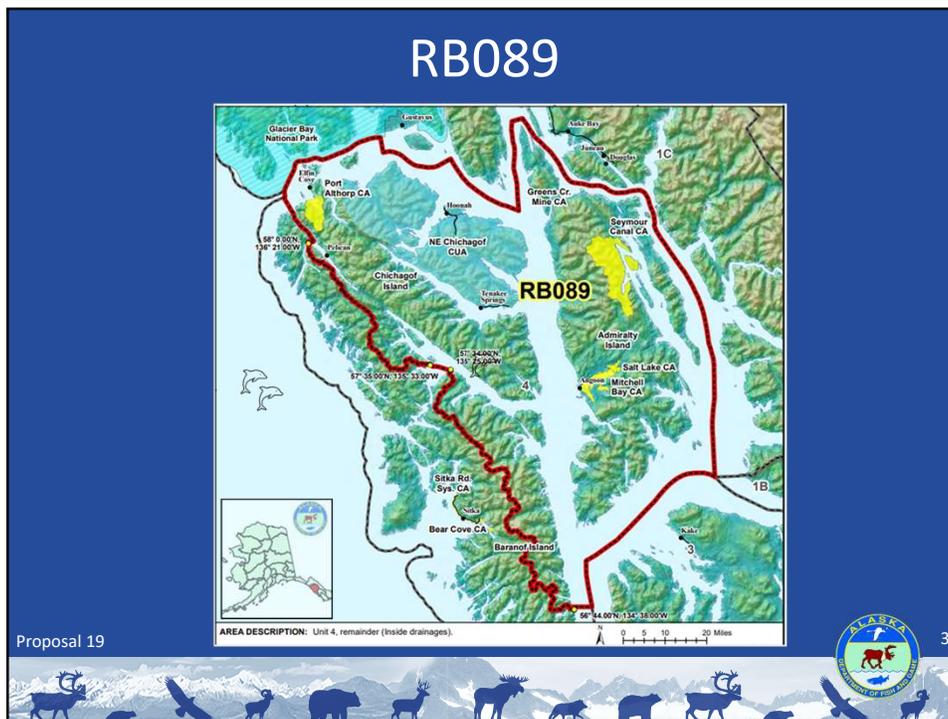
Proposal 19



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## Background – Season Dates

- 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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## Background

- 80%/20% split NR to Resident for RB089
- RY15-RY24: NR=67, Res=17
- 2020 spring closure resulted in 55% increase in resident harvest



Proposal 19



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## Background - GHL

- BBMS sets GHL at 4% (1.5% female)

Island	BBMS Guideline Harvest Level		RY2015 – RY2024 Average	
	Total Bears	Female	Total Bears	Female
Admiralty	62	23	44	6
Baranof	42	16	37	11
NE Chichagof	18	7	13	3
Chichagof	50	19	36	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>25</b>

Proposal 19



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## Conclusion

- Current dates have been in place for 45 years.
- Brown bears are being successfully managed for both hunting and non-consumptive uses under current regulations.
- Harvests currently below GHGs.



Proposal 19



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## Proposal 19

### Effect of Proposal:

Extend RB089 season to May 31 for residents only

*Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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# Proposal 20

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Change spring brown bear hunt boundaries to include all Lisianski Inlet drainages within RB/DB088

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
Neutral



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## Customary and Traditional Use Finding

Unit 4 Brown Bear = Positive  
ANS = 5 - 10

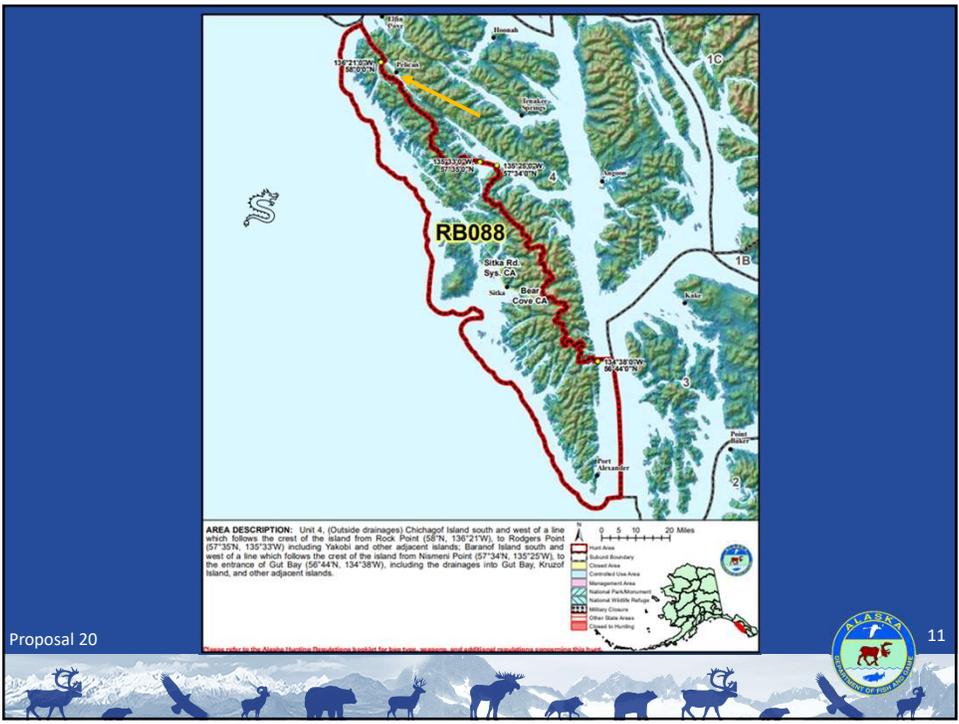
Proposal 20



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Proposal 20



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## Background

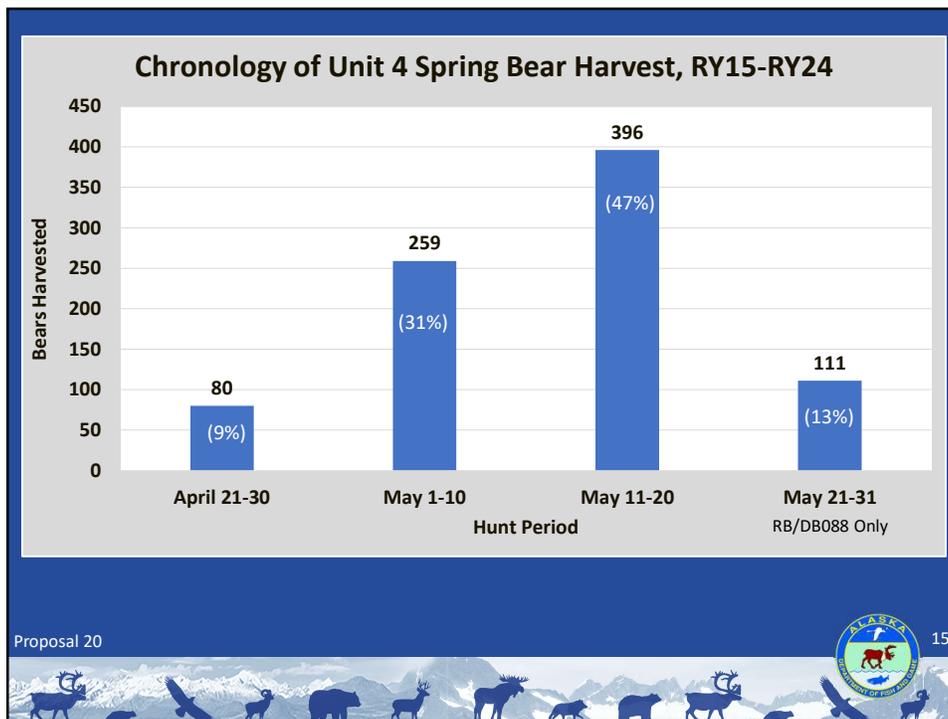
- Remainder of Chichagof GHL = 50 bears
  - RY15 – RY24 average = 35 (86% male)
- Intent is to align hunt boundary with GUA boundary.

Proposal 20



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- 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.
- Proposal 20
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- 16
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## Conclusion

- Current boundaries/dates have been in place for 45 years.
- Current regulations have been successful.
- Likely increased harvest in localized area but biological concerns are not anticipated.
- Potential user group conflicts.
- Similar proposal rejected in 2023.



Proposal 20



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## Proposal 20

### Effect of Proposal:

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

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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# Proposal 21

## Effect of Proposal:

Change spring bear hunt boundaries to include NE Chichagof Island within RB/DB088

## *Public Proposal*

## Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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# Customary and Traditional Use Finding

Unit 4 Brown Bear = Positive

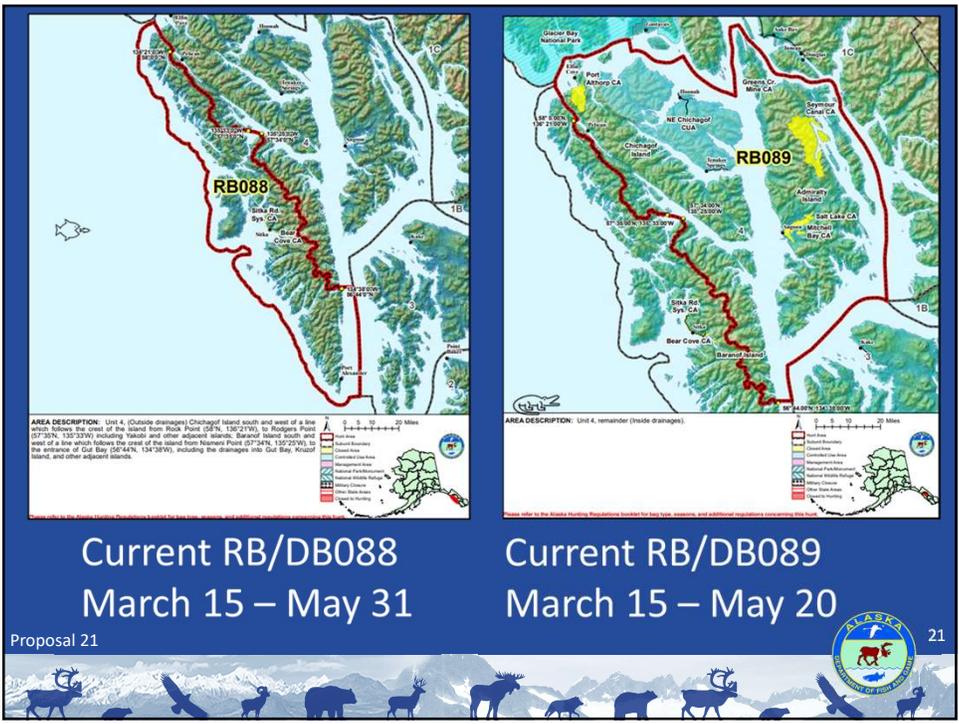
ANS = 5 - 10

Proposal 21



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Proposal 2

## Background

- 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 to access with fewer anchorages

Proposal 21



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## Background - GHL

- BBMS sets GHL at 4%
- NE Chichagof GHL = 18 Bears
  - RY15-RY24 average = 13 (77% Male)
  - 44% non-hunting related
- Remainder of Chichagof GHL = 50 Bears
  - RY15-RY24 average = 35 (86% male)

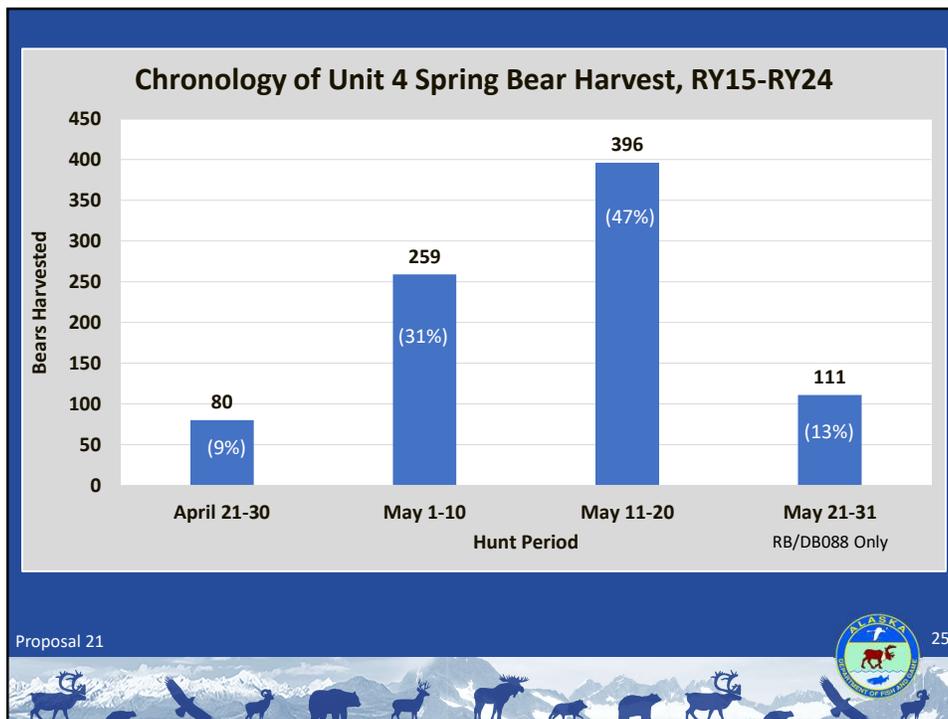


Proposal 21



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## Conclusion

- Current boundaries have been in place for 45 years
- Current regulations and BBMS guidelines have been successful
- User group conflicts may increase
  - 2020 FS BMP between guides and small cruise industry
- Harvests currently below GHs
- Similar proposal rejected in 2023

Proposal 21



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## Proposal 21

### Effect of Proposal:

Change spring bear hunt boundaries to include NE Chichagof Island within RB/DB088

*Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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## Proposal 22

### Effect of Proposal:

Change fall brown bear hunt start date from Sept.15 to Sept. 1

*Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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# Customary and Traditional Use Finding

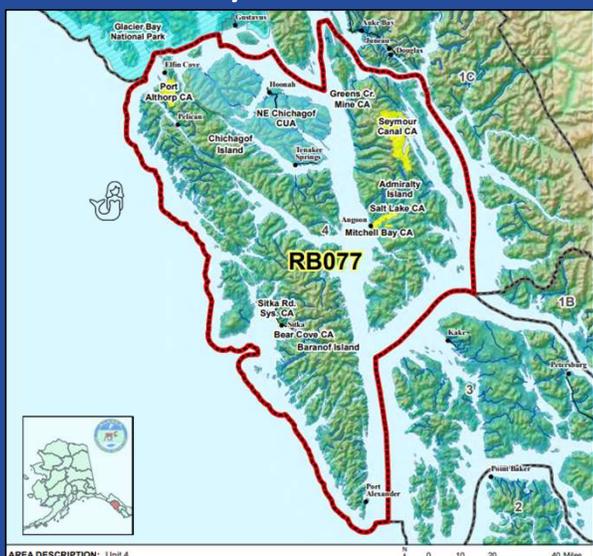
Unit 4 Brown Bear = Positive  
ANS = 5 - 10

Proposal 22



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## RB/DB077



Proposal 22



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## Background

- Add additional 14 days to start of season
- Fall = 30% annual harvest, ~ 30 bears
  - Approximately 10 females
- Salmon runs still strong



Proposal 22



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## Unit 4 Brown Bear Harvest

Island	BBMS Guideline Harvest Level		RY2015 – RY2024 Average	
	Total Bears	Female	Total Bears	Female
Admiralty	62	23	44	6
Baranof	42	16	37	11
NE Chichagof	18	7	13	3
Chichagof	50	19	36	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>25</b>



Proposal 22



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## Conclusion

- Current dates have been in place for 45 years.
- Brown bears are being successfully managed for both hunting and non-consumptive uses under current regulations.
- 2020 FS Best Management Practices Agreement between hunting guides and small cruise ship industry.
- Harvests currently below GHGs.

Proposal 22



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## Proposal 22

### Effect of Proposal:

Change fall brown bear hunt start date from Sept.15 to Sept. 1

*Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral



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# Proposal 23

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Increase nonresident deer bag limit for Unit 4, Remainder from two bucks to four deer

*Department Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
Support



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## Customary and Traditional Use Finding

Unit 4 Deer = Positive  
ANS = 5,200 – 6,000

Proposal 23



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<p><b>GMU 4 Northeast Chichagof</b></p>	<p><b>Season:</b> Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident &amp; NR)</p> <p><b>Bag Limit:</b> Residents 3 deer NR: 2 bucks (bucks only to Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)</p>
<p><b>GMU 4 Remainder</b></p>	<p><b>Season:</b> Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident &amp; NR)</p> <p><b>Bag Limit:</b> Residents: 6 deer NR: 2 bucks (bucks only to Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)</p>

Unit 4, remainder:

Proposal 23

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## Background

- Prior to 2019 bag limit was 4 deer since before statehood.
- Bag limit raised from 4 deer to 6 deer at 2019 BOG meeting.
- Jan. 2023 BOG reduced NR bag limit from 6 deer to 2 bucks.

Proposal 23

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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.



Proposal 23



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## Federal Proposals

WP22-07

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

Currently closed to NFQUs Nov. 1 – 10

Also, Hoonah Area and Pelican Area



Proposal 23



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# Trail Camera Results



- N. Baranof/S. Chichagof = 3x rest of Region

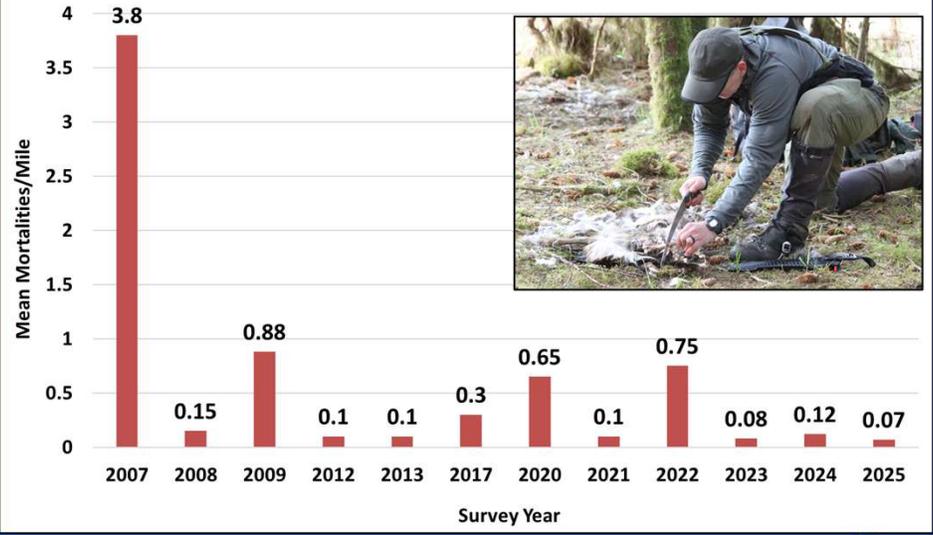
Proposal 23



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## Unit 4 Deer Mortality Surveys



Proposal 23



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## Other Surveys

- Buck and Fawn:Doe = 40+:100
- Body Condition Index
- S. Admiralty Aerial = 337/hr.



Proposal 23

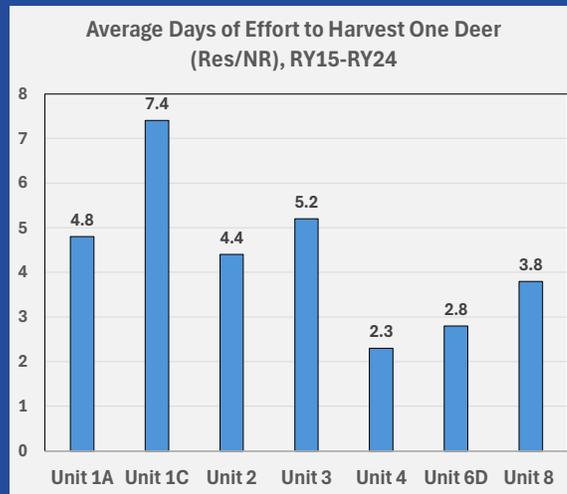


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## Statewide NR Deer Bag Limits

- Unit 1A: 4 Bucks
- Unit 1C: 4 Deer
- Unit 2: 4 Bucks
- Unit 3: 2 Bucks
- Unit 4: 2 Bucks
- Unit 6D: 4 Deer
- Unit 8: 1 Buck



Proposal 23



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## RY2013 – RY2022 NR Harvest

- Annual Avg: 209 (6.2%) hunters harvest 150 (2.7%) deer
- ~ three NR hunters took 3 deer
- ~ one NR hunter took 4 deer



Proposal 23



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## Conclusion

- Unit 4 deer populations are high and stable.
- 2023 NR bag limit reduction not based on biological or conservation concerns.
- Few NR hunters take >2 deer.
- ADF&G supports offering sustainable opportunity when available.
- “You can’t stockpile deer.” – Ted Spraker, (Former BOG Chairman)

Proposal 23



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## Proposal 23

### Effect of Proposal:

Increase nonresident deer bag limit for Unit 4, Remainder from two bucks to four deer

### *Department Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Support



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## Proposal 24

### Effect of Proposal:

Modify the boundary of the Unit 4 Chichagof Island deer hunt

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Support



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# Customary and Traditional Use Finding

Unit 4 Deer = Positive  
ANS = 5,200 – 6,000

Proposal 24



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<p><b>GMU 4 Remainder</b></p>	<p><b>Season:</b> Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident &amp; NR)</p> <p><b>Bag Limit:</b> Residents: 6 deer NR: 2 bucks (bucks only to Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)</p>
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**Unit 4, Remainder Deer - General Season**  
*Residents and Nonresidents - Harvest Ticket Required*

This map is intended for general planning use, and for determining legal property or regulatory boundaries. Content is compiled from various sources and is subject to change without notice. Use is subject to the Alaska Hunting Regulations booklet for bag limit, seasons, and additional regulations for hunting.



**AREA DESCRIPTION:** Unit 4, remainder.

- Boundary
- Subunit Boundary
- Ownership
- Conservation Use Area
- Management Zone
- State Wildlife Refuge
- National Wildlife Refuge
- Wildlife Refuge
- Other State Game
- Original Boundary

Proposal 24



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### Unit 4, Chichagof Island Deer - General Hunt

*Residents and Nonresidents - Harvest Ticket Required*

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** Unit 4, Chichagof Island east of Port Frederick and north of Tenakee Inlet including Tenakee Inlet drainages.

Please refer to the Alaska Hunting Regulations booklet for bag limits, seasons, and additional regulations concerning this hunt.

<b>GMU 4 Northeast Chichagof</b>	<b>Season:</b> Aug 1 – Dec 31 (Resident & NR)
<b>Bag Limit:</b> Residents 3 deer NR: 2 bucks (bucks only to Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup> )	

Proposal 24

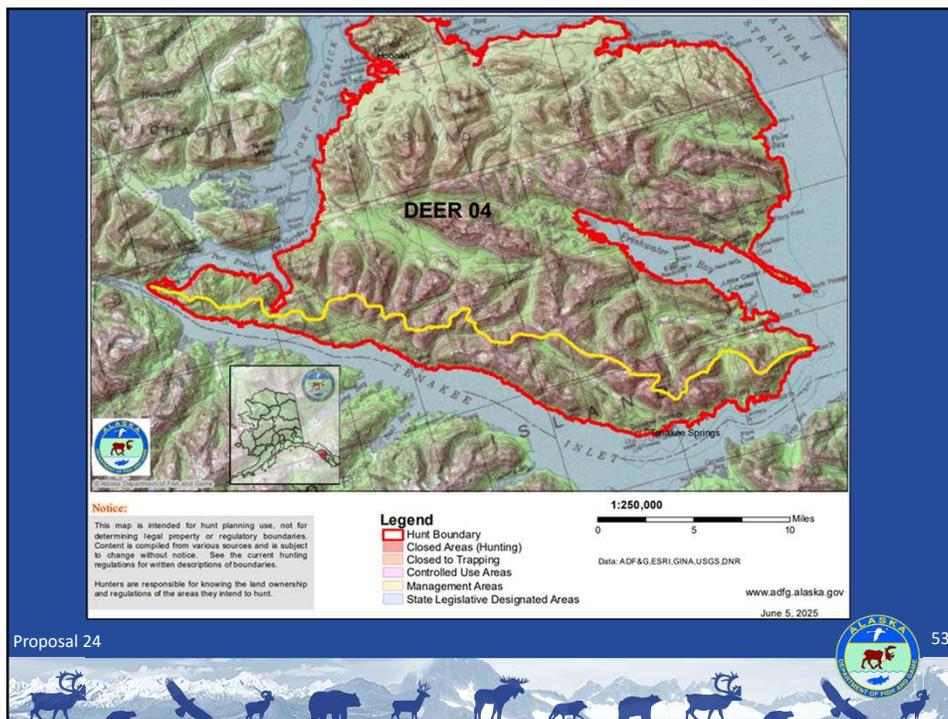
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## Background

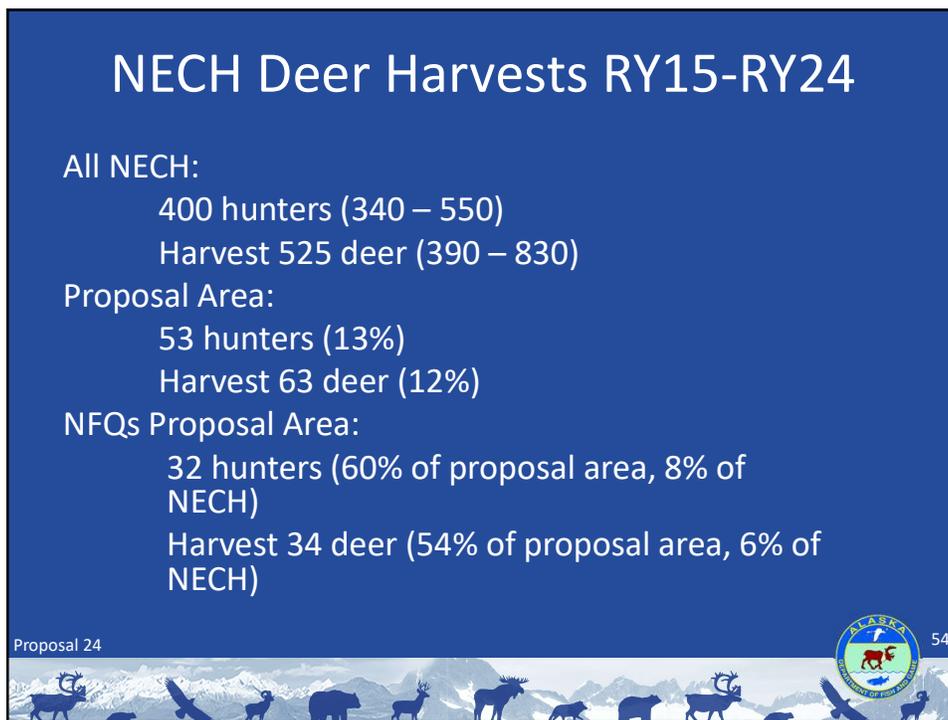
- Began in RY1988
- Higher than average snowfall for Unit 4
- Heavily logged landscape
- Extensive road system
- Marine Highway System access
- Proposal area not connected to this road system.

Proposal 24

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## Background

- Juneau residents most likely to benefit.
- Federally qualified subsistence hunters already have 6 deer bag limit.



Proposal 24



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## Conclusion

- Unit 4 deer populations are high and stable.
- Reasons for conservative bag limit do not apply to proposal area.
- Few NFQ hunters take >2 deer.
- ADF&G supports offering sustainable opportunity when available.



Proposal 24



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## Proposal 24

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Modify the boundary of the Unit 4 Chichagof Island deer hunt

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
Support



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## Proposal 25

**Effect of Proposal:**  
Clarify the boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area

*Department Proposal*

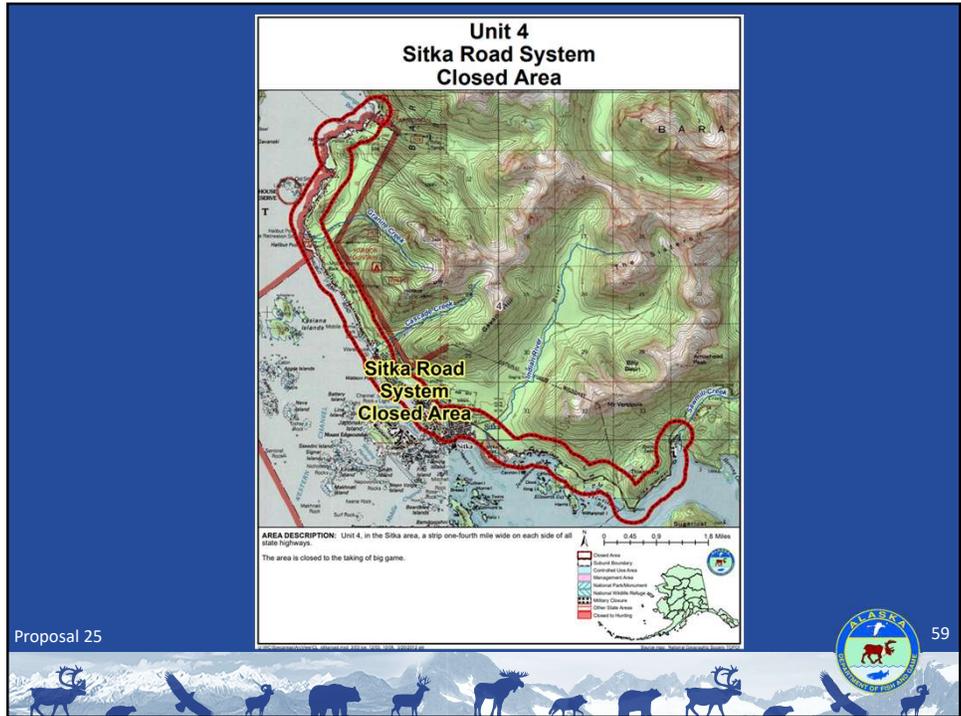
**Department Recommendation:**  
Support



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## Background

- Clarifying language as follows:
- (A) in the Sitka area, a strip one-fourth mile wide on each side of all state highways between the east side of the Sawmill Creek bridge and the Katlian Bay Road gate is closed to the taking of big game.

Proposal 25



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# Discussion

- No actual change to Sitka closed area
  - Clarify northern end (new Katlian Bay Road)
  - Clarify southern end (ambiguity)
- Clarification will match safety intent

Proposal 25



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# South End



Proposal 25



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# South End Sawmill Creek Road



Proposal 25



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# Green Lake Road



Herring Cove always open gate  
End State maintenance

Green Lake gate  
End public vehicle access

Proposal 25



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# North End



Proposal 25



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# North End Halibut Point Road



Proposal 25



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# Proposal 25

**Effect of Proposal:**

Clarify the boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area

*Department Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**

Support

