

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Alaska Department
of Fish and Game**

Emergency Order No. 04-01-18

Issued at Palmer, Alaska
January 17, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
January 21, 2018

Expiration Date: June 30, 2018
unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the State of Alaska winter moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 17(A). The hunting season, which was scheduled to close at midnight on January 20, 2018, will be extended to midnight on February 20, 2018. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2018 Alaska state hunting license, and at least one state registration permit (RM575 and/or RM576). Hunters will be allowed to shoot one antlered bull if they have registration permit RM575 in their possession and/or one antlerless moose if they have permit RM576. Hunters are required to have both permits to shoot two moose (one antlered bull and one antlerless moose). To keep the harvest within sustainable limits, the antlerless moose hunting season will be closed by emergency order and federal special action if the quota of 30 cows is reached before the February 20 season closing date. The antlered bull season will be closed by similar action if the quota of 20 bulls is reached earlier than the scheduled closing date of February 20. Hunters who have already harvested a moose during the current regulatory year are eligible to participate in this hunt, but can only take one additional moose.

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Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

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

Up to 2 moose 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

Jan. 21–Feb. 20
(Subsistence Hunt only)

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

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Neil Barten
Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game and the 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. The season was initially opened during December 21-January 20, but travel conditions have been poor for hunters and access to moose has been impeded by warm temperatures and lack of snow for snowmachine travel. As of January 16, only five cow moose and four bull moose have been reported harvested, far below our quota of 30 cows and 20 bulls. Moose numbers in Unit 17A exceed the population objective and extending the season allows for more harvest opportunity. Hunter harvests are also an important management tool for lowering the moose density in this area.

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