

PROPOSAL 62

5 AAC 85.045(4) Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Re-establish an antlerless moose season in Unit 6C as follows:

Seasons and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(4) ... Unit 6(C)		
1 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:		
1 moose [BULL] by drawing permit only; up to 40 permits <u>for bulls and up to 20 permits for antlerless moose</u> may be issued; or	Sept. 1-Oct. 31 (General hunt only)	No open season.
1 moose [BULL] by registration permit only; ...	Nov. 1-Dec. 31	No open season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose hunts are used to manage population growth and keep it within the limits of what the habitat can support. Antlerless moose hunting opportunity has been consistently provided in Unit 6C since 1984. The Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee did not meet during 2021 and was unable to reauthorize the hunt, thus it had to be removed from regulation.

The population objective in Unit 6C is 600–800 moose. A population estimate completed during March 2018 yielded an estimate of 677 moose, 32% of which were calves. Because the available antlerless harvest quota in Unit 6C is currently harvested under a federal subsistence season administered by the U. S. Forest Service, the state has not held an antlerless hunt since RY99.

A registration hunt was approved by the board (RM169) to provide additional hunt opportunity if harvestable surplus existed after federal hunts were administered. Without an antlerless moose hunt, this hunt cannot function as intended if it is needed.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-059)
