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PRESS RELEASE

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Unit 6B Moose Hunt Closes

(Cordova)- Registration permit hunt RM164 for bull moose in Unit 6B will close at 11:59 pm on September 16 by Emergency Order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The hunt area for RM164 includes all of Unit 6B (the Gulf of Alaska and Copper River Basin drainages west of Palm Point near Katalla, east of the west bank of the Copper River and east of a line from Flag Point to Cottonwood Point.)

The 2014 moose population point estimate for Unit 6B, east of the Copper River Delta and including the Martin River Valley, is 227 moose (90% CI 177-278). There has not been adequate snow to conduct a population estimate since that time. However, a composition survey completed last fall resulted in 245 moose observed in selected areas and 48 Bulls per 100 Cows. The Department set a maximum allowable harvest of 22 bull moose. Additional take beyond the harvest objective could harm the long-term stability of the moose population. According to Cordova Area Biologist Charlotte Westing, the harvest is currently at 22 bull moose. Hunters are currently in the field, and therefore it is possible that additional moose have been taken and are not yet reported. This closure is necessary to prevent excessive harvest.

This closure affects only registration permit hunt RM164 in Unit 6B. All other moose hunting regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.

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