

PROPOSAL 162

5 AAC 085.045(13). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(13)		
...		
Unit 15(B), Kalgin Island		
1 moose per regulatory year, by registration permit only	Aug. 20—Sept. 20	Aug. 20—Sept. 20
...		

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. The current regulation for hunting moose on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B allows hunters to harvest antlerless moose with the goal of reducing the population to the management objective.

In response to concerns that the moose population on Kalgin Island had exceeded the island's carrying capacity and due to deteriorating habitat conditions, the board established a drawing permit hunt for antlerless moose in 1995. In a further attempt to reduce the number of moose on the island, the board established a registration hunt for any moose in 1999. Despite these measures to reduce moose numbers, moose remain abundant on the island and continue to exceed the management objective.

During the most recent moose survey (March 2018), department staff counted 85 moose on Kalgin Island. This count exceeded the population objective of 20–40 moose. In the last 10 years, an average of 126 permits were issued for this hunt; of which 86 permittees hunted, with an annual harvest of 29 moose.

The "any moose" registration hunt is a management tool the Department of Fish and Game uses to maintain moose abundance within management objectives on the island. In addition, the registration hunt provides a mechanism to the department to continue gathering biological information from specimens provided by successful hunters. The difficult hunting conditions and limited access reduces concerns with over-harvest.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F19-169)
