

PROPOSAL 13

5 AAC 92.200. Purchase and sale of game.

Prohibit the sale of antlers from moose harvested in Unit 18 as follows:

Mid-Lower Yukon communities have observed an increase in moose antler sales in their region (Unit 18). This has increased harassment of moose as people search for large bulls to harvest in order to sell the antlers. There is concern that the taking of large bulls and the harassment could be detrimental to the overall health of the moose, which local communities rely on for subsistence needs. Purchase of antlers and harvest of moose just for antler sales have increased wanton waste and teaches unethical and untraditional hunting practices to youth.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Mid-Lower Yukon AC is comprised of the Yukon River villages of Mountain Village, Pitka's Point, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, Marshall and Russian Mission. The majority of people residing in these communities are subsistence hunters and rely on moose for food security. Mid-Lower Yukon communities have observed an increase in moose antler sales in their region (Unit 18). This has increased harassment of moose as people search for large bulls to harvest in order to sell the antlers. There is concern that the taking of large bulls and the harassment could be detrimental to the overall health of the moose, which local communities rely on for subsistence needs. Purchase of antlers and harvest of moose just for antler sales have increased wanton waste and teaches unethical and untraditional hunting practices to youth.

Current regulations have led to unforeseen social changes in villages along the Yukon River in Unit 18. Hunters have started selecting large bulls instead of the traditional younger animals, there has been an increase in theft of antlers from people's homes, and people have been harassing bulls in early winter including chasing them through trees in an attempt to knock antlers off. People are prioritizing making money off of moose antlers over traditional hunting customs. There has been an increase in unethical and untraditional hunting practices in front of youth.

PROPOSED BY: Mid-Lower Yukon Fish & Game Advisory Committee (EG-F19-039)
