

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 85.045(a)(17). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize a fall antlerless hunt during September and a winter any-moose season during February in a portion of Unit 19D as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(17)		
...		
Unit 19(D) upstream of the Selatna River, excluding the Black River		
1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; up to 20 permits may be issued	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30	No open season
...		
1 moose by registration permit only, a person may not take a cow accompanied by a calf	Feb. 1 – Last day of Feb.	No open season
...		

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Antlerless moose hunting seasons must be reauthorized annually.

The moose population in Unit 19D upstream of the Selatna River recently experienced a significant decline due to an extremely difficult winter in 2022/2023. During a November 2023 survey a decline was documented from 2,471 moose (2.2 moose/mi²) to 1,591 moose (1.4 moose/mi²). Due to this decline the Department of Fish and Game closed the winter hunt in regulatory year (RY) 23 by emergency order. Proposal 66, which was passed by the Board of Game in March 2024, authorized a new draw permit hunt in the fall for antlerless moose in a portion of Unit 19D. This proposal was submitted by the McGrath Advisory Committee prior to the documented decline of moose. While the department does not intend to issue antlerless permits in RY24 we would like to keep the hunt available as a tool to provide additional opportunity when it is again warranted.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish & Game

(HQ-F24-068)
