

**PROPOSAL 214**

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

Eliminate all moose drawing permit hunts in Unit 13 as follows:

Eliminate all moose draw permit hunts in Unit 13 and comply with Section 16.05.258, if there is a shortage of resources.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Eliminate all moose draw permit hunts in Unit 13.

Remove DM324 for resident hunt for antlerless moose with season dates of October 1 – October 31 and March 1 - March 31.

Remove resident hunt DM324 for one bull with season date of October 1- October 31.

Remove nonresident hunt DM335 - DM339 for one bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tine on at least one side with season date September 1 – September 30.

The young bull moose population in Unit 13 is low. It is at or below management objectives in three of the subunits of Unit 13.

In Unit 13A the moose population has shown a slight decline in the past three to four years. The ratio of yearlings to cows is 2.8 per 100 cows. It is below ideal ratio of ten yearlings to 100 cows.

The moose population has dropped to the mid-point in the management objective. The mid-point population is the trigger to conduct a wolf control program. Due to a low moose count, the predator control program for wolves in Unit 13B has been ongoing since last year to reduce the wolf predation. Unit 13A has been added to the wolf program because it is adjacent to Unit 13B and also has a low yearling count.

Both Unit 13B and Unit 13D are below the moose management objectives. The moose are 1,000 under the management objective in Unit 13B.

Draw hunt permits must be eliminated to conserve the moose population. Subsistence law, Section 16.05.258, are in place to give priority to subsistence hunters in times of a shortage of the resource. Community Subsistence Harvest Tier II hunters are harvesting less moose in the field during the hunting season which may be due to low moose population.

With a low yearling count and below management objective moose count (-1,000), it is necessary to eliminate all Unit 13 moose draw hunts. ADF&G must take action to protect moose numbers and protect subsistence rights and eliminating all Unit 13 draw permit hunts will do so.

DM324 – bull moose hunt in October month needs to be removed. Hunting moose during the rutting season when moose are vulnerable and meat is not edible shouldn't be allowed in regulation. Moose will be needlessly killed and meat will be inedible.

**PROPOSED BY:** Ahtna Tene Nene'

(HQ-F21-001)

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