

## Proposal 1

### Require Hunter Education in Unit 1-5

Juneau-Douglas AC Proposal

Department Recommendation:

**Neutral**

#### AC Recommendation:

Juneau-Douglas: Support w/ amendment 14-1-1

Sitka: Opposed 0-17

East POW: Support 14-0

Pelican AC: Support 6-0

Craig: Opposed 0-7

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Proposal 1

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## Discussion

- Proposal would require hunter education certification to hunt in Units 1-5 for hunters born after Jan. 1, 2010.
- Proposal would require hunter education to hunt in Units 1-5 for hunters under 18 years old.
- Hunters under 18 must either hunt
  - under direct supervision of someone 18 years of age or older who has hunter education certification, or
  - with someone born on or before January 1, 2010

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Proposal 1

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## Discussion

- Hunter Education requirements adopted by BOG in 1997 (implemented 2002) for GMUs 7, 13, 14, 15, 20.
- Several specific hunts, i.e., Mendenhall Wetlands SGR.
- Current requirements for road accessible areas closest to largest urban areas.

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Proposal 1

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## Discussion

- ADF&G supports hunter ed. Things to consider include:
  - Lack of road system in SE Alaska
  - Travel weather dependent
  - Lack volunteers to teach
  - Expense of sending staff and volunteers annually to every small community

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Proposal 1

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## 2017 Cost Analysis

Description	Cost
Southeast (2 F&W Tech II for 6 months each)	\$36,000
Current staff (OT to conduct new volunteer instructor trainings, coordinate current and additional courses, additional administrative needs)	\$20,000
Travel for staff and volunteers to conduct classes and new instructor trainings	\$50,000
Additional hunter ed training kits (.22 rifles, non-functional firearms, field course props)	\$50,000
Computers for all new staff	\$15,000
Additional printed materials	\$25,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$196,000</b>

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Proposal 1

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## Recommendations if adopted

- Postpone Implementation
  - Develop plan and budget
  - Hire additional staff
  - Recruit additional volunteers
- Change the date requirement to January 1, 1986 to match current regulations.
- Match language of this proposal to the language of current regulations.

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Proposal 1

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**Proposal 1**  
**Require Hunter Education in Unit 1-5**

Juneau-Douglas AC Proposal  
**Department Recommendation:**  
**Neutral**

**AC Recommendation:**  
 Juneau-Douglas: Support w/ amendment 14-1-1  
 Sitka: Opposed 0-17  
 East POW: Support 14-0  
 Pelican AC: Support 6-0  
 Craig: Opposed 0-7

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Proposal 1

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**Proposal 2**


**Effect of Proposal:**  
 Require all Southeast mountain goat hunters review goat information and take a quiz to determine billies from nannies.

*Public Proposal*

**Department Recommendation:**  
 Neutral

**AC Recommendations:**  
 Sitka AC – Opposed (0:17)  
 Upper Lynn Canal AC – Support (9:0)  
 Ketchikan AC – Opposed – (2:7:0)

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Proposal 2

# Background

- Nanny harvest greatly impacts mountain goat populations.
- Nannies mature to have a kid at 4 years old.
- Many nannies do not have a kid every year.
- Native populations rarely have twins.
- Nanny that lives 11-12 years, may produce 1-4 female young.
- Mountain goats have small home range.



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Proposal 2

## BENEFITS OF HUNTER SELECTION

	Hunter Selects Billy	Hunter Selects Nanny	Hunter Selects Nanny with Kid
YEAR 1	5	5	5
YEAR 2	6	5	4
YEAR 3	8	6	5
YEAR 4	11	8	6
YEAR 5	14	10	7



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Proposal 2

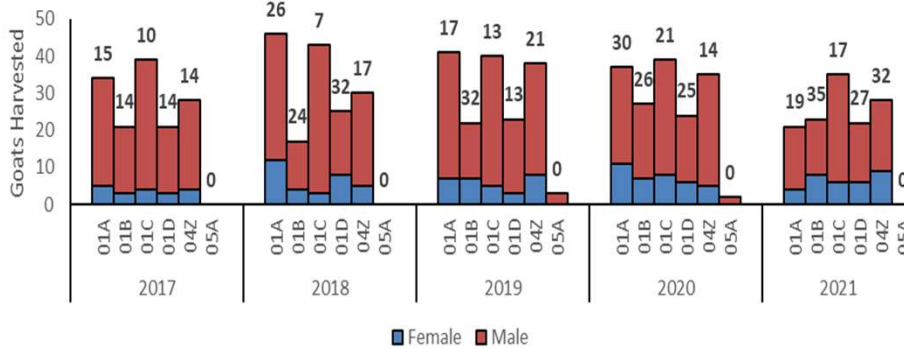
- GMU 1D has used a mountain goat quiz since 2016.
- 46% nanny harvest year after quiz initiated.
- Since then, nanny harvest ranged 13-32%.
- Penalties for nanny harvest seem to have a greater impact.
  - 13% average nanny harvest on Baranof after penalties.



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Proposal 2



Nanny harvest has varied from 7-35% across Region I over the last 5 years.



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## Proposal 2

### Effect of Proposal:

Require all Southeast mountain goat hunters review goat information and take a quiz to determine billies from nannies.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Sitka AC – Opposed (0:17)

Upper Lynn Canal AC – Support (9:0)

Ketchikan AC – Opposed – (2:7:0)



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## Proposal 3

### Effect of Proposal:

Eliminate the sealing requirement of black bear skulls in Game Management Units 1 – 4.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Opposed

### AC Recommendations:

Upper Lynn Canal AC – Opposed (0:9)

Ketchikan AC – Opposed (0:9:0)

East POW AC – Opposed (0:14:0)



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Proposal 3

## Background

- Black bear hides and skulls have been sealed in Southeast since the early 1970s.
- Sealing fills tagging requirement for shipping animal parts out-of-state for CITES.
- Information collected from the skull when sealing: skull size (length + width), tooth for aging, and tissue sample.
- Skull size is used in management across Southeast.



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Proposal 3

## Region 1 Skull Size Objectives

GMU	Management Strategy*
Unit 1A	Maintain an average male spring skull size of at least 17.5 inches.
Unit 1B	Maintain an average male spring skull size of at least 17.5 inches.
Unit 1C	Maintain an average male spring skull size of at least 17.5 inches.
Unit 1D	Maintain an average male spring skull size of at least 17.0 inches.
Unit 2	Maintain an average skull size of at least 19.1 inches for male bears harvested each spring (January–June) or 18.0 inches for all males taken during a regulatory year.
Unit 3	Maintain an average spring skull size and an average annual male skull size of at least 18.5 inches.
Unit 4	Does not have black bears.
Unit 5	Not included in proposal.

\*Skull size is length + width.



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Proposal 3

## Pros and Cons

- Pro – Don't have to bring skull to sealer.
- Con – Still must check hide or meat to determine sex of the harvest.
- Con – Department loses ability to collect important data.
- Con – Department needs a large data set for meaningful results.
- Con – Sealing requirements are tied to salvage requirements.



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## Proposal 3

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### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Opposed

### AC Recommendations:

Upper Lynn Canal AC – Opposed (0:9)

Ketchikan AC – Opposed (0:9:0)



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## Proposal 4

### Effect of Proposal:

Allow for the harvest of a brown bear every 2 years instead of every 4 years in Unit 1 (except Berners Bay).

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Opposed

### AC Recommendations:

Juneau/Douglas AC - Amend and support (8:1:3)

Upper Lynn Canal AC – Opposed (0:9)

Ketchikan AC – Support (8:0)



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## Background

- 1 bear every 4 years has been in effect since 1968.
- Unit 1 has 6 registration brown bear hunts.
- Increase harvest frequency in 4 units.
  - No change to Berners Bay.

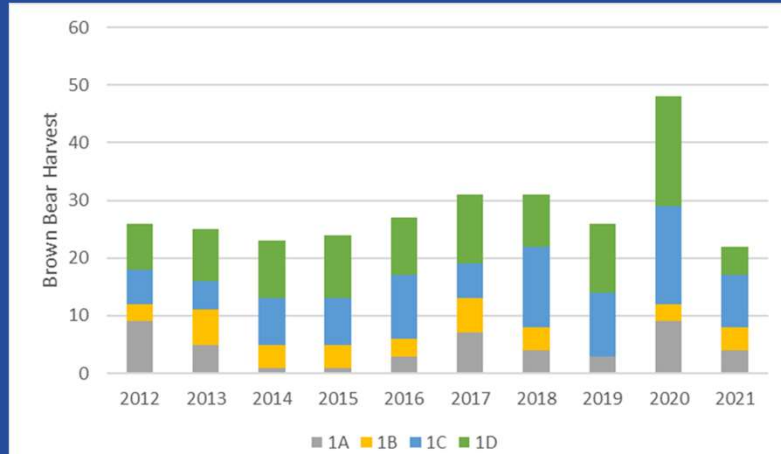


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Proposal 4

## Brown Bear Harvest in Unit 1



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- Conservation measures are being taken after 2020 to recover brown bear population in Unit 1D.
- Mainland brown bear density < island bear density.
- Brown bear populations are slow to grow.
- Populations do not have considerable immigration like interior bear populations.



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## Proposal 4

- Out of 575 hunters over 20 years (RY02–21):  
18 harvested 2 bears, 2 harvested 3.
- In-season management (within season E.O.) of  
bear seasons impacts guides and late season  
hunters.



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## Proposal 4

### Effect of Proposal:

Allow for the harvest of a brown bear every 2 years instead of every 4 years in Unit 1 (except Berners Bay).

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Opposed

### AC Recommendations:

Juneau/Douglas AC - Amend and support (8:1:3)

Upper Lynn Canal AC – Opposed (0:9)

Ketchikan AC – Support (8:0)



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## Proposal 5

**Change the waterfowl season dates in Units 1 – 4  
by creating a split season**

**Proposed by: Department of Fish and Game**

**Department Position: Support**

### **Advisory Committees:**

5 support  
2 amended proposal  
1 split decision  
2 oppose

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## **Background:**

**Issue: Hunter preferences to target early migrants versus late season resident waterfowl**

- **Hunting season is 107 consecutive days between Sept 1 – Jan 26**
- **Uniform season dates across a hunt zone**
- **Alaska has 1 split season option (until recently assigned to Kodiak hunt zone)**

Proposal 5

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## Background: past proposals

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- **1998:** Change waterfowl hunting seasons in Unit 4 to October 8 - January 22
- **2000:** Change season dates for waterfowl hunting in Units 1 – 4 to Oct 8 – Jan 27
- **2006:** 3 proposals to change dates of waterfowl season in Units 1 – 4 to Sept 16 – Dec 31
- **\*2008:** Amend season dates in SEAK to run from early October to mid-January
- **2010:** Allow waterfowl hunting to begin on Sept 1 in SEAK
- **\*2019:** Shift waterfowl season to Sept 1 – Dec 16 or alternate odd/even years

Proposal 5

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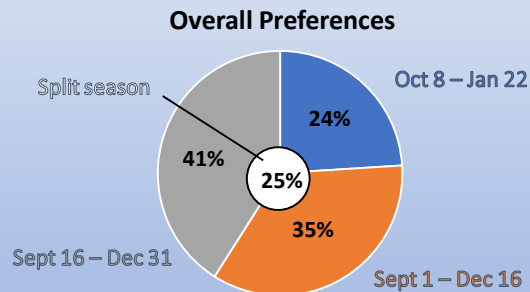
- **2008:** Amend season dates in SEAK to run from early October to mid-January  
*(board amended season dates to Sept 16 – Dec 31)*

**Year 2008 survey of SEAK waterfowl hunters:**

**1. Preference of starting dates**

- Sept 1 – Dec 16**
- Sept 16 – Dec 31**
- Oct 8 – Jan 22**

**2. Desire for split season**



Proposal 5

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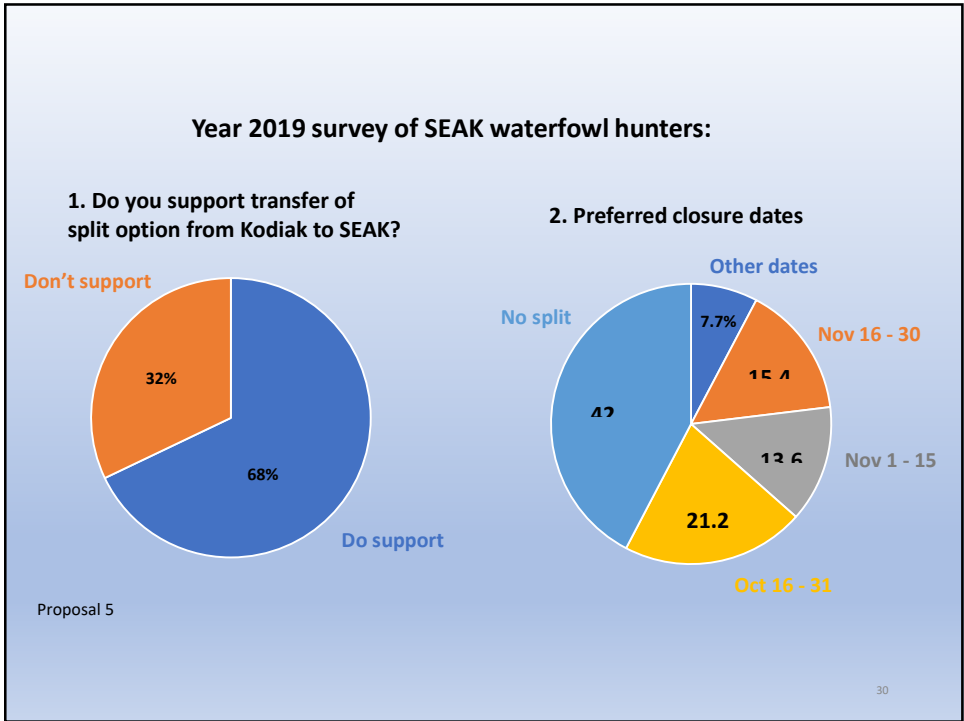
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- **2019: Shift waterfowl season to Sept 1 – Dec 16 or alternate odd/even years**  
*(board amended proposal to alternate season in odd/even years)*
- In 2019, the board asked department to explore other options to address the issue
- The department conducted a hunter survey to assess desire to reassign the split season from Kodiak to SEAK, and season closure date preferences

Proposal 5

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**In 2020, successfully petitioned the USFWS to reassign the split season option to SEAK**

**Pros -**

- Split season allows within year early and late season hunting opportunity
- Akin to alternating season but within year
- Consistent season dates across years

**Cons -**

- Adds some regulatory complexity
- Loss of mid-season opportunity
- Disagreement on closure dates

Proposal 5

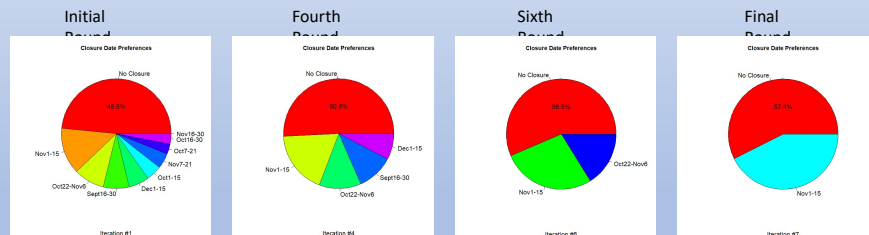
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**Year 2022 survey of SEAK waterfowl hunters:**

**1 question survey - Rank preferred options of closure dates**

- 10 options
- Rank 1 or up to all
- Identified majority



Proposal 5

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### Advisory Councils that met:

#### Support -

**Sitka:** *Support 15-0-0*; prefer closed period of December 1 – 15

**Upper Lynn Canal:** *Support 9-0-0*; no discussion of closed period

**Wrangell:** *Support 12-1-0*; no discussion of closed period, let BOG decide

**Juneau-Douglas:** *Support 12-0-0*; didn't select a closure period

**Pelican:** *Support 6-0-0*; no preference for closure date

**Ketchikan:** *4-4-1*; no discussion of closed dates but suggest early season

#### Amend -

**Petersburg:** *Support amendment (9-0-0)*; return to Sept. 1 – Dec 16 season

**Icy Straits:** *Support amendment (7-3-1)*; return to Sept 1 – Dec 16 season

#### Oppose -

**Craig:** *Oppose 0-8-0*; no agreement on closure dates

**Klawock:** *Oppose 0-10-0*; no agreement on closure dates

#### Didn't consider -

**East POW, Fairbanks, MatSu Valley**

Proposal 5

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## Proposal 5

**Change the waterfowl season dates in Units 1 – 4  
by creating a split season**

**Proposed by: Department of Fish and Game**

**Department Position: Support**

### Advisory Committees:

5 support

2 amended proposal

1 split decision

2 oppose

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## Proposal 6

### Effect of Proposal:

Extend and align the river otter trapping season in Units 1-5 to November 10-March 31.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Opposed

Wrangell AC - No Action



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Proposal 6

## Background

- Current river otter trapping seasons:
  - Units 1-4 Dec 1-Feb 15
  - Unit 5 Nov 10-Feb 15
- Proposed river otter trapping season:
  - Units 1-5 Nov 10-Mar 31



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Proposal 6

# Background

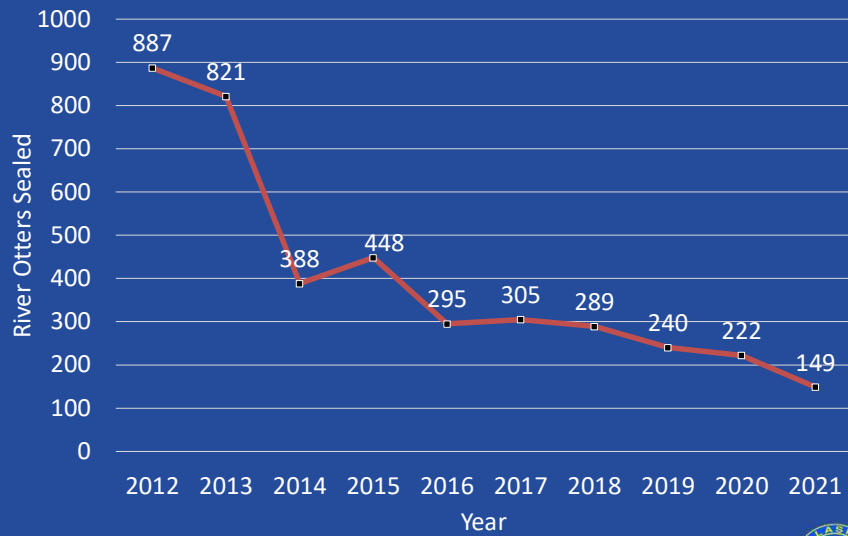
The proponent states that Units 1-5 share a similar latitude as Unit 9 on the Alaska Peninsula and therefore the otter trapping season in Units 1-5 should match Unit 9.



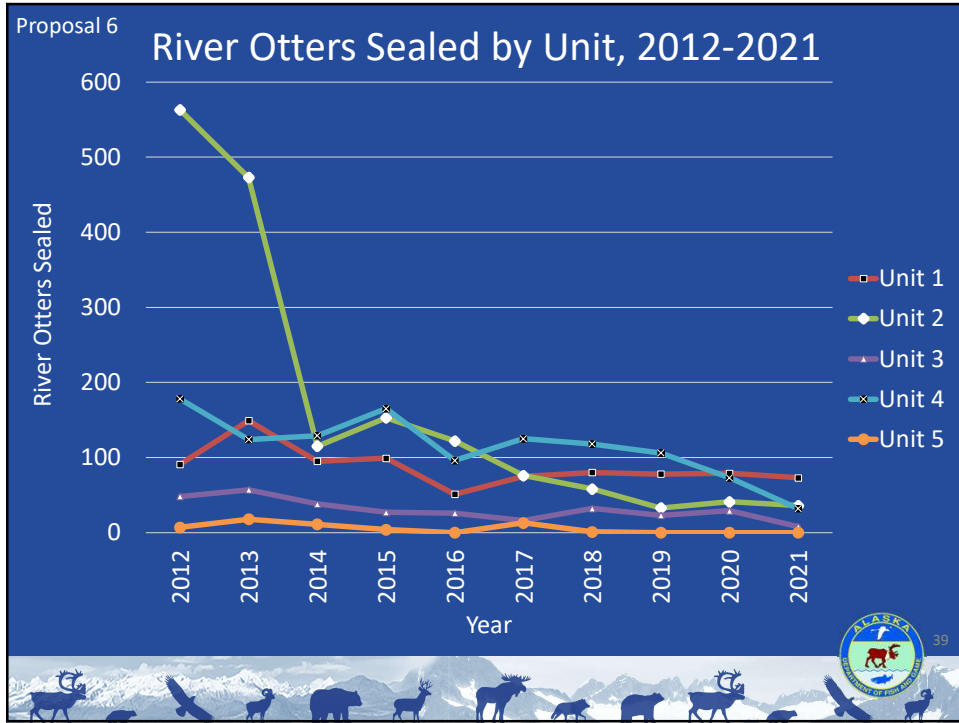
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Proposal 6

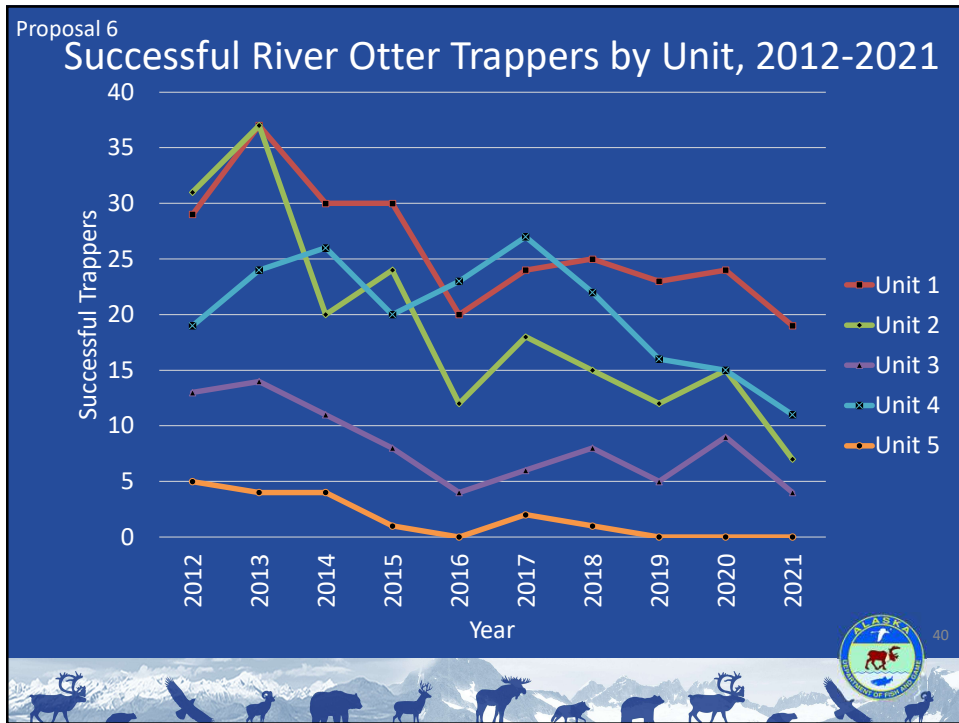
## River Otters Sealed in Units 1-5, 2012-2021



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## Proposal 6

## Discussion

- This proposal would increase the river otter season in Units 1-4 by 64 days, and Unit 5 by 44 days.
- River otters give birth from late January to June and pups are weaned at 5 months.
- The trapping season expansion would increase overlap of the period when females are providing for pups.
- Current river otter trapping seasons have been in place since 1983 and have provided adequate opportunity while sustaining river otter populations.



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## Proposal 6

### Effect of Proposal:

Extend and align the river otter trapping season in Units 1-5 to November 10-March 31.

### *Public Proposal*

### Department Recommendation:

Neutral

### AC Recommendations:

Petersburg AC - Opposed

Wrangell AC - No Action



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## Proposal 7

Extend marten trapping season across  
Southeast Alaska

Proposed by *Public*

### Recommendations

Department **NEUTRAL**

Craig AC **OPPOSED** (0:8:0)

Juneau/Douglas AC **SUPPORT** (11:0:1)

Ketchikan AC **OPPOSED** (0:9:0)



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## Background

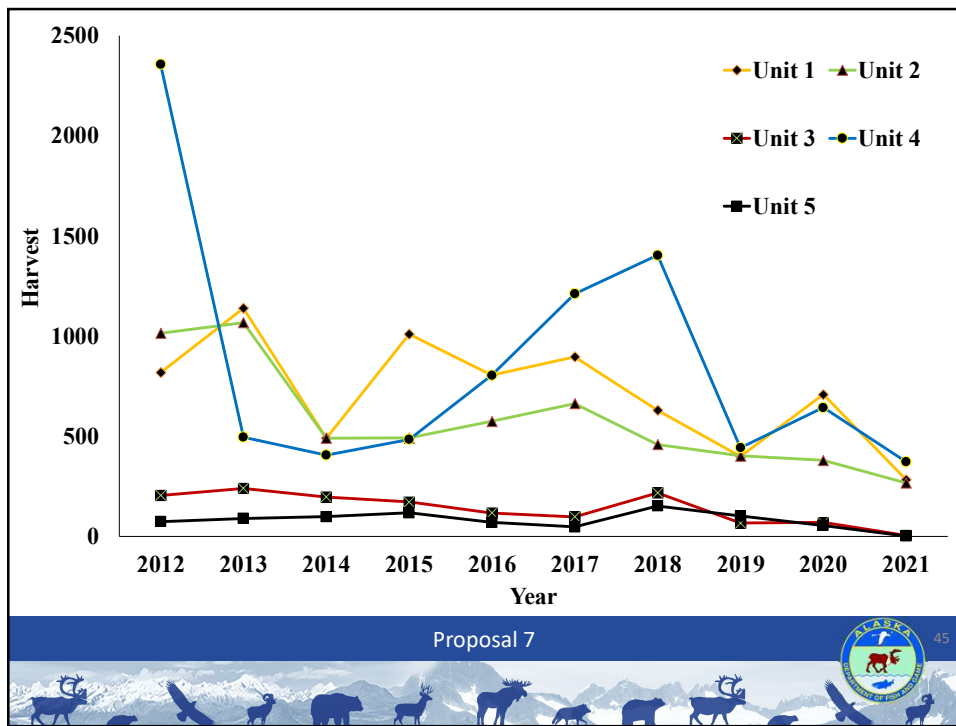
- Current seasons:
  - Unit 1–3, except Kuiu Island, Unit 4 remainder Dec 1–Feb 15
  - Unit 5, Nov 10–Feb 15
- Proposal would extend marten season in GMU 1–3, except Kuiu Island, 4 remainder, and 5 to *Nov 10–Feb 28*

Proposal 7

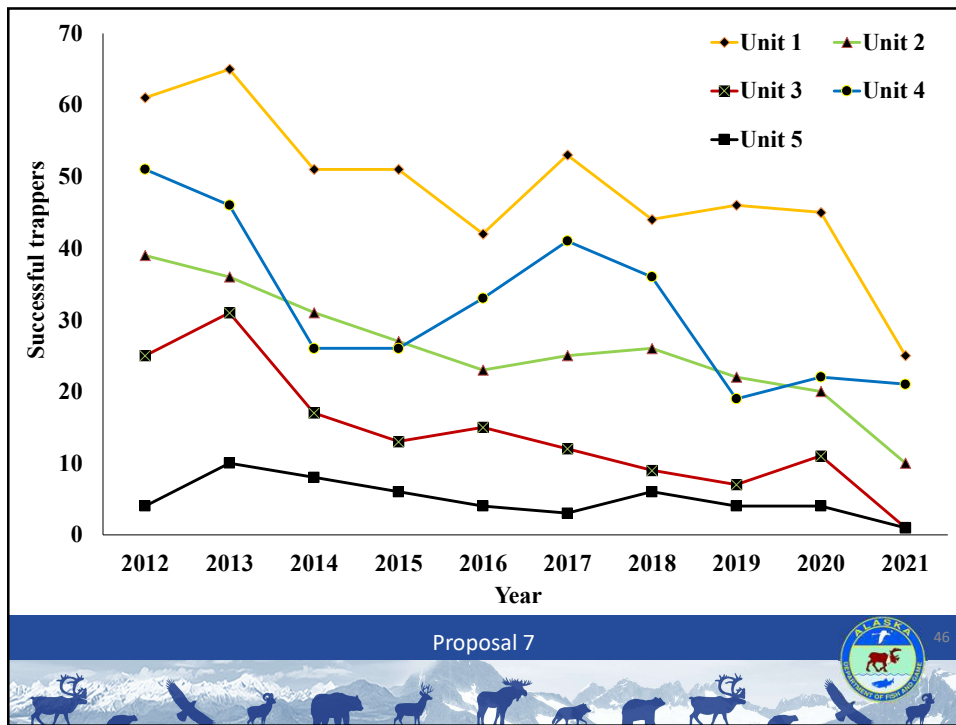


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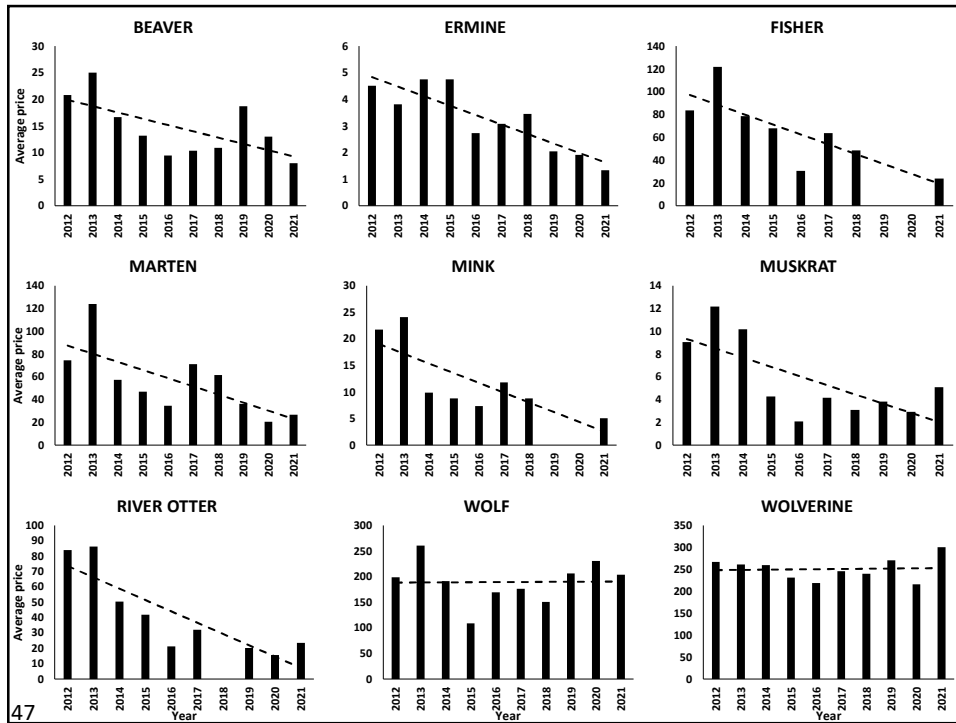
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## Discussion

- Most marten trapped in December and January
- Trend in number of trappers and harvest down
- Likely related to low fur prices and increasing expenses
- Would misalign trapping seasons with other species

Proposal 7




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## Proposal 7

Extend marten trapping season across  
Southeast Alaska

Proposed by *Public*

### Recommendations

Department **NEUTRAL**

Craig AC **OPPOSED** (0:8:0)

Juneau/Douglas AC **SUPPORT** (11:0:1)

Ketchikan AC **OPPOSED** (0:9:0)



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## Proposal 8

Extend marten trapping season in Units 1-2

Proposed by *Ketchikan AC*

### Recommendations

Department **NEUTRAL**

Craig AC **SUPPORT** (9:0:0)

East POW AC **OPPOSED** (0:14:0)

Ketchikan AC **SUPPORT** (9:0:0)



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## Background

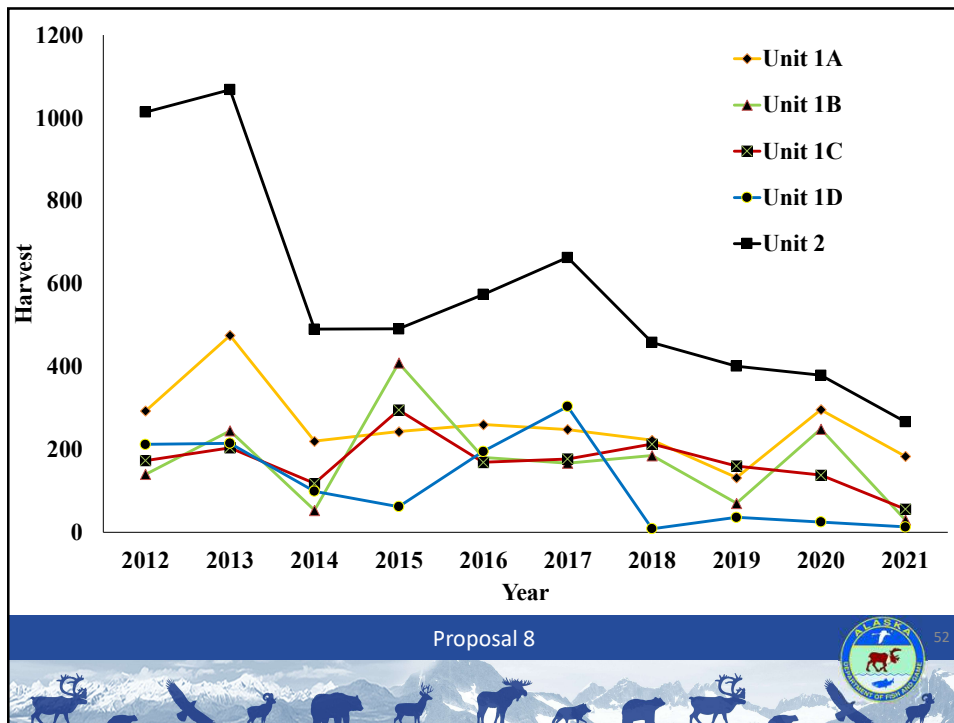
- Current seasons:
  - Unit 1 and 2: Dec 1–Feb 15
- Proposal would extend marten season
  - Unit 1 and 2: *Dec 1–Feb 28*
- Current season has provided sustainable harvest since 1975

Proposal 8



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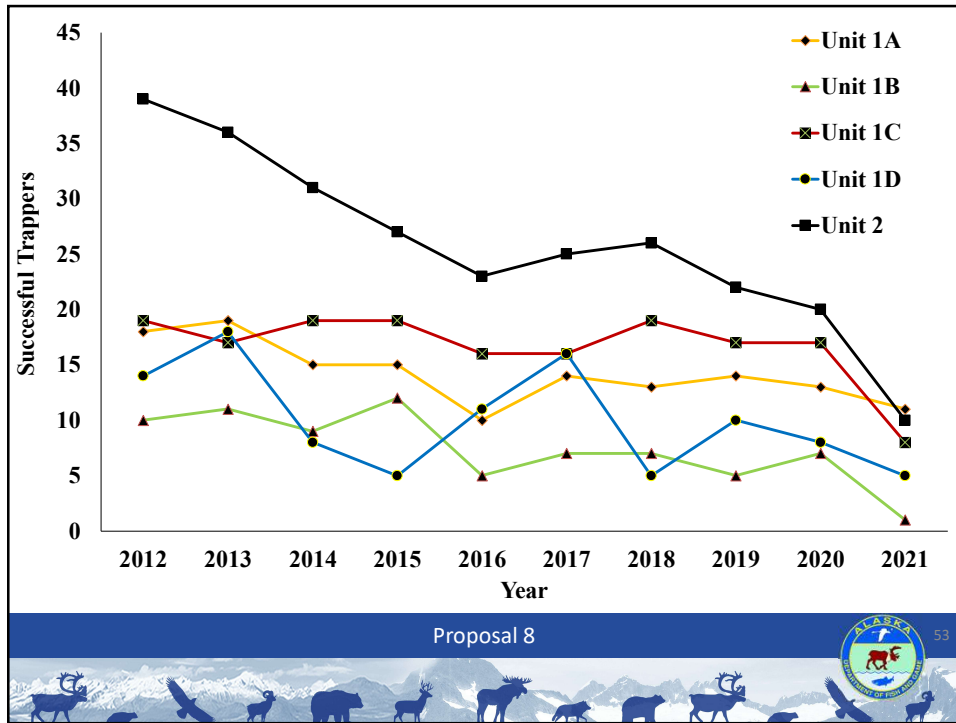


Proposal 8

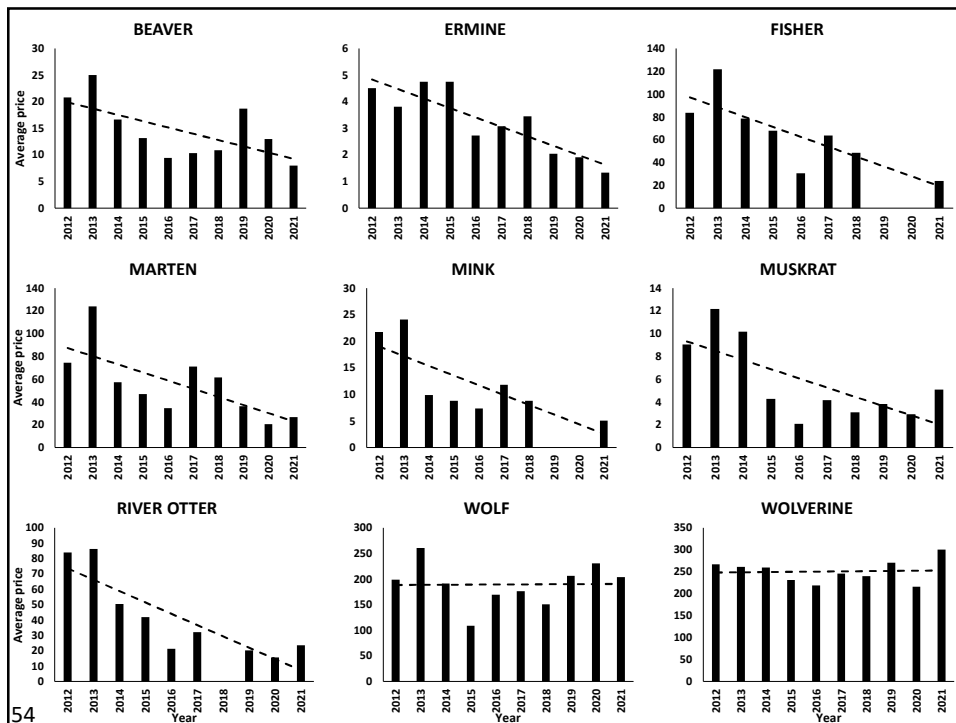


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## Discussion

- Most marten trapped in December and January
- Trend in number of trappers and harvest down
- Likely related to low fur prices and increasing expenses
- No conservation concern for marten in Unit 1 or 2

Proposal 8



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## Discussion

- Intent of proposal is to align with wolverine season which currently ends the last day of February
- Would misalign trapping seasons with other species
  - Mink
  - Weasel
  - Otter

Proposal 8



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## Proposal 8

Extend marten trapping season in Units 1-2

Proposed by *Ketchikan AC*

### Recommendations

Department **NEUTRAL**

Craig AC **SUPPORT** (9:0:0)

East POW AC **OPPOSED** (0:14:0)

Ketchikan AC **SUPPORT** (9:0:0)



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## Proposal 9

Extend wolverine trapping season in Units 1-5

Proposed by *Ketchikan Advisory Committee*

### Recommendations

Department **OPPOSED**

Juneau/Douglas AC **OPPOSED** (2:4:6)

Ketchikan AC **SUPPORT** (8:1:0)



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## Background

- Current wolverine trapping season in Units 1-5:  
Nov 10-Last day of Feb
- The proposal would change the trapping season in Units 1-5 to:  
*Nov 10–March 15*

Proposal 9



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## Past wolverine trapping seasons

- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| – <u>Prior to 1985</u>    | – <u>From 2009 – 2010</u>     |
| • Dec 1 – Jan 31          | • Nov 10 – Feb 15             |
| • Nov 10 – Feb 15         |                               |
| – <u>From 1985 – 2008</u> | – <u>From 2011 to present</u> |
| • Nov 10 – Apr 30         | • Nov 10 – Feb 28             |

Proposal 9



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## Discussion

- Season was shortened at 2008 BOG meeting
  - Department recommended February 15 as the end date to avoid catching adult females provisioning kits
- Season extended at 2010 BOG meeting to end of February
  - Extending season to March 15 would be **28 days** past February 15 recommendation

Proposal 9



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## Discussion

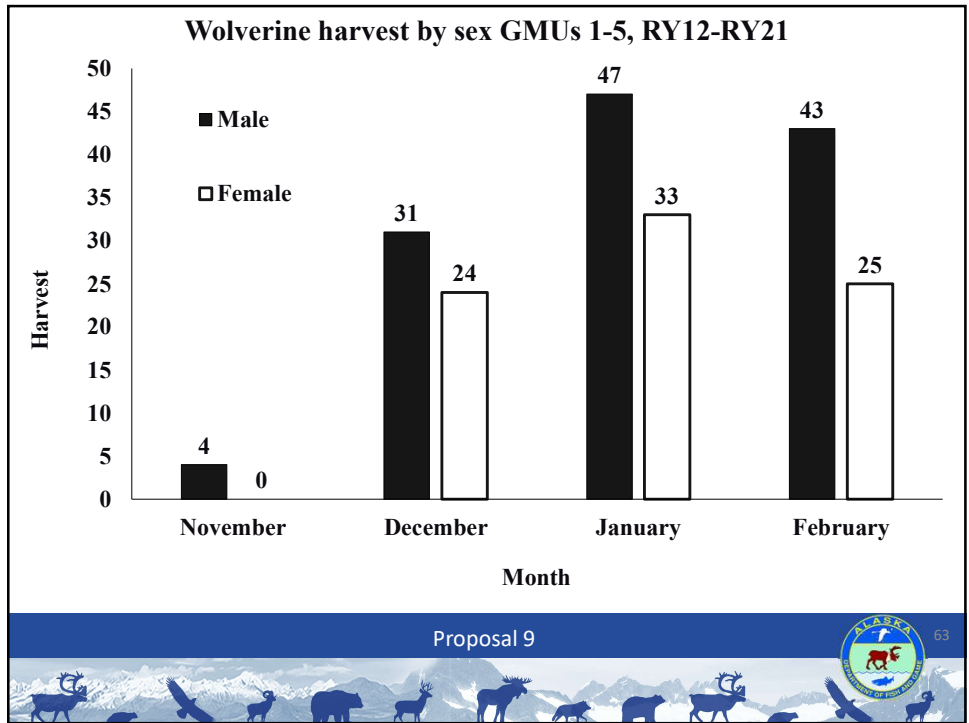
- Wolverine kits born February – March
- Some adult females were harvested when season was open from Feb. 15 – April
- Loss of kits = reduced recruitment
- Fewer animals available for harvest

Proposal 9

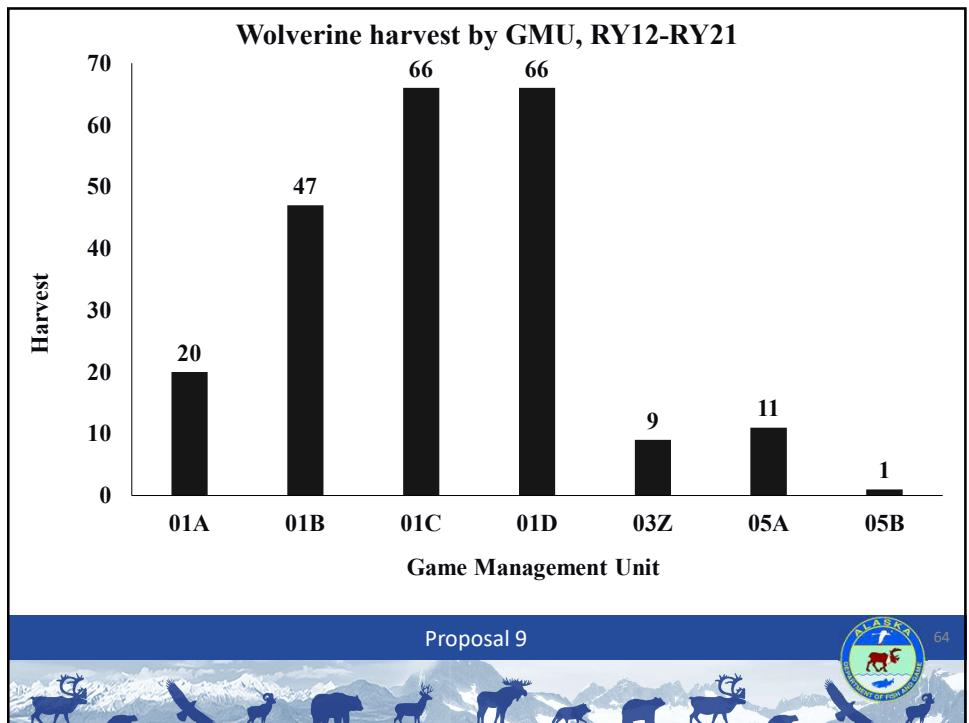


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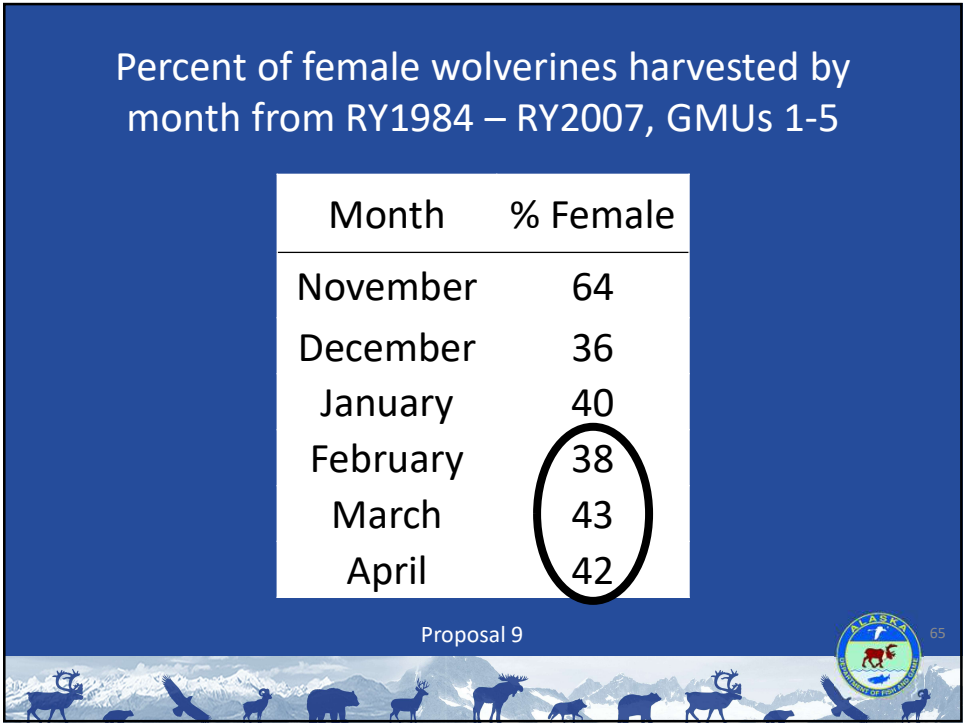


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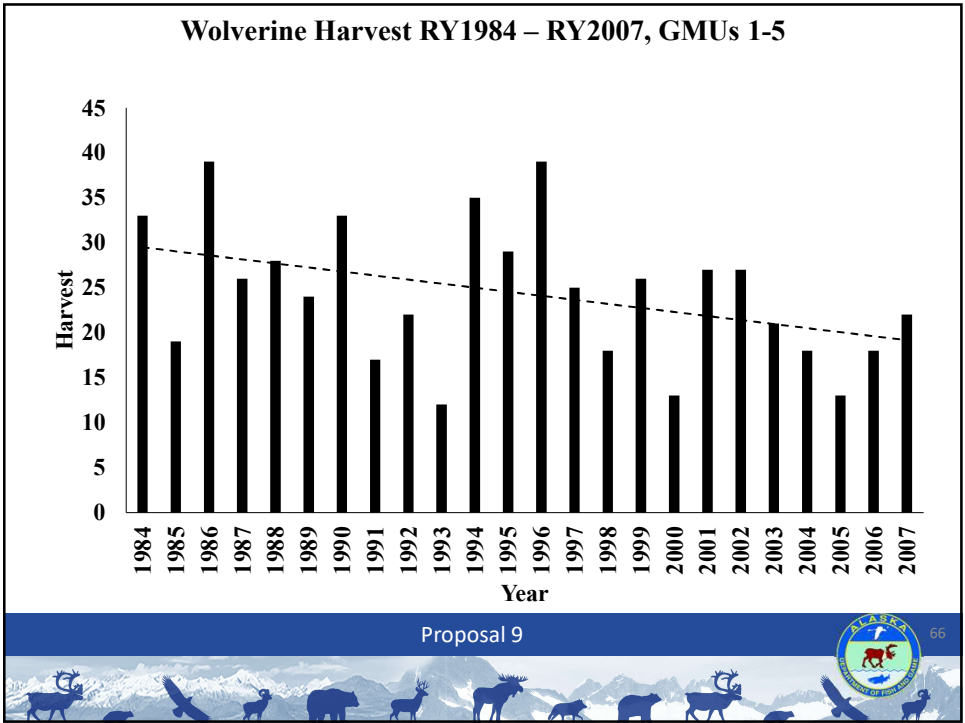


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## Discussion

- Protecting denning females reduces opportunity for a few late-season trappers
- Incidental wolverine catch in wolf sets is believe to be relatively low

*However, reducing harvest of denning females:*

- Increases recruitment
- Increases trapper success

Proposal 9



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## Proposal 9

Extend wolverine trapping season in Units 1-5

Proposed by *Ketchikan AC*

### Recommendations

Department **OPPOSED**

Juneau/Douglas AC **OPPOSED** (2:4:6)

Ketchikan AC **SUPPORT** (8:1:0)



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