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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **State Extends Fall Registration Moose Hunt RM841 in Unit 22A Central**

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order to extend the State resident fall season for antlered bull moose by registration permit hunt RM841 in Unit 22(A) Central until September 30, 2018. An extension of the fall season will allow additional opportunity to reach the fall harvest quota of 34 antlered bulls.

The extended fall season for hunt RM841 includes hunt area Unit 22(A) Central, that portion in the Unalakleet River drainage and all drainages flowing into Norton Sound north of the Golsovia River drainage and south of the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River drainages.

Moose seasons in the central portion of Unit 22(A) were closed in 2005 because of a declining trend in the area's moose populations since 1989. A spring moose abundance survey completed in March 2008 estimated 339 observable moose in the area, and in 2008 the Alaska Board of Game adopted regulations to create a registration moose hunt with a harvest quota to prevent over harvest. The 2017 spring moose abundance survey estimated 840 observable moose. The estimate suggests a 10% annual rate of increase between 2008 and 2017.

The department set a harvest quota of 34 antlered bull moose in this portion of Unit 22(A) for regulatory year 2018-2019. The reported fall harvest from state and federal hunts is 24 antlered bulls. Due to local harvest needs the fall season is being extended until September 30, 2018 to allow additional opportunity to reach the harvest quota of 34 antlered bulls.

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

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