# Hunting and Trapping

# **Emergency Order**

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-03-20

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska

February 7, 2020

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m.

February 10, 2020

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2020

unless superseded by

subsequent emergency order

## **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order extends the State of Alaska winter moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 17A (RM575/RM576). The hunting season originally scheduled to close at 11:59 pm on February 9, 2020, will now be extended to 11:59 pm on February 29, 2020. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2020 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 29 closing date. The antlered bull season will be closed by similar action if the quota of 25 bulls is reached earlier than the scheduled closing date of February 29. 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. Successful hunters must call the Dillingham office or Togiak Traditional Council to report the sex of the moose taken within 24 hours – all permitees must return their completed hunt report, regardless of success, within 15 days of the close of season.

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Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Resident Open Season (Subsistence General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

**Units and Bag Limits** 

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(15)

Unit 17(A)

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**RESIDENT HUNTERS:** 

1 moose by registration permit only; or

1 antlered bull by 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, or

1 antlerless 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,

Aug.25-Sept. 25

(Subsistence Hunt only)

Jan.10-Feb. 29

(Subsistence Hunt only)

Jan. 10-Feb. 29

(Subsistence Hunt only)

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

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Lauren N. Watine

Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

## **JUSTIFICATION:**

The Alaska Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board authorized a winter moose hunting season of up to 31 days in Unit 17A with a bag limit of up to two moose. The season was initially opened January 10–February 9, but weather conditions have prevented hunters from accessing moose. As of February 7, 3 bulls and 10 cows have been taken out of an established quota of 25 bulls and 30 cows. Moose numbers in Unit 17A exceed the population objective and extending the season allows for more harvest opportunity. Hunter harvests are an important management tool for lowering the moose density in this area.

To keep the harvest within sustainable limits, the antlerless moose hunting season (RM576) will be closed by emergency order and federal special action if the quota of 30 cows is reached before the February 29 season closing date. The antlered bull season (RM575) will be closed by similar action if the quota of 25 bulls is reached earlier than the scheduled closing date of February 29.

#### **DISTRIBUTION:**

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Anchorage, Juneau, Dillingham, and Fairbanks.

- 1. Lieutenant Governor's Office
- 2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)
- 3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
- 4. Division of Wildlife Conservation

Director

**Deputy Director** 

**Assistant Director** 

**Regional Supervisors** 

Area Biologists (Statewide)

Regulatory Coordinator, Information Management

5. Boards Support Section, Executive Director Board of Game

Field Offices: Bethel, Dillingham

Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chairman

Nushagak Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee

- 6. Division of Subsistence, Anchorage Regional Supervisor
- 7. Public Communications, ADF&G, Juneau, Anchorage
- 8. Department of Public Safety, Bureau Wildlife Enforcement Director

C Detachment Commander, Anchorage

Field Offices: Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Iliamna, King Salmon

9. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Regional Director, Anchorage

Togiak NWR, Dillingham

Yukon Delta NWR, Bethel

- 10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate: Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Naknek
- 11. Village Councils: Aleknagik, Clarks Point, Dillingham, Ekuk, Goodnews Bay, Manokotak, Platinum, Quinhagak, Togiak, Twin Hills

Emergency Order Number: 04-03-20 February 7, 2020

12. BBNA, Dillingham

13. News Media:

Statewide: APRN

Dillingham: KDLG Radio, KRUP Radio, Bristol Bay Times