

PROPOSAL 13

5 AAC 85.045(a)(15). Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose.

Increase the number of nonresident draw hunt permits and extend the nonresident season by 10 days in Unit 17A as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 17(A)		
Up to 2 moose per regulatory year, only as follows:		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 moose by regulatory permit only, or	Aug. 25–Sept. 25 (Subsistence hunt only)	
1 antlered bull by registration permit; during the period Dec. 1–Last day of Feb. a season of up to 31 days may be announced by emergency order; or	Winter season to be announced by emergency order (Subsistence hunt only)	
1 antlerless moose by registration permit; during the period Dec. 1–Last day of Feb. a season of up to 31 days may be announced by emergency order;	Winter season to be announced by emergency order (Subsistence hunt only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side, by drawing permit only; up to [50] 100 permits may be issued.		Sept. 5–[Sept 15] <u>Sept. 25</u>
...		

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Based on the most recent population survey in March of 2017 the point estimate was 1,990 moose ±437 in Unit 17A. The management objectives are to maintain a population of 1,100-1,700 moose. The moose population

in Unit 17A is growing and can sustain additional harvest, and winter hunt quotas have rarely been met in the last four years. Out of concern for over-browsing which would impact the quality and quantity of forage available for moose in Unit 17A, additional harvest opportunities are warranted by extending the nonresident hunting season by 10 days and increasing the “up to” number of permits from 50 to 100.

Management objectives for this population recognize the importance of this population expanding into neighboring areas to provide additional harvest opportunities. This population is likely responsible in part to the recent growth of adjacent populations, particularly in the north and west. With the already long and liberal resident season the department recommends the board consider additional nonresident opportunity.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-073)
