**Muskox Identification**

For more muskox hunting tips visit:
http://hunt.alska.gov

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**Bull muskox horn Characteristics:**

- Young bulls have larger horn mass than cows, but incomplete growth of a horn boss. (Figs. 1 & 2)
- By fall 3-year-old bulls have a thin, but developed horn boss. (Fig. 3)
- Mature bulls (4-years-old and older) develop a think horn boss at the base of each horn. (Fig. 4)
- All bulls have horns that are thicker and more massive than cows. (Figs. 4 & 5)
- Black horn tips can be found on bulls.

**Cow muskox horn Characteristics:**

- Cows do not have a horn boss at any age. Mature cows (4-years-old and older) have horn bases that are small, dark and visible. (Fig. 5)
- Cow horn diameter is smaller and less massive than bulls. From a distance, the length of the hook may be similar to bull horns.
- Young cows have incomplete growth of horn bases and considerable white hair between the horns.
- Black horn tips can be found on cows.

**How many legs do you see in Fig. 6?**

- Know what lies behind your target before you shoot.
- Muskoxen cluster together as herd animals making separate individuals hard to see.
- Calves, yearlings, and 2-year-olds often stand behind larger animals for protection.
- Take your time! The group will eventually disperse giving you a clean shot.

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**Trophy destruction REQUIRED for Unit 22 & 23 subsistence muskox hunts. See permit for details.**

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**Photos courtesy of:**
Fig. 1, 3 & 4: Claudia Ihl
Fig. 2: Peter Bente
Fig. 5: Sue Steinacher
Fig. 6: Patrick Jones