

**PROPOSAL 70**

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

Open a general season hunt for moose in Unit 15B and eliminate the drawing hunt as follows:

The easy solution here is to open this area up to a harvest ticket area. Allowing people access to this area to have a true wilderness hunt is a positive thing for Alaskans. Keeping a 50-inch three brow tine spike regulation here would allow for proper management of a healthy bull:cow ratio. This may help a little in the crowding of hunters on the rest of the Kenai Peninsula. Also a few more predators may be taken while hunters were in the field during a moose hunt.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The draw-only area for moose hunting in Unit 15B should be removed. Currently, to have this area reserved for a small number of hunters no longer is justified. The moose population in Unit 15B has declined to the point that it is no longer trophy hunting area due to lack of moose numbers. The lack of moose hunters in this area has had some unintended consequences. One of the issues causing low moose populations is low calf numbers. These low numbers are due to predation of calves by bears. There is very little bear harvest in the area. The trails in Unit 15B are also grown over because of lack of use. We believe that this should be opened back up to a harvest ticket hunt.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F18-049)

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