

PROPOSAL 42 – 5 AAC 92.069. Special provisions for moose drawing permit hunts; 92.XXX. New regulation. Remove the nonresident guide requirement for moose and black bear hunts as follows:

Remove moose and black bear from the list of must-be-guided species.

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

Remove moose and black bear from the list of must-be-guided species under AS 16.05.407.

The Board of Game (board), without legislative approval, has added moose and black bear to the list of must-be-guided species for nonresidents in certain parts of the state under AS 16.05.407.

The legislature never intended for the board to have the authority to add species to the must-be-guided list. When the board has done this, it is essentially a separate allocation to guides that often negatively affects resident hunter opportunity.

A prime example is the must-be-guided requirement for moose for the DM 809/810/811 Upper Nowitna draw permit hunt. The board in 2008 passed a proposal from a guide with exclusive rights to guide in the Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge that allocated half of the permits to nonresident hunters, with 70% of the nonresident permits required to hire that specific guide. A 50% allocation to nonresident moose hunters for any moose draw permit in Alaska is completely unacceptable. And it only happened because of the must-be-guided requirement for moose in that area.

The board has also added black bear to the list of must-be-guided species in parts of southeast Alaska, using conservation as a rationale for doing so when the board has the authority and duty to limit all nonresident black bear hunters if there is a conservation concern.

The addition of moose and black bear to the list of must-be-guided species is a subsidy to guides that sets a bad precedent that can harm resident opportunities and lock up access to areas where guides are guaranteed this new client base.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska

(EG-F17-078)
