

Proposal 220

5 AAC 085.045(4). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6(C) as follows:

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

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 by drawing permit only; up to 40 permits for bulls and up to 20 permits for antlerless moose may be issued	Sept. 1-Oct. 31 (General hunt only)	No open season.
or		
1 moose 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 must be reauthorized annually by the Board of Game (board). The department recommends reauthorizing the state antlerless hunt in Unit 6C to achieve the harvest objectives when the federal subsistence hunt is not able to achieve the desired level of harvest.

The population objective in Unit 6C is 600–800 moose. A population estimate completed during March 2023 yielded an estimate of 503 moose, 22% of which were calves. Preliminary survey data from 2026 suggests that the population is back within the population objective. Because the available antlerless harvest quota in Unit 6C is currently harvested under a federal subsistence season administered by the U. S. Forest Service, we have not held the 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 when it is needed. Continuation of the antlerless hunts may be necessary to manage population growth and keep it within the limits of what the habitat can support.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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