

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Bruce Dale, Director
Region I – Southeast Alaska
802 3rd Street
Douglas, AK 99824-5412
(907) 465-4265



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sam Cotten, Commissioner
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: October 12, 2015

CONTACT:

Stephanie Sell
Area Management Biologist
(907) 465-4266

MOOSE HUNTING SEASON CLOSURE UNIT 5A WEST OF THE DANGEROUS RIVER

(Juneau) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the United States Forest Service announce an early closure to the moose hunting season in that portion of Game Management Unit 5(A) west of the Dangerous River, but not including Nunatak Bench. The hunt in this area is managed under joint state and federal registration permit RM061.

Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game set a harvest objective of 25 bull moose for the area west of the Dangerous River for the 2015 hunting season. As of Monday morning, October 12, 2015, the 21 bulls have been harvested. We suspect more moose are down in the field and we expect the harvest will meet or exceed the harvest objective. An aerial survey in December 2013 resulted in a 12 bulls per 100 cow moose ratio which is below the 25:100 management objective for the Yakutat area. While the December 2013 bull:cow ratio is considered a minimum ratio due to survey timing it is important, if possible, not to exceed the harvest objective of 25 bull moose west of the Dangerous River to ensure adequate bull to cow ratios for this portion of the Yakutat forelands.

Because the harvest objective of 25 bull moose is expected to be reached during the federal subsistence moose season the State of Alaska moose hunting season will not open in 2015 in the area west of the Dangerous River to Yakutat Bay on the Yakutat Forelands. An Emergency Order (01-14-15) has been issued that closes the state moose hunting season in this area on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 @ 11:59 pm. The United States Forest Service will issue a news release closing the federal moose hunting season in this area, effective October 13, 2015 @ 11:59 pm.

Hunters are reminded that the remainder of Game Management Unit 5A east of the Dangerous River will remain open for moose hunting through the 15th of November or until the over harvest of bull moose on the Yakutat Forelands reaches 55 bulls.

Hunters with questions about moose hunting in Game Management Unit 5A are encouraged to contact Stephanie Sell at the Douglas Area Office of ADF&G @ 465-4266.