# Hunting and Trapping

## Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

**Emergency Order** 05-08-19

**Issued at** Nome, Alaska October 8, 2019

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.

October 9, 2019

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2020

#### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order extends the general season State resident fall season for bull moose in Unit 22(A) north of and including the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River drainage beginning October 09, 2019 at 12:01am through October 15, 2019 at 11:59pm. The combined estimated and reported harvest is below what is believed to be sustainable. This extension is expected to increase opportunity for hunters but not increase the harvest beyond what is sustainable for the area.

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Therefore, the following regulations in 5 AAC 85.045 (a) (20) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in a portion of Unit 22(A):

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

**Units and Bag Limits** 

(20)

Unit 22(A), that portion north of and including the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River drainages

**RESIDENT HUNTERS:** 

1 bull Aug. 1 – Sept. 30 **Oct. 9 – Oct. 15** 

#### **NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:**

1 antlered bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side

Sept. 1- Sept. 20

...

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Sara Germain Assistant Area Biologist

Sara Sorman

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Moose surveys completed in the central portion of Unit 22(A) are used to provide insight into the status of moose in the northern portion of Unit 22(A). These two areas are adjacent to one another and have similar habitat. Moose seasons in the northern portion of Unit 22(A) were shortened in 2003 in response to declines in abundance observed within the central portion of Unit 22(A).

In the spring of 2017 the department completed a moose abundance survey in the central portion of Unit 22A which estimated 840 observable moose. The estimate suggests a 10% annual rate of increase between 2008 and 2017. Comprehensive composition surveys have not been completed in the northern portion of Unit 22(A), however composition surveys conducted in 2016 in the central portion of Unit 22(A) found that the bull:cow ratio was above our management objective of 30 bulls to 100cows. This information suggests that moose abundance in the northern portion of Unit 22(A) has also increased and that the Unit 22A management objectives are being met.

The combined estimates of resident harvest and reported non-resident harvest are less than half of the total estimated harvestable surplus in the area. Based on hunter behavior and historical levels of harvest the department does not believe that the additional opportunity provided by this season extension is likely to result in a conservation concern.

#### **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** 

Program Director, Fairbanks

Field Offices: Fairbanks, Kotzebue

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

Director

**Detachment Commander** 

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

FWS, Regional Director

FWS, Office of Federal Subsistence Management

FWS, OSM Regional Advisory Councils, Coordinators

FWS RAC Unit 22, Seward Peninsula

FWS, Refuges

FWS, Selawik NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Togiak NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Yukon Delta NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Law Enforcement, Nome

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

Unit 22

Bering Straits Native Corporation

Kawerak, Inc., Natural Resources Department

Kawerak, Inc., Reindeer Herders Association

Sitnasuak Native Corporation

**Brevig Mission** 

Council

Elim

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12. News Media: Statewide