2. The Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is requesting the authority to create a "may be announced between Sept. 1 – Oct. 15" antlerless moose hunt in the Kuskokwim Zone 2 moose hunt area. As part of this request, the Refuge is also asking for the ability to determine the permit allocation system (to limit the number of permits), set season dates, and to set permit conditions to respond to current population metrics. The lower Kuskokwim River moose population within Zone 2 has continued to increase in numbers to a point that we believe we can afford to have a limited cow harvest in anticipation of reaching carrying capacity.

Existing regulation:

None

Proposed Federal Regulation:

Unit 18, that portion east of a line running from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake, then to the east bank of the Johnson River at its entrance into Nunavakanukakslak Lake (N 60°59.41' Latitude; W162°22.14' Longitude), continuing upriver along a line 1/2 mile south and east of, and paralleling a line along the southerly bank of the Johnson River to the confluence of the east bank of Crooked Creek, then continuing upriver to the outlet at Arhymot Lake, then following the south bank east of the Unit 18 border and then north of and including the Eek River drainage—Up to 1 antlerless moose by federal registration permit during the fall season.

Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of moose except by residents of Akiachak, Akiak, Atmautlauk, Bethel, Eek, Kalskag, Kasigluk, <u>Kipnuk,</u> <u>Kongiganak,</u> Kwethluk, <u>Kwigillingok</u>,Lower Kalskag, Napakiak, Napaskiak, May be announced between Sept. 1 - Oct. 15 Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, <u>Quinhagak</u>, Tuluksak, and Tuntutuliak.