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Registration Moose Hunt RM585 in Units 17B and 17C will not Open

The *may be announced* winter registration moose hunt RM585 in Game Management Units17B and 17C will not open this December due to conservation concerns. Moose populations in Units 17B and 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 and 17C were successful during the fall under the general season and RM583 exceeding last year's total annual harvest which included RM585.

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 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 Palmer at (907) 746-6300.

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