

RC 21

January 6, 2014

Manokotak Village Council

P.O. Box 169

Manokotak, Alaska 99628

Ph # 907 289-2067

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RE: Moose Hunt Emergency Request

Bristol Bay Native Association

P.O. Box 310

Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Attn: Frank Woods

BBNA / NRD Subsistence

This is a request from the tribe for an emergency order to allow subsistence harvest for moose in our district 17C. The board of fish & game need to understand the extent of our need, at this time the winter has been unusually warm. We had at least one week of good snow trail for the latter part of December, 2013. The hunters went up the river from Manokotak during the first few weeks of the opener, but the moose were higher on the valleys and nearby tree lines.

This unusual warm spell has limited the hunters to using their ATV's and trucks to hunt near the road to Weary River and nearby the village of Manokotak. As you know, the moose do not stay put in a certain area and hunting & harvesting with an ATV or even snowmobiles during mild winters is very dangerous. A few hunting trips were made to the west of our village on snow machine a few miles across from our community after the freeze up and snow.

This is a brief summary of our tribe and why we are requesting for an emergency opener for a winter harvest of moose.

We are a subsistence based economically challenged community. We have a very limited number of jobs in the community. Construction and Commercial seasons are basically the main jobs that sustain our economy. For the majority of our members, it is a subsistence based economy and the ability to provide for our tribe and the family is through harvesting of moose and caribou. Relying heavily on these big games sustains our livelihood; caribou alone will not suffice our community's need to feed the families.

Submitted by: Frank Woods
BBNA

The Togiak trail, west of our community, has not opened yet for safe snow machine travel for hunters at this time. As stated in the email, Nushagak caribou are another source of food, but the caribou are not within 15 miles from the village and will not fill the freezers and feed families as a moose would.

Economically speaking our hunters have made a huge sacrifice to try to feed their families with little or no luck in landing a moose. Any help to this very dire situation will be very well appreciated by our community members. Thank you for your work in helping our tribe.

Best Regards,

Bonnie



Bonnie Ayojiak

Manokotak Tribal Administrator

P.O. Box 169

Manokotak, Alaska 99628

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Curyung Tribal Council
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January 6, 2014

Bristol Bay Native Association
P.O. Box 310
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
Attn: Mr. Frank Woods, III
Department of Natural Resources
Subsistence Coordinator

Dear Mr. Woods,

The Curyung Tribal Council has been made aware of the 2013 winter moose hunt results and is asking that the Bristol Bay Native Association request that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) extend the 2013 winter moose hunt.

The success of our local and tribal moose hunters for the 2013 winter hunt was dismal at best; only 4 moose were harvested west of the Wood River according to ADF&G reports.

Because of winter conditions with rivers and creeks not frozen and no snow to speak of, we were unable to travel from Dillingham to where the moose are traditionally hunted during the month of December, when the winter moose hunt was open.

It seems logical to initiate a "floating winter moose hunt season" as determined by the weather and winter traveling conditions to assure that tribal members do have access to our traditional hunting areas.

Please consider our requests to bring these suggestions to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game:

- 1) Extend the 2013 winter moose hunt for two weeks; and
- 2) Establish a "floating winter moose hunt season" that takes into account the weather and travel conditions required for safe hunting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dorothy B Larson'.

Dorothy B. Larson
Tribal Administrator