



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Headquarters

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An Agenda Change Request (ACR 9) has been submitted by to the Alaska Board of Game (board) requesting to change AS 16.05.407 which is the statute that requires nonresidents hunting certain species of big game animals be accompanied by an Alaska-licensed guide or resident relative within second-degree of kindred. The proponent is asking the board to add moose the list of species that requires nonresidents be accompanied in the field by an Alaska-licensed guide or resident relative within second-degree of kindred.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- A. The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- B. The department is unaware of any effects of regulations that were unforeseen when the regulation was adopted.
- C. The department is unaware of any biological concerns for moose populations as related to guided or nonguided hunts.
- D. The department is unaware of any unforeseen or unexpected events that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses as defined in AS 16.05.258(f).
- E. The department is unaware of any unexpected resource situation that would cause a biologically allowable resource harvest to be precluded by delayed regulatory action.

There is a positive customary and traditional use finding for moose throughout most of where moose naturally occur.

The board lacks the authority to change statutes. Only the legislature can require a nonresident be accompanied by an Alaska-licensed guide. To address allocation issues in some areas such as the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area, the board has allocated nonresident moose hunting between nonresidents accompanied by Alaska-licensed guides and those that are not: these actions are allocative in nature. Should the board accept this ACR the department recommends hearing the proposal at the March 2023 Southcentral board meeting.

Sincerely,

Ryan Scott

Ryan Scott
Assistant Director
Division of Wildlife Conservation