Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order 05-06-16

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. September 09, 2016 **Issued at** Nome, Alaska September 09, 2016

Expiration Date: June 30, 2017

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the State resident moose season in hunt area Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains covered under registration permit hunt RM840.

The State resident fall season for bull moose by registration permit hunt RM840 in Unit 22(B), that portion west of the Darby Mountains closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 09, 2016. The fall harvest quota of 23 bulls is expected to be reached by the season closing date announced in this emergency order and no further harvest is warranted. (*Note: this area is identified as the Remainder of Unit 22(B) in the Regulation Section, below*). Hunters should note that season closure for federal permits may be announced by federal managers.

Moose hunting in Unit 22(B) is managed by permit hunts with separate fall and winter harvest quotas. The Department plans to administer hunt RM843 beginning January 1, 2017 with a quota that will be dependent on overall fall harvest.

The closure in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains is additive to the RM840 season closure announced for Unit 22(C). Hunting by RM840 permit is only open in the following hunt areas assigned to this permit: Unit 22D Kuzitrin Drainage and Unit 22D Southwest.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in 5 AAC 85.045 (a) (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE, are superseded by this emergency order and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in the Remainder of Unit 22(B:

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

Units and Bag Limits

(20)

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Remainder of Unit 22(B)

open season.

RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only; or	Sept. 1 - Sept. 9
1 antlered bull by registration permit only;	Jan. 1 - Jan. 31
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:	No

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All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Letty Hughes Assistant Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The moose population in western Unit 22(B) has declined by 64% since 1987, and recruitment rates have been below 10% for over 10 years. To help stabilize this population, the Alaska Board of Game established a moose registration permit hunt in western Unit 22(B). The department completed a spring population survey in March 2016 and found a population estimate of 728 observable moose (609-847 at 90% C.I.). The department set a 2016-2017 fall harvest rate of 3% which gives a harvest quota of 23 bulls. The fall harvest quota of 23 bulls is expected to be reached by the season closing date announced in this emergency order and no further harvest is warranted.

The Department plans to administer hunt RM843 beginning January 1, 2017 with a quota that will be dependent on overall fall harvest.

DISTRIBUTION:

This Emergency Order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game office in Nome.

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- 2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison, Anchorage)
- 3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
- 4. Division of Wildlife Conservation

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Unit 22 Bering Straits Native Corporation Kawerak, Inc., Natural Resources Department Kawerak, Inc., Reindeer Herders Association Sitnasuak Native Corporation Brevig Mission Nome Council Shaktoolik Elim Shishmaref Golovin Solomon Koyuk Stebbins Mary's Igloo St. Michael

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