

Proposal 97

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

Remove the restriction that prohibits holders of the RM682 registration moose permit from also holding other moose permits in the Kuskokwim River drainage as follows:

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

Remove the restriction that prohibits holders of the RM682 registration moose permit from also holding other moose permits in the Kuskokwim River drainage. This modest change gives hunters needed flexibility while keeping all hunt-specific seasons, bag limits, and reporting requirements in place.

Regulatory language draft:

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For the RM682 registration moose hunt in Unit 19E remainder:

Current language: If you receive a RM682 permit you [CANNOT] receive another permit to hunt moose in the Kuskokwim drainage this regulatory year.

Proposed language: If you receive a RM682 permit you MAY receive and hunt under another permit to hunt moose in the Kuskokwim drainage this regulatory year. This includes permits such as RM615 and others.

Hunters who receive an RM682 permit may also hold and use other valid moose permits in the Kuskokwim drainage, subject to all other applicable regulations. All hunt-specific seasons, bag limits (one antlered bull), and reporting requirements remain in effect.

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

The RM682 registration moose permit for Unit 19E remainder currently states: "If you receive a RM682 permit you CANNOT receive another permit to hunt moose in the Kuskokwim drainage this regulatory year." This restriction forces residents of Unit 18 and other Kuskokwim communities to choose between the short early-season RM682 hunt and other important moose hunting opportunities, such as registration hunts in Unit 18 (e.g., RM615).

This "one-tag-only" rule is overly restrictive for rural hunters who rely on multiple flexible opportunities for food security. RM682 is a limited, short-duration registration hunt with low harvest pressure. ADF&G already controls overall moose harvest through permit quotas, season length, bag limits, and reporting requirements. If nothing changes, hunters who obtain RM682 will continue to lose access to other compatible Kuskokwim moose hunts, reducing opportunity without clear conservation benefits.

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

This proposal is based on my personal experience hunting moose on the Kuskokwim River areas as a Unit 18 resident. Along with other rural Kuskokwim residents. The current restriction creates unnecessary hardship when trying to plan hunts across multiple registration opportunities.

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