

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R3-6-25

Issued at: McGrath, Alaska
7/28/2025

Effective Date: 12:01 A.M.
9/1/2025

Expiration Date: June 30, 2026
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order shortens the general season moose hunt in that portion of Unit 19D upstream of the Selatna River and aligns the season dates with the RM650 registration hunt.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(17), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(17)		
Unit 19(D), that portion of the Black River drainage excluding that portion within 2 miles of the Kuskokwim River, and that portion of the Selatna River drainage north of the Selatna River, and excluding that portion within 2 miles of the Kuskokwim River		
1 antlered bull;	Sept. 1 – Sept. 25	No open season
Unit 19(D), remainder		
1 antlered bull;	Sept. 1 – Sept. 25	No open season

...


JUSTIFICATION:

Moose in Unit 19D experienced a significant decline during the winter of 2022/2023. The McGrath area experienced record snow levels for much of that winter followed by an extremely late spring and green up. On April 30, 2023, there were still 34 inches of snow on the ground. Of 15 calves collared in March 2023 none survived the remainder of the winter.

Prior to documenting this decline moose were at much higher densities and the McGrath AC had submitted proposal 66 to the Board of Game to take advantage of the additional moose that were available for harvest at that time.

In November 2023 the Department conducted a GSPE in a portion of Unit 19D and documented an approximately 35% decline in abundance. Despite the decline, the Department and the McGrath AC continued to support the proposal to allow for additional opportunity when the moose population recovered. The board passed proposal 66 in March 2024 which included a 10-day extension of the general season hunt upstream of the Selatna River, with a new end date of September 30th. However, the department was clear at the meeting that not all portions of the proposal would be implemented until moose numbers increased to higher levels.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Joshua M. Peirce
Area Biologist