<u>PROPOSAL 107</u> – 5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose. Open a late resident hunting season for moose in Units 11 and 13 as follows:

Amend resident moose hunting seasons in Units 11 and 13 by adding a late season any bull registration hunt.

Retain all other existing seasons and bag limits.

New Late Season Registration Permit Hunt(s): The late season registration moose hunt(s) will have a bag limit of any bull and run November 15–30. Registration permits will be issued in Unit 13 communities starting November 13. The hunt(s) will be offered in Units 11 and 13 as follows:

Remainder of Unit 11. Issue up to ten permits. Unit13A west: Issue up to ten permits. Remainder of Unit13A: Issue up to 20 permits. Unit 13B: Issue up to 20 permits. Unit 13C: Issue up to 50 permits. Unit 13D: Issue up to 50 permits. Unit 13E: Issue up to 50 permits.

Hunters should be limited to one late season registration moose permit per season within Units 11 and 13.

## Permits will ONLY be issued if bull/cow ratios exceed the management objective by more than five bulls/100 cows in three consecutive years. Some of the subunits listed above would not have permits issued in the foreseeable future due to lower bull:cow ratios. Unit 13A west would likely never have permits issued.

These hunts will provide an opportunity for subsistence moose hunting for all Alaskan hunters on under-harvested moose populations.

The two week November registration hunt offers a "second chance" for those not successful during the general season. This early winter time frame allows for travel into some areas that are normally un-hunted during the fall due to open water (supported by continually high bull:cow ratios in some areas). It also offers family hunting opportunity over the Thanksgiving holiday. While we recognize there will be post-rut concentrations of moose in higher elevations, the limited number of permits for these areas will reduce harassment and keep harvest sustainable.

High "UP TO" permit numbers are offered to allow flexibility in times of high moose numbers and annual conditions that may be less than ideal. Some years when freeze-up conditions are very poor the entire allowable number of permits may be necessary to take a few moose.

Conservative registration permit numbers should be set for areas with heavy fall hunting pressure given current bull:cow ratios such as in Unit 13B and the western portion of Unit 13A. Moderate permit numbers can be set for Units 13C, 13D and 13E considering much of the moose habitat in these areas is inaccessible during the fall and thus lightly hunted. Continually high bull:cow

ratios and increasing moose numbers in these areas suggest additional harvest will be sustainable. In the case of Unit 13E there will also be some bulls migrating out of park areas that are otherwise closed to state hunters, becoming available to state subsistence hunters for the first time.

Given existing proxy regulations, late season registration hunters will be able to proxy hunt for others, but only once per season within Unit 13.

Regulations to be amended by adding the following to current regulations:

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose

(9)

Unit 11, that portion east of the east bank of the Copper River upstream from and including the Slana River drainage

<u>1 bull by registration permit Nov. 15–Nov. 30</u> <u>Available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> <u>Up to 10 permits may be issued</u>

(11)

Units and Bag Limits Unit 13

<u>1 bull, by [Dec. 1–Dec. 31]</u> registration Nov. 15–Nov. 30 permit only as follows:

Unit 13A west of the Lake Louise Road, Lake Louise, Susitna Lake, Tyone Lake, and the Tyone River. Permits available in local communities Nov. 13–Nov. 30 Up to 10 permits may be issued

<u>Unit 13A east of the Lake Louise</u> <u>Road, Lake Louise, Susitna Lake,</u> <u>Tyone Lake, and the Tyone River,</u> <u>Permits available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> Up to 20 permits may be issued <u>Unit 13B</u> <u>Permits available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> <u>Up to 20 permits may be issued</u>

<u>Unit 13C</u> <u>Permits available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> <u>Up to 50 permits may be issued</u>

<u>Remainder of Unit 13D</u> <u>Permits available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> <u>Up to 50 permits may be issued</u>

<u>Unit 13E</u> <u>Permits available in local communities</u> <u>Nov. 13–Nov. 30</u> <u>Up to 50 permits may be issued</u>

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Units 13 and 11, although heavily used by the public in some areas, have certain areas where moose are not accessible during the regular seasons. I would like the Board of Game to adopt regulations to provide an opportunity to harvest moose in these areas where bull:cow ratios are high and additional harvest will be sustainable.

**PROPOSED BY:** Aaron Bloomquist (EG-F17-081)