

## **PROPOSAL 60**

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

Create a registration archery only hunt for bull moose in Unit 13 as follows:

Establish a registration archery only hunt for bull moose in Unit 13, that has requirements to commit to that specific hunt as the only moose hunt the hunter will participate in Alaska for that regulatory year; effectively redistributing those hunters to a specific time period not in competition with other moose hunters.

It is understood that the area biologist has concerns that adding this hunt may increase overall harvest of moose in the unit, which may impact bull cow ratios below what they would like to see. In recognition of this and in an effort to minimize this potential; require commitment to this as the only specific moose hunt the hunter will participate in by making it a registration hunt that has tags only available prior to other moose seasons opening, placing the hunt five days after the regular general season in the unit closes will provide opportunity for some of the in season harvest reporting to be monitored and allowing emergency order restrictions reducing the hunt area as needed. It is unlikely that there will be a large influx of additional hunters that do not typically already hunt Unit 13 with the requirement that this is the only moose hunt they participate in. Additionally as you know typical archery hunt success is typically 10-20% of rifle hunter success.

By making it a registration hunt it provides the necessary controls for effective enforcement of the requirements of the hunt and allows the ability to more closely monitor participation and success rates. In exchange for the hunter commitment to the specific hunt with more primitive equipment that reduces success rate, they get a minor adjustment to the legal animal from the general season requirements.

Proposed draft regulatory language:

#### **Hunt Details**

Hunt Number: RM XXX

Regulatory Year: 202X

Hunt Type: Registration

Species: Moose

Legal Animal: One (1) bull moose with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with three or more brow tines on at least one side.

Season Dates: 09/25/202X – 10/15/202X

Residency Restrictions: Resident only

Reporting Requirements:

Successful Hunters report within five days of kill online, or in person to ADF&G.

Unsuccessful Hunters report online, by mail, or in person to ADF&G within 15 days of season end.

**Hunting Conditions:**

1) Permit: The RMXXX permit shall be in the possession of the permittee while hunting or transporting moose and shall be exhibited to any person authorized to enforce state and federal laws who requests to see it. The permit is NONTRANSFERABLE and cannot be proxy hunted.

Those who register for this hunt cannot obtain any other moose hunting authorization in Alaska, i.e. permit, harvest ticket, subsistence, community, etc. and cannot hunt moose anywhere else in Alaska during the regulatory year the permit is valid.

Permits available from ADF&G from July 1 to August 15.

2) Season: September 25 – October 15

3) Where: Unit 13

4) Bag Limit: One (1) bull moose with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with three or more brow tines on at least one side, by bow and arrow only.

5) Method: Bow and arrow only. Bowhunter certification is required.

6) Penalty for Failure to Report: If you fail to report, you will not be eligible for any drawing, Tier II, or registration (including Tier I Nelchina caribou) permits the following regulatory year. In addition your name will be turned over to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers for enforcement action.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Provide a specific bowhunting season in Unit 13 to distribute hunters across a greater length of time to reduce crowding and competition.

**PROPOSED BY:** John Linnell

(EG-F20-038)

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