

PROPOSAL 56

5 AAC 92.106. Intensive management of identified big game prey populations.

Prohibit nonresident hunting of moose and caribou under intensive management in the Southcentral Region until harvest or population objectives are met as follows:

Nonresident hunting shall not be allowed in Region II (Southcentral) for any moose or caribou population under a current active Intensive Management Predation Control Program until the minimum Intensive Management population or harvest objective for that population has been reached.

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

Nonresident hunting opportunity in areas within Region II (Southcentral) under active Intensive Management Predation Control Programs.

Intensive Management (IM) Predation Control Implementation Programs to restore the abundance of prey species as necessary to achieve human consumptive use goals are intended to benefit resident Alaskans.

Resident Hunters of Alaska supports IM efforts to achieve these goals.

We understand that nonresidents may benefit from IM programs once IM population or harvest objectives are met. That is why we support nonresidents as well as residents paying a fee for the state's intensive management programs. However, nonresidents are not entitled to benefit from IM programs while they are in progress until either the harvest or population objectives for specific moose or caribou populations have been achieved.

We would like to see the Board of Game (board) adopt regulations that match the intent of our Intensive Management law. No nonresident hunting should be allowed in Region II for a moose or caribou population that is under a formal IM Predation Control program to increase populations for the benefit of resident consumptive uses when the minimum IM population or harvest objectives for that prey species has not been reached.

Currently there are no active IM programs in place in Region II, as the active wolf control program in Unit 15C expired in 2017. Moose are just above the population objective for Unit 15C of 2,500–3,500 moose, and we are substantially below the harvest objective of 200–350 moose. Nonresident moose hunting is currently allowed in Unit 15C.

This proposal would not affect any current nonresident moose hunting opportunities in Region II (Southcentral) but looks forward should any future active IM programs in Region II be implemented and is a simple straightforward step the board can take to ensure for the public that when we undertake predation control programs to reduce predators, its primary intention is to benefit resident Alaskans so that they can put food on their tables.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska

(HQ-F18-026)
