HUNTING-TRAPPING Emergency Order ALASKA DEPARTMENT

OF FISH AND GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-09-17

Effective Date: October 3, 2017

Issued at Douglas, Alaska October 2, 2017

Expiration Date: 30 June 2018 (unless superseded by a subsequent emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the state of Alaska resident TM059 Tier II moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 1(D). This order takes effect at 11:59 pm, Tuesday October 3, 2017.

REGULATORY TEXT:

Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.045, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in Unit 1(D).

	Resident	
	Open Season	
Unit and Dag Limit	(Subsistence and	Nonresident
Unit and Bag Limit	General Hunts)	Open Season
(1)		
Unit 1(D)	Sept. 15–Oct. 3 (Subsistence hunt only)	No open season
1 bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side by Tier II subsistence hunting permit only; up to 250 permits may be issued.		
	Sam Cotten Commissioner	
	By delegation to: Call H Carl H. Asst. Are	Исц Koch ea Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

A December 2016 aerial survey in the Chilkat Valley found more moose (221) than found during surveys in the previous four years (avg. = 168). We believe the higher count in 2016 resulted from greater snow cover and improved ability to see moose, rather than substantial growth in the population. ADF&G's current management objective for this population is harvest of 20-25 bull moose with legal antler configuration (spike or fork (S/F), 3 brow tine (3BT) on one antler, or 50 inch antler spread). As of October 2nd, 25 bulls (1-S/F; 17- 3BT; 4-fifty inch plus, and 3-sublegal) have been reported. The harvest of yearling bulls has been low in the last several years with 2, 4, and 6 bulls with spike or fork antlers being harvested during 2014, 2015, and 2016, respectively. Calf survival is unknown in the Chilkat Valley, however the proportion of calves observed during surveys in 2014-2016 has been between 8-14%. Due to concerns of continued low counts of spike or forked bulls in the harvest and because our management objective (20-25 bull moose) has been met, an emergency order (01-09-17) is being issued to close the Tier II moose hunting season in this area at 11:59pm, Tuesday, October 3, 2017.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution of this emergency order is to the attached listing. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game offices in Juneau, Douglas, Petersburg, Ketchikan, Wrangell, Sitka, Yakutat, Haines, Anchorage, Nome and Fairbanks.

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