

PROPOSAL 47

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

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

Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region until harvest or population objectives are met as follows:

Nonresident hunting shall not be allowed in Region III (Interior and Eastern Arctic) for any moose or caribou population under a current active Intensive Management Predation Control Program until the minimum Intensive Management population or harvest objective for that population has been reached.

So in areas where, for example, the population objective has been met for a prey population under an active Intensive Management (IM) predation control plan, but not the harvest objective (or vice versa), this would not apply and nonresident hunting would be allowed.

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

**Nonresident hunting opportunity in areas within Region III
(Interior and Eastern Arctic) under active IM Predation Control Programs.**

Intensive Management Predation Control Implementation Programs to restore the abundance of prey species as necessary to achieve human consumptive use goals are intended to benefit resident Alaskans.

Resident Hunters of Alaska supports IM efforts to achieve these goals.

We understand that nonresidents may benefit from IM programs once IM population or harvest objectives are met. That is why we support nonresidents as well as residents paying a fee for the state's intensive management programs. However, nonresidents are not entitled to benefit from IM programs while they are in progress until either the harvest or population objectives for specific moose or caribou populations have been achieved.

We would like to see the Board of Game adopt regulations that match the intent of our Intensive Management law. No nonresident hunting should be allowed in Region III in an area where a moose or caribou population is under a formal active IM Predation Control program to increase populations for the benefit of resident consumptive uses when the minimum IM population or harvest objectives for that prey species has not been reached.

Currently there are two active IM programs in place in Region III to increase moose populations, in Units 19A and 19D east. Both programs expire in June of 2020 and will be reevaluated at the March 2020 Region III meeting.

In Unit 19A, neither the moose population or harvest objective has been met, and there is currently no nonresident moose hunting allowed in Unit 19A. In Unit 19D East the latest data shows that the population objective has been met but not the harvest objective. There is one area in 19D where nonresident moose hunting is allowed, but it is outside the predation control area.

This proposal would thus not have any effect on current nonresident moose hunting opportunities in Region III that we can see at this time.

Intensive Management when necessary is first and foremost about putting food on the tables of Alaskans. That's the way Alaskans who support IM efforts understand it. In other areas of the state, like Unit 13, the board has passed similar regulations for caribou, saying that nonresident hunting of the Nelchina herd will only be allowed if the herd is above the population or harvest objective. There is no valid reason not to have a one-size-fits-all regulation across the state on this particular issue.

PROPOSED BY: Resident Hunters of Alaska

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