

**PROPOSAL 139**

**5 AAC 5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.**

Allow muzzleloader hunting in addition to the archery hunt in the drainage of the Middle Fork of the Chena River in Unit 20B as follows:

For Unit 20B drainage of the Middle (East) Fork of the Chena River: One bull by bow and arrow, or muzzleloader only. Harvest Ticket. September 26-30.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Change the hunt in Unit 20B, drainage of the Middle (East) Fork of the Chena River to allow muzzleloader in addition to bow and arrow only for the September 26 – September 30 season.

The current muzzleloader season (RM782) for the drainage has difficult access as there is often inadequate snow coverage and open crossings for winter transportation. Similarly, the conditions are generally too cold for boat access. By allowing muzzleloaders from September 26 – September 30, it would provide a good opportunity for moose hunters later in the fall season.

Potential opposition: bowhunters may not wish to see an increase in hunters or wish not to compete with muzzleloader hunters. Although there would be an increase in competition, I do not think that allowing muzzleloader hunters would greatly encroach on bowhunters for such a large hunt area. It would certainly be less competition than allowing non-weapons restricted hunt.

**PROPOSED BY:** Dane Happ

(EG-F19-086)

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