## PROPOSAL 67

## 5 AAC 85.045(a)(17). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize a winter any-moose season during February in a portion of Unit 19D as follows.

Resident	
<b>Open Season</b>	
(Subsistence and	Nonresident
General Hunts)	<b>Open Season</b>

**Units and Bag Limits** 

(17)

•••

Unit 19(D) that portion upstream from the Selatna River, excluding the Black River

## **RESIDENT HUNTERS:**

•••

1 moose, by registration permit only, a person may not take a cow accompanied by a calf Feb 1 – Last day of Feb.

••••

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose hunting seasons must be reauthorized annually. The goal is to provide additional harvest opportunity and meet harvest objectives.

The moose population in Unit 19D East has approximately doubled since predator removals began in 2003. Prior to intensive management, bull-to-cow ratios along the Kuskokwim River drainage were measured at 18 bulls per 100 cows. After predator reductions and a closure of moose hunting in the Bear Control Focus Area (BCFA), ratios improved to 39 bulls per 100 cows by 2007. By 2022 ratios had declined again and the two-year average was 21 bulls per 100 cows.

Additional harvest opportunity is available, particularly outside of the BCFA. Winter hunts distribute hunter pressure temporally and allow access to areas which are inaccessible in the fall.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game	(HQ-F23-047)	
***************************************		