Proposal to Change

2026-2028 Federal Subsistence Regulations for the Subsistence Harvest of Wildlife

Division: Wildlife Conservation

Region: 5 GMU(S): 22D

Contact: Ben Mulligan and Mark Burch

E-mail: ben.mulligan@alaska.gov and mark.burch@alaska.gov

1: What regulation do you wish to change?

22D Moose Hunting – Remove federal FM2204 permit for Unit 22D SW winter moose hunting and change to antlered bull bag limit. Consolidate 22D winter moose hunting regulations to be consistent with state regulations.

2: How would the new regulation read?

Unit 22D – 1 **antlered bull by state registration permit**.

Season date: Dec 1 – Jan 31, may be announced

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

This regulation change will create consistency in permits required between the federal and state hunting regulations for hunting moose on state and federal land. Creating consistency between state and federal regulations would help users better understand and adhere to regulations. FSB should also consider whether the in-person permit availability requirement under the state RM849 winter moose permit sufficiently restricts permit issuance to local federally qualified subsistence users and subsequently remove the federal lands closure for Unit 22D.

State regulations currently only permit hunters to pick up State Registration Permit RM849 in person at vendors in Brevig Mission, Golovin, Nome, Teller, and White Mountain, so the 22D federal lands closure for the winter moose hunts under federal regulations is redundant.

Additionally, the state registration hunt RM849 has an antlered bull bag limit implemented to protect larger breeding bulls that are still recovering from the rut. The any bull bag limit under FM2204 and for the remainder of Unit 22D in federal regulations is not biologically warranted given that the Unit 22D moose population is managed under a quota system to avoid overharvest of bulls.

4: What, if any, impact will this change have on the wildlife population impacted by the proposed regulatory change?

None.

5: How will this change affect federal subsistence uses?

The regulations will be easier to read and understand and will be consistent between state and federal regulations. There would be less Wildlife Closure Reviews (WCRs) for the RAC to consider.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as state subsistence/personal use, sport/recreational

and commercial uses?

Same as #5 – consistency between state and federal regulations will make them easier to understand.