

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
5TH COUNCIL, 30TH SESSION

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL
NO. 6-30

TABLED ON JUNE 14, 1965



14 May, 1965.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL NO. 6.
(Second Session, 1965)

RESIDENT MOOSE HUNTING
GAME MANAGEMENT ZONES 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10

DISPOSITION

JUN 16 1965

Accepted as Read.....

Amended..... See Text.

Rejected..... See Text.

Deferred..... See Text.

Not considered.

RESIDENT MOOSE HUNTING

GAME MANAGEMENT ZONES 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10

Representation was made to Robert Porritt by the Fort Smith Fish and Game Association, recommending that sport hunting of moose by residents of the Northwest Territories be permitted in Game Management Zones 3, 4 and 5 and that the season in Zones 6 and 10 be extended to October 30th (new zoning system). The Administration agreed to investigate, and this was done by the Game Management Service in the area north of Fort Smith.

Two surveys estimated there is one moose per 6.6 square miles and one moose per 10 square miles. It is recognized that in an aerial survey, because of such things as heavy forest cover, the count is invariably less than the number of animals actually in the area. The true density therefore is considered to be higher than indicated by these results. Only through a series of surveys can a realistic estimate be made. However, on the basis of the information obtained, the moose population in this area will support a limited degree of hunting by holders of Resident Big-Game Licences.

Lowering of the residency requirement for a Resident Big-Game Licence from four years to one year has considerably increased the number of individuals eligible for this Licence. Furthermore, no detailed knowledge is possessed concerning age composition, ratio of sexes or rate of reproduction of the moose population. It is therefore suggested that as a safeguard, moose hunting in these zones be permitted on a quota basis only, until the detailed knowledge required is obtained.

The Commissioner recommends that:

- (1) Game Management Zones 3, 4 and 5 (new zoning system) be opened for moose hunting by the holder of a Resident Big-Game Licence.
- (2) Initially quotas be established as follows:
 - (a) Zone 3 - 25 moose (no sex or age restriction)
 - (b) Zone 4 - 20 moose (no sex or age restriction)
 - (c) Zone 5 - 30 moose (no sex or age restriction)
- (3) The open season for Zones 3, 4 and 5 extend from September 15th to December 1st. (The long season is justified by the quota restriction).

The moose season in Game Management Zones 6 and 10 (new zoning system) extends from September 15th to September 30th. The question of extending the season in these zones to October 30th was also brought forward.

In 1963-64 a total of 14 moose were taken in Zones 6 and 10 by Big-Game Licence holders. This small percentage of hunter success--62 Licences were issued--can be, in part, attributed to the present short hunting season.

The general area supports a substantial moose population, which could, without harm, stand more hunting. Extension of the season will permit a higher hunter success. The Commissioner concurs with the suggestion and recommends that the moose hunting season in Zones 6 and 10 be from September 15th to October 30th.