

March 17, 2023

TO: Alaska Board of Game  
FROM: John Bitney, Big Lake, AK  
SUBJECT: Proposal 203, regarding antlerless moose hunt in Kinkaid Park

Please accept this as my comments to the Board of Game in support of Proposal 203, regarding antlerless moose hunts in Kinkaid Park.

My current residence is in Big Lake, and I have lived in Alaska over fifty years. Some of those were spent living in Anchorage, and Kinkaid Park was an I frequented in order to hike the trails and ski. Most of my experience was hiking due to ownership of two dogs, which required almost daily trips to Kinkaid.

After experiencing many moose in Kincaid Park and out in the wilds of Alaska, a city moose in Anchorage is not a country moose. To an Anchorage moose, people are not predators. People are merely a nuisance (some with annoying pets), but they are not a direct threat. Moose in Anchorage are not prone to flight when they encounter humans, which increases the likelihood for interactions to occur.

I personally experienced problems with moose in Anchorage multiple times, especially when walking dogs in proximity to cows with calves. There were three times when a charging cow required me to run like hell. I also observed other incidences where people had to take evasive measures from aggressive cows.

My support for Proposal 203 is primarily because I believe it will help condition Anchorage moose to be more wary of humans, which will help decrease encounters with aggressive moose.

In addition, I support the social benefits of allowing hunting and conservation opportunities for people who less fortunate. Obviously, this is a very positive aspect of Proposal 203.

Thank you for allowing this brief comment in support of Proposal 203.

John W. Bitney

