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Advisory Announcement

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Registration Moose Hunt RM585 in Units 17B&C to Open

The *may be announced* winter registration moose hunt RM585 in Game Management Units 17B&C will open on December 1, 2023. Both 17B and 17C will open this December due to the most recent population survey resulting in 3,629 moose. Moose harvest objectives in both Units are currently under objective and can sustain additional opportunity.

Due to concerns about the availability of bulls for hunters near Dillingham next fall, a portion of 17C is closed to hunting this winter under RM585. The closure area is enacted due to the increased accessibility from the road system and puts those moose at risk of overharvest, therefore the following area will be closed: Starting at the mouth of the Wood River, west of the Wood River along the south shore of the Wood River continuing along the south shore of Lake Aleknagik, across the mouth of both Sunshine and Lillie creeks, north to the south shore Lake Nerka, east of the mouth of Pike Creek, continuing west along the south shore of Little Togiak Lake, west to the Unit 17A boundary, following the Unit 17A – 17C boundary south to the headwaters of the Weary River, east down the Weary River to the confluence of the Snake River and from the Snake River to Bristol Bay back north to the Wood River. Permittees must call and file a hunt report by phone (907-842-2334) within 3 days of killing a moose.

Registration moose hunt RM585 was designed to supplement fall moose hunting opportunity by providing a limited number of bull moose permits in years when the population allows. Resident fall moose hunters in Units 17B were successful during the fall under the general season and RM583 reporting 51 bulls harvested and 17C reported 160. An additional opportunity during the winter season for both 17B&C is warranted given the population increase over the last four years, but quotas are enacted to remain within harvest limits.

Registration permits will be available in person at the Dillingham ADF&G office starting November 15th and Nushagak River villages when ADF&G staff travel to each community. Successful hunters are required to report to Dillingham ADF&G office (phone: 907-842-2334) **within 3 days of killing a moose**. All permit reports must be returned to ADF&G, regardless of success, within 15 days of the close of the season.

As a reminder, those who were successful in harvesting one moose anywhere in the state are unable to participate in this hunt.

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 online 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.

For questions or more information about moose hunting opportunities in Unit 17, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham at (907) 843-2334.

