Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-13-21

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska

November 23, 2021

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m.

December 1, 2021

Expiration Date: June 30, 2022

unless superseded by

subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens the State of Alaska winter antlered bull moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 17B (RM585). The emergency order does not open the State of Alaska any-bull hunt in 17B, or the State of Alaska moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 17C under registration permit RM585. The hunting season will open at 12:00 am on December 1, 2021. This season will close on December 20, 2021 at 11:59 pm, ahead of the scheduled date. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2021 Alaska state hunting license, and a state registration permit (RM585) available at the Dillingham Fish & Game office and online. Hunters will be allowed to shoot one antlered bull if they have registration permit RM585 in their possession.

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Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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

(15)

. . .

Unit 17(B), that portion in the Unit 17(B) nonresident closed area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side may be taken with a harvest ticket; or Aug. 20 – Sept. 15 [DEC. 1 – DEC. 31]

1 antlered bull by registration permit only

Dec. 1 – Dec. 20

. . .

Remainder of Unit 17(B) 1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side may be taken with a harvest ticket; or

Aug. 20 – Sept. 15 [DEC. 1 – DEC. 31]

1 antlered bull moose by registration permit only;

Dec. 1 - Dec. 20

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Unit 17 (C)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

. . .

1 antlered bull moose by registration permit only

No open season.
[DEC. 1 – DEC. 31]

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

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Chris J. Brockman

DocuSigned by:

Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The winter antlered bull registration moose hunt RM585 in Game Management Unit 17B will open on December 1, 2021. The any bull hunt in 17B will not open. The 17C portion of RM585 will not open this December due to conservation concerns. Moose populations in Units 17C are currently under population objectives with low bull-to-cow and calf-to-cow ratios. Information on moose calf survival obtained through on-going department research in Unit 17C continues to document good calf productivity but low calf survival through the first year of life.

Registration moose hunt RM585 was designed to supplement fall moose hunting opportunity by providing a very limited number of bull moose in years when the population allows. Resident fall moose hunters in Units 17B were successful during the fall under the general season and RM583. The additional opportunity of a 20-day winter season in 17B is warranted given the limited number of available bull moose to remain within harvest limits.

To keep the harvest within sustainable limits the moose hunting season will be closed by this emergency order after 20 days. The season will be closed early by emergency order if the quota is reached earlier than the scheduled closing date of December 20. Hunters who have already harvested a moose during the current regulatory year are not eligible to participate in this hunt. Successful hunters must call the Dillingham office within 24 hours – all permitees must return their completed hunt report, regardless of success, within 15 days of the close of season.

The department anticipates opening RM575 (one antlered bull) and RM576 (one antlerless moose) in Unit 17A for a 31-day period between January 1 and February 28. The bag limit is two moose – one may be antlered, and one be may antlerless.

It is important that any hunt permittees return their fall hunt reports to provide wildlife managers the information they need to understand harvest by mailing in their paper reports, completing them at https://secure.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=interperm.enter_report_hunterid, or in person at any Alaska Department of Fish and Game office.

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For questions or more information about moose hunting opportunities in Unit 17, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Palmer at (907) 746-6300.

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