PROPOSAL 95

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

Establish a resident winter moose hunt in Unit 19D East as follows:

The McGrath Advisory Committee would like to propose a winter moose hunt in Unit 19D East. Hunt conditions include the following:

- 1. Season: February 1st February 28th.
- 2. Registration permit available in the hunt area in January to the end of the season.
- 3. Residents only.
- 4. Any moose except cows with calves.
- 5. Quota will be set by the Department of Fish and Game.
- 6. No aircraft except between publicly owned airports including McGrath, Takotna, Medfra, Nikolai and Telida.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Moose densities in the McGrath area have approximately doubled since surveys began in 2001. Recently twinning rates have begun to decline, and it is time to slow the growth of the herd. There is additional harvest opportunity available and we would like to propose a winter moose hunt. This will help spread hunter effort out throughout the year, maintain strong bull:cow ratios, and allow the harvest of cow moose. Increased fall bull harvest is not warranted because bull:cow ratios are declining along the river. Additionally, a winter hunt will allow for more access and help us achieve our harvest objectives.

PROPOSED BY: McGrath Fish & Game Advisory Committee	(EG-F19-023)
