

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM | 2025-2026 MEETING CYCLE

Proposals must be received by Thursday, May 1, 2025

Upload completed forms online at: <https://boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov> or

Mail to: Alaska Board of Game, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526

or fax to: (907) 465-6094

BOARD OF GAME REGULATIONS

Game Management Unit (GMU) 20A&B

Hunting **Subsistence** Trapping Other : _____

Does the proposed change affect residents or nonresidents?

Residents **Nonresidents**

Which meeting would you like to submit your proposal to?

Western Arctic / Western Region (GMUs 18, 22, 23, and 26A) **Interior and Eastern Arctic Region (GMUs 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C).**

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. All answers will be printed in the proposal book along with the proposer's name (address and phone numbers will not be published). Use separate forms for each proposal. Address only one issue per proposal. State the issue clearly and concisely. The board will reject multiple or confusing items.

1. Alaska Administrative Code No. 5 AAC: 85.020 (18)

Regulation Book Page No.: 107

2. What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

The current grizzly bear hunting season in Units 20A and 20B (remainder) closes on June 15, while legal bear baiting stations remain active and permitted through June 30. This 15-day gap unnecessarily limits hunting opportunity during the late-spring period when bears are active at baits.

Grizzly bear populations in these units are healthy and stable. ADF&G has recently liberalized seasons in this area (most recently extending the close from May 31 to June 15) with no conservation concerns. Harvest levels remain low and well within sustainable limits: for example, recent data show only ~31 brown bears harvested annually across the large combined area of Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, and 25C (55% males), and historical harvests in 20A/20B alone have averaged 10–18 bears per year. Interior Alaska brown bear densities are low to moderate (10–25 bears per 1,000 mi² in similar habitat), and sustainable harvest rates are 5–6% of the population—current take is far below that threshold.

If nothing changes, hunters lose the final two weeks of baiting opportunity each year, reducing both recreational and subsistence harvest potential with zero biological benefit. Other solutions considered (e.g., no change or a full year-round season) were rejected because this targeted 15-day extension perfectly aligns hunting with existing baiting rules while maintaining the conservative one-bear bag limit and fall/spring structure.

3. What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say? (Please provide draft regulatory language, if possible.)

B/20A,20B remainder/ One bear every regulatory year/ Sept 1-June 30

4. Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee? Please explain. Yes, I brought this to the Fairbanks AC and they supported this proposal.

Submitted By:

Individual's Name and Name of Organization if applicable

Address

City, State

ZIP Code

Home Phone

Work Phone

Email