

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 04-01-16

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska
January 29, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
January 30, 2016

Expiration Date: June 30, 2016
unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the closing date for the winter moose hunt in Game Management Unit 17(A) from January 31 to February 29. The bag limit for the winter season in Unit 17(A) hunt is two moose. Hunters are allowed to harvest one antlered bull moose with a RM575 registration permit and/or one antlerless moose with an RM576 registration permit. Lack of snow thus far has prevented hunters from using sno-go's to access moose habitat and harvest many moose.

The antlerless moose hunting season will be closed by emergency order when the harvest quota of 10 cow moose has been reached, and the antlered bull hunting season will be closed by emergency order when a harvest quota of 15 bull moose has been reached. As of Friday, January 29, hunters have harvested only 4 cows and 1 bull moose.

Hunters who have already taken a moose during the 2015 regulatory year (July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016) are only allowed to harvest one additional moose (either sex). Permits will be available only at the Dillingham ADF&G office and Togiak Traditional Council office. This emergency order does not affect any other moose hunting regulations in Unit 17.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

	Resident Open Season (Subsistence General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Units and Bag Limits		
...		

(15)

Unit 17(A)

Up to 2 moose per regulatory year, only as follows

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only, or
Aug.25 –Sept. 20
(Subsistence Hunt only)

1 antlered bull by registration permit; during the period Dec. 1–Last day of Feb. a season of up to 31 days may be announced by emergency order;
Dec. 1–Feb. 29
(Subsistence Hunt only)

...

All other moose regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Neil Barten
Dillingham Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board authorized a winter moose hunting season of up to 31 days in Unit 17(A) with a bag limit of up to two moose. Little snow and poor travel conditions have limited hunters access to moose thus far, and the harvest is well below our objectives for both bull and cow moose. As of Friday January 29, only 4 cows and 1 bull have been harvested, while our allowable quota for this winter hunt are 10 cows and 15 bulls. Aerial surveys indicated that there were at least 1,166 moose in Unit 17(A) with a bull ratio of 66 bulls:100 cows when the population was last surveyed in March 2011. High rates of moose calf

production and survival observed since the survey indicate that the population can sustain the harvest of 10 cow moose annually. The department will issue an emergency order to close the antlerless season when the harvest quota of 10 cow moose has been reached, and a subsequent emergency order when the harvest quota of 15 bull moose has been reached.

DISTRIBUTION:

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Anchorage, Juneau, Dillingham, and Fairbanks.

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5. Boards Support Section, Executive Director Board of Game
 - Field Offices: Bethel, Dillingham
 - Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chairman
 - Nushagak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
 - Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
6. Division of Subsistence, Anchorage Regional Supervisor
7. Public Communications, ADF&G, Juneau, Anchorage
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9. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Regional Director, Anchorage
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