

Chugach Regional Resources Commission

Chenega

Eyak

Nanwalek

Port Graham

Qutekcak Native Tribe

Tatitlek

Valdez Native Tribe Dear Board of Game Members,

The Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC) is an intertribal organization serving seven tribes in the Chugach Region including the Tatitlek Village IRA Council, Native Village of Eyak (Cordova), Port Graham Village Council, Nanwalek IRA Council, Chenega Bay IRA Council, Qutekcak Native Tribe (Seward), and the Valdez Native Tribe. CRRC is writing to the Board of Game (Board) to support Proposals 249, 251, and 252.

CRRC supports Proposal 249, to have the Board reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C. The moose in this region have a history of population fluctuations and the antlerless permits allow the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to manage the moose population in the region in a sustainable way that keeps the population healthy. Too many moose in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer area can lead to starvation as increased moose populations overbrowse their habitat and increases in moose-vehicle collisions. The current antlerless moose system has been successful and because of this success, CRRC encourages the Board to support this proposal.

CRRC supports Proposal 251, to have the Board reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B. The moose on Kalgin Island have successfully been managed by the antlerless moose hunt, this hunt has allowed ADF&Gs management to reach their objectives with this moose population. The moose on this island have had high population numbers since at least the early 1990s, and Kalgin Island is predator-free area, so other measures need to be taken so that the moose living on the island do not exceed their carrying capacity.

CRRC supports Proposal 252, to have the Board reauthorize the antlerless moose season for the Homer bench hunt (DM549) and targeted hunt (AM550) along the Sterling Highway in Unit 15C. The Homer bench area of Unit 15C has a high density of moose. During snowy winter these moose migrate into areas of high human population which is problematic. Moose in this area have been reported to die from starvation. The targeted AM550 hunt allows for hunting of moose along the Sterling Highway in Unit 15C. This hunt assists in keeping moose populations down and reducing moose-vehicle collisions in the area. ADF&G decides when and where permits will be issued for these hunts, with the number of permits being dependent on conditions. This method is working for these areas in Unit 15C and as such CRRC encourages the Board to support this proposal.

CRRC thanks the Board for taking the time to read our comments and again urges the Board to support proposals 249, 251, and 252.