

**PROPOSAL 7**

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

Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15 as follows:

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

(a)(16)

...

Unit 18, that portion south of the Eek River  
Drainage and north of and including the  
Carter Bay drainage

Sept. 1 – **Oct. 15** [SEPT. 30]

1 antlered bull by registration permit only

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Moose are an important subsistence resource for members of the Native Village of Kwinhagak. Because of increases in food costs, the village’s remote location, and changing environmental factors, food security is a significant and growing concern. Importantly, since 2020, subsistence hunters have not hunted caribou from the Mulchatna caribou herd due to low population numbers. The Mulchatna caribou herd has historically been one of the village’s primary food sources. Thus, there is an increased reliance on moose hunting to meet subsistence needs, and coincidentally the moose population in the area near Quinhagak (the Arolik River and Kanektok River drainages) is increasing.

The current season dates of September 1 to September 30 do not provide an adequate opportunity for Quinhagak’s subsistence needs. Poor weather during the month of September for the past two years has resulted in the failure to reach moose quotas before the hunting season closed. Other areas adjacent to Quinhagak, such as the Goodnews and Eek Rivers, have moose hunts that are open for longer seasons, September 1 to October 15. The Native Village of Kwinhagak proposes that its season be extended by 15 days to match those seasons and provide a more meaningful opportunity for Quinhagak residents to meet subsistence needs.

**PROPOSED BY:** Native Village of Kwinhagak

(HQ-F23-008)

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