

**PROPOSAL 14**

**5AAC 85.045(15). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.**

Establish fixed-season dates for resident registration moose hunts RM575 & RM576 in Unit 17A as follows:

<b>Units and Bag Limits (15)</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
Unit 17(A)		
Up to 2 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 moose by registration permit only; or	Aug. 25—Sept.25 (Subsistence hunt only)	
1 antlered bull by registration permit; [DURING THE PERIOD JAN.1—LAST DAY OF FEB. A SEASON UP TO 31 DAYS MAY BE ANNOUNCED BY EMERGENCY ORDER;] or	<b><u>Jan.1—Last day of Feb.</u></b> [WINTER SEASON TO BE ANNOUNCED BY BY EMERGENCY ORDER] (Subsistence hunt only)	
1 antlerless bull by registration Permit; [DURING THE PERIOD DEC.1—LAST DAY OF FEB. A SEASON UP TO 31 DAYS MAY BE ANNOUNCED BY EMERGENCY ORDER;]	<b><u>Jan.1—Last day of Feb.</u></b> [WINTER SEASON TO BE ANNOUNCED BY BY EMERGENCY ORDER] (Subsistence hunt only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		No open season.
1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side, by drawing permit only; up to 50 permits may be issued		Sept. 5—Sept. 15
...		

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Unit 17A moose population is above population objective (N=2,370). Unit 17A provides quality moose habitat that supports a robust moose population. Based on this fact, the 2013 Moose Management group established a population objective of 800–1,200 moose to prevent the population from increasing to numbers above what the landscape can support. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) relies on both.

Registration hunts RM575 and RM576 were created by the Board of Game in 2011 with the intent of targeting one antlerless bull and one antlered bull. These hunts are opened by emergency order (EO) each year and may only be extended up to 31 days by EO to target weather conditions suitable for travel. Since 2012 this hunt has been extended by EO every year except the 2015/2016 winter season because poor winter travelling conditions have prevented users from accessing moose in the first 31-day period. Given that the Unit 17A population continues to remain above objectives, ADF&G recommends continuing to administer these hunts by registration permit but with a set season of January 1 to the last day of February providing up to a 60-day season. The hunts will continue to be closed by EO when the established harvest quota is reached. This hunt structure allows hunters the flexibility to engage in hunting activities as soon as conditions are appropriate, for longer periods and to facilitate our ability to bring this population within objectives.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-050)  
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