Division of Wildlife Conservation Bruce Dale, Director Region V, Nome Area Office PO Box 1148 Nome, AK 99762



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Sam Cotten, Commissioner PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Tony Gorn, Unit 22 Area Biologist (907) 443-2271; <u>tony.gorn@alaska.gov</u>

For Immediate Release: September 2, 2015

State Closes Resident and Nonresident Moose Hunt in Unit 22C

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order to close the moose season in the Unit 22(C) hunt area covered under registration permit hunt RM840.

The State resident and nonresident season for bull moose by registration permit hunt RM840 in Unit 22(C) closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 2, 2015. The fall harvest quota of 9 bulls is expected to be reached by the season closing date announced in this emergency order and no further harvest is warranted.

Following a record harvest in 2004 of 52 bull moose in Unit 22(C), fall composition surveys found the bull:cow ratio had declined to 11 bulls per 100 cows. Annual fall surveys completed between 2005 and 2014 found an average of 16 bulls per 100 cows. For regulatory year 2015-2016 the department established a harvest quota of 9 bulls in Unit 22(C) to prevent excessive harvest and to improve the bull:cow ratio.

The season closure does not affect the remaining hunt areas assigned to the registration permit hunt RM840: the portion of Unit 22B West of the Darby Mountains, Unit 22D Kuzitrin Drainage, and Unit 22D Southwest. Unless additional closures are announced by emergency order, the RM840 season in these remaining hunt areas is Sept. 1-Sept. 14. Hunters are advised to check with the Nome ADF&G office for emergency closures as the season progresses and harvest is reported to the department.

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

###