Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-01-22

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m. January 21, 2022 Issued at Dillingham, Alaska January 19, 2022

Expiration Date: June 30, 2022 unless superseded by subsequent emergency order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 January 20, 2022, will now be extended to 11:59 pm on February 3, 2022. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2022 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 3 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 3. 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Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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)

Up to 2 moose per regulatory year, only as follows

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)

Dec. 21–Feb. 3 (Subsistence Hunt only)

Dec. 21–Feb. 3 (Subsistence Hunt only)

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

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

China Buotprare

Chris Brockman 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 December 21–January 20, but weather conditions have prevented hunters from accessing moose. As of January 19, 21 cows and 11 bulls have been taken out of an established quota of 30 cows and 25 bulls. 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 3 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 3.

DISTRIBUTION:

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- 3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
- 4. Division of Wildlife Conservation

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- 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
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- Department of Public Safety, Bureau Wildlife Enforcement Director
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