

Note: Proposal 265 was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting scheduled for March 2022.

PROPOSAL 265

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

Change the Unit 22E registration moose hunt to a drawing hunt with specific application conditions as follows:

Change RM855 to DM855. That it become a drawing hunt conducted by ADF&G in November - December 2022 for the 2023 season, at the latest. That registered guides may only submit as many applicants as there are tags allotted for the upcoming season. A hunter/ guide contract must be submitted as well. That an alternate list be established should a hunter back out for medical or personal reasons and the next eligible hunter would be contacted. If there are no alternate hunters that the tag would become available on a first come first served basis upon request. Basically, similar to how nonresident brown bear tags are issued on Kodiak.

I would make a special request that on July 7, 2022, that all applicants need to submit an application between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and ADF&G conduct a drawing so that it will be a fair distribution of these limited tags.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? As stated on page 123 of the current regulations for Unit 22E nonresident moose: One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side by permit available online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov>, July 7 at 9 am. In red: permits issued on first come first-served basis (number of permits to be announced).

This does not allow hunters and guides reasonable time to plan a hunt with the season opening on September 1.

The area the last few years has had only one guide operating in the area. In 2020 there were two registered guides in the area conducting hunts. For the 2021 season four registered guides are currently registered in Unit 22E. The demand for the limited moose tags is significantly greater.

If the problem is not solved prior to the regular cycle, nonresident hunters will not be given reasonable or fair opportunity to obtain a permit. Internet speed and the age of the applicant could favor one hunter over another. The first online distribution of 10 tags in July 2021 required applicants to purchase a hunting license before attempting to obtain a tag; they then encountered confusing steps to select the tag, which in the end, all tags were distributed in under 30-seconds. There is no way to monitor if one applicant has several individuals applying on-line to obtain a tag for just this one person. Hunters should be given an equal playing field to obtain these tags and adequate time to plan a hunt. Contracting guides will also only be given seven weeks to prepare for their client's hunts as well.

This affects all nonresident moose hunters applying for RM855.

PROPOSED BY: Justin Horton

(HQ-F21-ACR2)
