

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-03-19

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
July 19, 2019

Effective Date: 11:59 PM
July 19, 2019

Expiration Date: June 30, 2020
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order shortens the hunting season for bull moose by 5 days in portions of Game Management Unit 20B during regulatory year 2019–2020. Those portions of Unit 20B not including the Fairbanks Management Area, Minto Flats Management Area, and the Middle Fork of the Chena River and the Salcha River upstream of Goose Creek will end on September 15 at 11:59 pm. The bag limit will continue to be one bull. Other moose seasons throughout Unit 20B will remain unaffected by this emergency order.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(a)(18), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are in effect for hunting moose:


Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(18)		
...		
Unit 20(B), that portion of the Salcha River drainage downstream of Goose Creek and upstream from and including Butte Creek		
1 bull, or	Sept. 1–Sept. 15	Sept. 5–Sept. 15

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
...		
Unit 20(B), that portion southeast of the Moose Creek dike within one-half mile of each side of the Richardson Highway		
1 bull; or	Sept. 1–Sept. 15	Sept. 5–Sept. 15
...		
Remainder of Unit 20(B)		
...		
1 bull; or	Sept. 1–Sept. 15	Sept. 5–Sept. 15
...		

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 20B remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:


Tony Hollis
Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

A bull-to-cow ratio of 30 bulls per 100 cows is desirable in order to maintain a healthy population of moose in Unit 20B. This ratio has been declining since 2015 and was found to be 17 bulls per 100 cows during the November 2017 moose survey, an indication that the harvest of bull moose is too high. Prior to 2011, Unit 20B had a September 1–15 moose season for residents and a September 5–15 moose season for nonresidents. The Board of Game lengthened the season in 2011 because the moose population was above the objective of 12,000–15,000 moose and the harvestable surplus of bulls was high. Now that the moose population has decreased to 12,871 moose, a more appropriate level for the available habitat, returning the moose season to the pre-2011 dates during the coming regulatory year may alleviate the low bull:cow ratio and allow it to return to the objective of 30 bull per 100 cows. This emergency order was also issued for the 2018-2019 hunting season.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution of the Emergency Order is to the following list. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game office in Fairbanks.

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 - e. Area Offices, Statewide
 - f. Information Management
 - g. Wildlife Information Centers
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 - vii. Mat-Su
 - viii. Minto-Nenana
 - ix. Tok Cutoff-Nabesna Rd
 - x. Upper Tanana-Fortymile
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14. Federal Office of Subsistence Management
15. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
16. Yukon-Charley National Preserve
17. Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
18. US Bureau of Land Management
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19. Tanana Chiefs Conference
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21. Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
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