

March 18, 2023

Tracey Porreca

Resident of Delta Junction, Alaska

Re: Proposal 203 regarding a disabled moose drawing hunt

Dear board:

I have been a resident of Alaska since 2005 and am a hunter. In the past, I have received a special permit to hunt brown bear because of my disabled status, and am very interested in seeing disabled opportunities expand in Alaska. I've also participated in special hunts with the goal of managing certain populations in certain areas. I've not been able to hunt in recent years because of physical barriers in this state. A disabled hunt in an area like Kincaid Park, which is on the road system and in our largest city, would make it possible for me to harvest a moose for my family. Right now, I am unable to do that because hunting areas are extremely difficult to access and I do not have the equipment or manpower required to even get close to hunting.

Harvesting game animals in this area would also assist in managing the population in a way that would make it safer for those who use Kincaid Park for things like hiking, biking, and skiing. Moose encounters are dangerous and population management is one way to ensure human vs moose encounters are minimized.

Alaska can be a tough place to live for the disabled and those of us who enjoy outdoor sports find it particularly difficult. A special hunt, like those offered in other states, for the disabled will improve equitability and access. Please consider moving this forward so that those of us who are disabled and appreciate access to game will be able to fully participate like many do in other states. Let us be fair to all.

Tracey Porreca