Regionwide & Multiple Units

PROPOSAL 55
5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.
Reduce resident cow permits and nonresident bull permits for Southcentral Region units as follows:

I would like the board to consider a minimal amount of nonresident draw permits being issued as well as a decrease in the amount of resident cow permits.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Due to the increased populous within the Mat-Su Valley and Kenai Peninsula and beyond, and the number of vehicle/moose collisions that have occurred in the past ten years, I would like the board to consider a minimal amount of nonresident draw permits being issued as well as a decrease in the amount of resident cow permits.

Most vehicle/moose collisions occur during winter months and most are assumed to be pregnant cows. Yes, this would affect the guides. But up until about 2006, moose seemed to be highly abundant and were roaming just about everywhere. In the Anchorage bowl, aside from a draw hunt on JBER (Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson), moose are sanctified within no hunting zones. As we go south on the Seward Highway and north on the Parks and the Glenn Highways, it is apparently obvious that moose numbers have been in drastic decline for at least a decade.

In hopes to eventually increase moose numbers in these areas, which would provide more opportunity resident harvest of legal bulls, I am asking the board to decrease the amount of resident draw cow permits and nonresident bull permits. There’s no reason why vehicle/moose collisions should contribute more to charity than local hunters contribute to our families. Thank you for your consideration.

PROPOSED BY: Erik Anderson (EG-F22-078)
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PROPOSAL 56
5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of taking big game; exceptions.
Prohibit taking of big game from boats in Units 6, 7, and 15 as follows:

Illegal to take big game from a boat in Units 6, 7, and 15.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? It is currently illegal to take big game from a boat in Units 1-5, or black bear in Unit 6D. This regulation should be extended to include all big game in Units 6, 7 and 15. This would bring all coastal units in Southcentral and Southeast into conformity.

PROPOSED BY: Dave Lyon (EG-F22-091)
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PROPOSAL 57

5 AAC 92.090. Unlawful methods of taking fur animals ; exceptions.

Allow the use of dogs to track and retrieve dead or wounded fur animals in Units 6 - 8, 14C, and 15 as follows:

Allow for more efficient and ethical recovery of fur animals in Units 6-8, 14C and 15 as follows:

Fur Animals:

• Fur animals MAY NOT be taken under the hunting regulations by the following methods:
  - with a dog (except coyote in Unit 20D after registering with ADF&G and in Units 6 - 8, 14C and 15 a dog may be used to track and retrieve dead or wounded fur animals), trap, snare, net, or fish trap;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Next to ethical shots and lethal shot placement, efficient game recovery is paramount. An individual sitting with his dog while calling in a fox is no different than sitting in a duck blind calling waterfowl. In the event that an animal is wounded and evades the hunter, whether it be a duck, goose, fox, coyote, etc., a well-trained retrieving dog should be allowed to be sent to track, locate and retrieve it. There is NO downside to ensuring a mortally wounded animal is not wasted. Currently on page 13 of the Alaska trapping regulation booklet, the use of dogs is allowed for retrieving dead furbearers. The same should be applied to the small game hunting regulations for dead and wounded fur animals.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Harris

PROPOSAL 58

5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education and orientation requirements.

Require hunter orientation for hunting goat in Southcentral Region units as follows:

All hunters must complete the Goat Hunter Orientation Prior to hunting. Orientation and quiz are available online at XXXXXXXX.

-Rocky Mountain Goat alliance has a YouTube video and are currently making another revision to assist goat hunters. I have asked the board if they would work with ADF&G biologists on a video and quiz and they are in support.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I believe that there will be a “trickle down effect” from the dwindling sheep numbers, where many sheep hunters will now look to other species. I believe that goat hunting will become more prevalent over the next few years. My concern is that with the increase in goat hunting, there will be an increase in novice goat hunters. This is of grave concern for the harvest of nanny and sub-adult goats. I believe an educational video, such as was done for bear and moose, should be mandatory for all goat hunts.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins