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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **State Closes Moose Hunt: Unit 22B West of Darby Mountains**

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order to close the winter season for antlered bull moose in Unit 22(B), that portion west of the Darby Mountains, by registration permit hunt RM843 (*Note: this area is identified as the Remainder of Unit 22(B) in the hunting regulations booklet*).

The western Unit 22(B) moose population has remained stable at a low density ( $\leq 0.25/\text{mi}^2$ ) with recruitment rates at or below 10% since 1999. The Alaska Board of Game established a moose registration permit hunt in western Unit 22(B) and the department set an annual harvest quota of 31 bulls based on results from the 2013 stratified moose population survey. The fall season closed Sept. 8, 2014 with a reported harvest of 20 bull moose. The winter season, hunt RM843, opened January 1, 2015 with a harvest quota of 11 antlered bulls which is expected to be reached by the season closing date announced in this emergency order. No further harvest is warranted.

The State of Alaska resident winter season for antlered bull moose by registration permit hunt RM843 in Unit 22(B), that portion west of the Darby Mountains, closes at 11:59 p.m. on January 16, 2015. The area affected by this emergency order includes all drainages in Unit 22(B) west of the Darby Mountains, including the Fish and Niukluk River drainages.

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

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