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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: September 4, 2018

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State Closes Moose Hunt in Unit 22D Kuzitrin Drainage and Southwest

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order to close the State resident moose season in hunt areas Unit 22(D) Southwest and Unit 22(D) within the Kuzitrin River drainage covered under registration permit hunt RM840.

The State resident season for bull moose by registration permit hunt RM840 in Unit 22(D) within the Kuzitrin River drainage and Unit 22(D) Southwest closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 4, 2018. The fall harvest quota of 22 bull moose is expected to be reached by the season closing date in this emergency order and no further harvest is warranted.

The Alaska Board of Game established a registration moose hunt in Unit 22(D) within the Kuzitrin River drainage and Unit 22(D) Southwest. The management objective for the area is to maintain a post hunt fall composition at or above 30 bulls:100 cows. Fall trend count composition surveys completed in November 2016 and 2013 resulted in 20 bulls:100 cows and 23 bulls:100 cows, respectively. This suggests a decline in the areas bull to cow ratio when compared to similar surveys completed in 2008 and 2011 that resulted in 33 bulls:100 cows and 28 bulls:100 cows, respectively. For regulatory year 2018-2019, the department established a harvest quota of 22 bulls to prevent excessive bull harvest and to improve the bull to cow ratio.

The closure in Unit 22(D) within the Kuzitrin River drainage and Unit 22(D) Southwest is additive to the RM840 season closure announced for Unit 22(C). These closures do not affect the remaining registration permit hunt RM840 hunt area, Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains. Unless additional closures are announced by emergency order, the RM840 season in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains is from 1 Sept. through 14 Sept. 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.

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