

**PROPOSAL 34**

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

Increase the brown bear bag limit in that portion of Unit 1C of the Chilkat Peninsula mainland north of Point Couverden and south of Sullivan Island for resident hunters, from one bear every four regulatory years to one bear every regulatory year as follows:

Unit 1C Chilkat Peninsula mainland north of Point Couverden and south of Sullivan Island:

Residents Only – one brown bear every year by registration permit.

RB XXX Sept 15 – Dec 31

RB XXX Mar 15 – May 31

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Berner’s Bay area of Unit 1C is one brown bear every regulatory year for residents by registration permit but the remainder of Unit 1C including the Chilkat Peninsula is one bear every four years for residents.

There has been an increase of brown bears on the mainland area of the Chilkat Peninsula in Unit 1C, with increased deer predation that has also led to black bears moving into the more upland areas away from the coast, making black bear harvests more difficult. Brown bears are abundant on the mainland Chilkat Peninsula area of Unit 1C and we see no need to manage this area differently than the Berner’s Bay area of Unit 1C, and no need to manage that area according to Unit 4 brown bear management plans.

The Department of Fish and Game can monitor an increase in brown bear harvests should this proposal pass, and if any conservation concerns come to light there are avenues to decrease harvests via a harvest quota and reporting requirements.

**PROPOSED BY:** Resident Hunters of Alaska

(HQ-F22-020)

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