HUNTING-TRAPPING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-12-19
Issued at Douglas, Alaska
October 2, 2019

Effective Date: October 3, 2019
Expiration Date: 30 June 2020 (unless
superseded by a subsequent emergency
order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the state of Alaska resident and nonresident moose hunt for the Gustavus
Forelands, moose hunt RM049.

REGULATORY TEXT:

Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.045, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE, are
superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in Unit
1(C):

<table>
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<th>Units and Bag Limits</th>
<th>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</th>
<th>Nonresident Open Season</th>
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... Unit 1(C), that portion west of Excursion Inlet, north of Icy Passage (Gustavus hunt area)

1 moose by registration permit only with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more
brow tines on at least one side

... The remainder of Unit 1(C) moose seasons, other than those previously closed by emergency order, are
not affected by this emergency order.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner
By delegation to:
Roy Churchwell
Area Manager

Roy Churchwell
Emergency Order No. 01-12-19

October 2, 2019

JUSTIFICATION:
Prior to the season ADF&G set a harvest quota for the Gustavus area registration moose hunt, RM049, of 11 bulls that meet the antler restrictions listed for this hunt. Current regulations require that a bull moose have antlers with either a spike (one point) or fork (two points) configuration on at least one side or be 50 inches or greater in width or have at least 3 brow tines on one side. To date only 5 of the 9 moose taken in this hunt have met legal antler requirements. During the 2018 season only 4 of the 7 moose taken in this hunt met the antler requirements. The Alaska Board of Game has instituted antler restrictions in many moose hunts around the state. The goals of antler restrictions are; 1) to ensure some breeding-age bulls remain in the population after the hunting season to participate in the rut, and 2) to extend hunting opportunity by requiring hunters to locate bulls meeting the antler requirements. Without the current antler restrictions, the small RM049 harvest quota would likely be met in just a few days greatly reducing hunting opportunity and satisfaction.

To prevent further take of sublegal animals we are instituting an Emergency Order closing the season at 11:59 pm October 3, 2019. The reason for this closure is the high proportion of bull moose taken by RM049 hunters that do not meet current legally harvestable antler configurations. In addition to potentially limiting the number of breeding-age bulls in the post-hunt population, additional take of sublegal bulls will also limit the recruitment of younger bulls into the larger legal antler configurations in future years.

DISTRIBUTION:
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