

PROPOSAL 9

5 AAC 85.045(a)(16). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18 remainder as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(16)

...

Remainder of Unit 18

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

3 [2] moose; of which
only 1 may be
an antlered bull;
a person may not
take a calf or
a cow accompanied
by a calf; or

Aug. 1 – Sept. 30.

3 [2] antlerless moose; or

Oct. 1—Nov. 30.

3 [2] moose

Dec. 1—Apr. 30

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 antlered bull: or

Sept. 1—Sept. 30

[1 antlerless moose]

[Dec. 1— Mar. 15]

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Within the areas near the Yukon River, the moose population is estimated at a minimum of 24,000 animals. Browse removal rates were estimated to be 31% within the hunt area in 2021. Calf to cow ratios are generally declining and spring short yearling weights downriver of Mountain Village averaged below 300lbs in 2021 and 2022. These indices suggest the moose population along the Lower Yukon River is experiencing nutritional stress. Additional harvest can be used to reduce the overall moose abundance which will improve nutritional indices.

The moose harvest for the period RY17-RY22 was 747, 709, 803, 538, and 640 moose, respectively. The RY22 season is still open and data will be available at the board meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-057)
