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Advisory Announcement

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Unit 1D Moose Hunters Encouraged to Watch Video

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will not hold an informational meeting in Haines prior to the Unit 1D (TM059) moose hunt in 2024 due to short staffing. ADF&G encourages all TM059 hunters to watch the “Is this Moose Legal” video (see link below) before hunting. The video teaches hunters how to identify bulls with legal antler configurations (spike or fork (S/F), three brown tines (3BT), or 50-inch antler spread) for a successful hunt. Harvesting of bulls with legal antler requirements protects a portion of breeding age bulls which benefits the moose population and future hunters.

During two aerial surveys in 2023 (Nov. 18th & Dec. 19th), biologists observed a combined total count of 155 moose (28 bulls, 113 cows, and 14 calves). These counts result in a bull: cow ratio of 25 bulls: 100 cows and a calf: cow ratio of 12 calves: 100 cows. However, only ~20% (7 of 34) collared moose were observed during the surveys. These results indicate that sightability was low, many moose were unseen (e.g., under closed canopy forest) during the surveys, and the actual population is likely much larger than the minimum count (155 moose).

The antler composition of the harvest in 2023 included 27 bulls (7 S/F, 14 3BT, 4 50-inch, and 2 sublegal moose) when the season was closed by emergency order(R1-9-23) on September 25, 2023. The fast pace of the hunt indicates that there were a lot of bulls in the unit during the 2023 season. ADF&G’s current management objective for this hunt continues to be a harvest of 20-25 bulls with legal antler configuration (S/F, 3 BT, or >50-inch spread).

Increase your odds of correctly identifying a legal bull by watching the “Is This Moose Legal Video” which can be found here:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=moosehunting.legal>

There will be full staffing of the moose check station at the ADF&G office in Haines as is normal during the moose season. If you have any questions, please contact Carl Koch (907) 465-4266 or the Haines ADF&G office.

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