

## **PROPOSAL 79**

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

Shorten the nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 6A as follows:

**What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?**

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

Shorten the moose hunting season in Unit 6A as follows:

September 1 through **October 31** (November 30) for NONRESIDENTS.

5 AAC 85.045 Unit 6A moose.

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 Bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least 1 side.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?**

The adoption of this regulation change will significantly benefit the moose population in Unit 6A for many reasons. Due to an increase in big game guiding, the moose in Unit 6A have begun to be targeted more than in recent years. Moose are being pursued post-rut in poorer body condition and at a time when there is less enforcement present in this immediate area. As a gig game guide in this immediate area, I have noticed the moose migration routes and behaviors. As moose begin their rut behavior, moose began to migrate closer to the Gulf coast and are easier accessible during the later month of October and November. Moose are observed to be in poorer condition due to rut activity and winter very close to the coastline. Law enforcement during the months of November is all but nonexistent in this area due to extreme deuteriation in weather conditions. I believe much consideration should be taken to consider the preservation of this natural resource in Alaska and Unit 6A.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?**

After discussions with the Cordova Department of Fish and Game and conversation with other outfitters in the area and increased big game guiding operations in Unit 6A found in the guide use areas section of the big game commercial service board, I have found that an increase in pressure on the moose in Unit 6A has become evident. I believe closing the season to NORESIDENTS on October 31 will significantly relieve the pressure on these moose during the post rut when their conditions are poor.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jason Semler, Alaska Expediton Lodge

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