

## **DRAFT STAFF ANALYSIS WP26-01E – YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA**

### **Introduction**

Please see the WP26-01 master analysis for the Issues, Proponent Statement, Regulatory History, and Discussion and Effects sections.

### **Proposed Federal Regulations – Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta**

#### Caribou

**Notes:** OSM combined Unit 18, that portion to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River and Unit 18, remainder into one hunt area to simplify regulations as the regulations are exactly the same.

The DAL for Unit 18 caribou covers the entire range of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and requires coordination with the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee (Committee). As this Committee is focused on Nushagak Peninsula caribou, not Mulchatna caribou, OSM did not include it in the entities required for coordination. OSM also added clarification that this delegated authority is for Mulchatna caribou, which explains why the Togiak NWR manager has delegated authority to manage these caribou hunts. The Board delegated authority to one Federal in-season manager to streamline management of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd across its entire range.

#### **Unit 18—Caribou**

*Unit 18 —up to 2 caribou by State registration permit*

*Season may be  
announced between  
Aug. 1-Mar. 15.*

***The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, the Yukon Delta NWR, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to open/close seasons, and announce harvest limits, including sex restrictions for Mulchatna caribou.***

#### Moose

**Note:** The DAL for moose in the Kuskokwim River hunt area does not require coordination with the BLM Anchorage Field Office. OSM added the BLM Anchorage Field Office to the entities required for coordination since some BLM lands occur in this hunt area.

The DAL for moose in Unit 18 that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of Carter Bay drainage reads, “Unit 18, Goodnews River drainage south to the Unit 18 boundary” because the hunt area changed in regulation but was not updated in the associated DAL.

## Unit 18—Moose

*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; W 162°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—I antlered bull by State registration permit during the fall season*

Sep. 1-Oct. 15.

OR

*Up to 1 moose by Federal permit during a may-be-announced winter season*

May be announced between Dec. 1-Jan. 31.

*Federal public lands are closed to the taking of moose except by residents of Akiachak, Akiak, Atmautlauk, Bethel, Eek, Kalskag, Kasigluk, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwethluk, Kwigillingok, Lower Kalskag, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, Quinhagak, Tuluksak, and Tuntutuliak.*

***The Yukon Delta NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, the BLM Anchorage Field Office, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to determine annual harvest quotas, close the fall season, open/close a winter season, announce sex and antler restrictions for the winter hunt, and determine the permit allocation system on an annual basis, including the number of permits issued through a limited registration or random drawing hunt.***

*Unit 18, that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of Carter Bay drainage—I antlered bull by State registration permit*

Sep. 1-30

OR

*1 moose by State registration permit*

***The Togiak NWR manager after coordination with ADF&G, OSM, and the Chair of the affected Council(s) is authorized within the regulatory parameters set by the Board, to set harvest quotas, close the fall season, and open/close a winter season.***

*A season may be announced between Dec. 1 and the last day of Feb.*

## **OSM PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION**

**Support** Proposal WP26-01e.

### **Justification**

See the WP26-01 master analysis.