

PROPOSAL 18

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

Extend the resident winter moose season in Units 17B and 17C as follows:

5 AAC 95.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose. Add hunting season for moose in Units 17B and 17C as follows:

Unit 17B remainder: One antlered bull by permit available in person in Dillingham beginning October 25 and Nushagak River Villages.

RM585: December 1 – January 31 Nushagak River Drainage.

Unit 17C: One antlered bull by permit available in person in Dillingham beginning October 25 and Nushagak River villages.

RM585 December 1 - January 31 Nushagak River Drainage.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Extend the resident open season for the winter moose hunt in the Nushagak River Drainage in Units 17B and 17C in order to increase hunter opportunity in the area. Alaska has warmed up about 2.5 degrees Fahrenheit compared to about 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit for the contiguous United States as a whole. Most of the warming has occurred in the winter and spring seasons (NOAA). Lack of snow and late freeze up of the Nushagak River conditions have limit hunting during the scheduled one-month open season in December. Only a few hunters participated in the hazardous conditions with a few moose harvested. Climate change has affected the warmer winter conditions in 2019 and will continue into the future. With lack of snow and dangerous ice conditions, hunters had little access to traditional hunting areas, and predators had also scattered game close to villages. The extended season will allow hunters to safely travel with sufficient snow cover and river freeze up.

PROPOSED BY: Moxie Andrew Jr.

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