

PROPOSAL 136 – 5 AAC 85.045(15). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 17A as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(15)

Unit 17(A)

Up to 2 moose per
regulatory year only as follows:

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

...

1 antlerless moose by registration
permit; during the period Dec. 1
–Last day of Feb. a season of up
to 31 days may be announced
by emergency order;

Winter Season to be
Announced by
Emergency Order
(Subsistence hunt only)

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually by the Board of Game (board). The board adopted an antlerless moose hunt in Unit 17A in support of the Unit 17A Moose Management Plan, which was modified during a meeting of the Unit 17A Moose Management Planning Group in December 2012. The planning group consists of entities interested in the management of this moose population and includes representatives from the Bristol Bay Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, the Nushagak and Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committees, the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and the ADF&G Unit 17 management office.

According to the third goal of the revised Unit 17A Moose Management plan, antlerless moose hunting opportunity can be offered when the population is above 600 moose and increasing. The revised plan also recommends that a bag limit of up to two moose when the population exceeds 1,200 moose.

Based on the most recent survey in October 2017, the point estimate was 1,760 moose in Unit 17A. The bag limit of two moose and antlerless harvest opportunity provides a mechanism to limit population growth and allows hunters to harvest surplus animals.

The moose population in subunit 17A is growing and can sustain additional harvest; however, the objectives for this population include allowing it to expand into neighboring areas as well as provide for additional harvest opportunity. The population is currently contributing to the growth of moose populations, especially to the north and west.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F17-034)
