

ACR #4 – Change Unit 18 moose hunt area boundaries of Zone 2 of the RM615.

SUBMITTED BY: Organized Village of Kwethluk, Chariton Epchook

CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD.

Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM.

Moose hunting in Zone 2, change boundaries in Akulikutak and Kwethluk Rivers. Moose hunters from Kwethluk and surrounding villages have to travel 18 air miles to the Zone 2 boundary using a lot of unleaded gasoline and often times have problems where some people do not reach the Zone 2 boundary when the river is low and have difficulty finding the main river channel.

WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?

“Zone 2: In Unit 18, all Kuskokwim River drainages south and east of a line beginning at the confluence of Whitefish Lake and Ophir Creek at the Unit 18 boundary and continuing southwest to the confluence of Tuluksak and Fog Rivers, then southerly to the lower eastern Kisaralik River-Kasigluk River cutoff, then westerly to the western lower Kasigluk River cutoff then to the Akulikutak River where it meets an unnamed creek, coordinates: 60.70057, -161.25313, then westerly to the confluence of the Kwethluk River and Whitefish Net Creek, coordinates: 60.700663, - 161.252974, then southwesterly to the confluence of Eek River and Middle Fork Eek River, then southwesterly to end at 600 4.983 N, 1610 37.14W.

STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1) To correct an error in regulation.

With the current regulation, people from Kwethluk and other villages have to travel over 18 airmiles to reach Zone 2 to hunt moose. With this change request, people will travel a little over 10 air miles.

2) To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.

With the current regulation, people from Kwethluk and other villages have to travel by boat over 18 airmiles to reach Zone 2 to hunt moose on the Kwethluk and Akulikutak Rivers. With this change request, people will travel less miles and save on high prices of unleaded gasoline. The Zone 2 border was put into place in 2017 when unleaded gasoline prices were much lower than today.

3) Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?

The quotas for bull moose harvest in Zone 2 in previous years may have not been met and with this change the season may be closed earlier than October 15th of each year.

- 4) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f)?**

It does not.

- 5) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future?**

It does not.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?

Zone 2 bull moose hunt will continue to not meet it's quota of moose limit for the area.

STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.

It is good for all area moose hunters traveling by boat from other surrounding villages where they do not have to bring a lot of unleaded fuel.

IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.

It is not allocative.

STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR.

I am a hunter and a subsistence user.

STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF GAME MEETING.

This proposal has not been considered.