Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order 05-06-17

Issued at Nome, Alaska September 7, 2017

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m.

September 7, 2017

Expiration Date: June 30, 2018

Nonresident

Open Season

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 7, 2017. 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, 2018 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 closures announced for Unit 22(C) and 22(D) Southwest and Kuzitrin drainage.

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Therefore, the following regulations in 5 AAC 85.045 (a) (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE, are superseded by this emergency order and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in the Remainder of Unit 22(B: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

Units and Bag Limits

(20)

...

Remainder of Unit 22(B)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration Sept. 1 - Sept. 7

permit only; or

1 antlered bull by registration Jan. 1 - Jan. 31

permit only;

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: No open season.

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

Sam Cotten Commissioner

By delegation to:

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 GSPE abundance survey in March 2016 and found an abundance estimate of 728 observable moose (609-847 at 90% C.I.). The department set a regulatory year 2017-2018 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, 2018 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

Director

Deputy Director

Assistant Director

Regional Supervisors

Regulation Coordination Team

Area Offices Statewide

Information Management Section, Anchorage, Douglas, Juneau

Public Communication/Information, Anchorage, Fairbanks

Federal Subsistence Liaison

5. Division of Boards

Boards Support Section, Executive Director

Field Offices: Dillingham, Kotzebue

Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chair

Unit 22 AC, Northern Norton Sound

Unit 22 AC, Southern Norton Sound

6. Division of Subsistence

Assistant Director

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Field Offices: Fairbanks, Kotzebue

- 7. Public Communications Section, Juneau
- 8. Department of Public Safety, Alaska Wildlife Troopers

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C Detachment, Western

D Detachment, Northern

Field Offices:

Unit 22: Nome

Unit 23: Kotzebue

9. U. S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

BLM, State Director

BLM, Anchorage District

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Mgr.

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Subsistence

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Wildlife

BLM, Fairbanks District

Unit 22/23 Central Yukon, Mgr

Unit 22/23 Central Yukon, Wildlife

Fish and Wildlife Service

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FWS RAC Unit 22, Seward Peninsula

FWS, Refuges

FWS, Selawik NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Togiak NWR, Refuge Mgr.

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National Park Service

NPS, Regional Director

NPS, Subsistence

NPS, Park Unit, Superintendent

Bering Landbridge, Nome

10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate

Unit 22: Nome

11. I.R.A./Traditional Village Councils/Regional Native Corporations

White Mountain

Unit 22

Bering Straits Native Corporation

Kawerak, Inc., Natural Resources Department Kawerak, Inc., Reindeer Herders Association

Sitnasuak Native Corporation

Brevig Mission Nome Teller
Council Shaktoolik Unalakleet
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12. News Media: Statewide