Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-03-24

Issued at: Palmer, Alaska September 13, 2024

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m.,

September 16, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2025

unless superseded by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION: This emergency order extends the State of Alaska fall any bull moose hunting season in Game Management Units 17B & 17C only under registration permit (RM583). The hunting season opened August 20, 2024, and will now close on September 20, 2024 at 11:59 pm, instead of September 15, 2024. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2024 Alaska state hunting license and the state registration permit (RM583). Hunters will be allowed to shoot one antlered bull if they have registration permit RM583 in their possession, and if they have not already harvested a moose anywhere in the state.

This emergency order does not affect any other moose hunting regulations in Unit 17.

<u>REGULATION:</u> Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Resident Open Season (Subsistence General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

Units and Bag Limits

(15)

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Unit 17(B), that portion in the Unit 17(B) nonresident closed area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork Aug. 20 – <u>Sept. 20</u> Dec. 1 – Dec. 31 bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side may be taken with a harvest ticket; or

1 antlered bull by registration permit only

Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

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Remainder of Unit 17(B)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side may be taken with a harvest ticket; or Aug. 20 – <u>Sept. 20</u> Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

1 antlered bull moose by registration permit only;

Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

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Unit 17 (C)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on one side may be taken with a harvest ticket; or Aug. 20 – Sept. 20 Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

1 antlered bull moose by registration permit only

Dec. 1 – Dec. 31

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All other moose regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner By delegation to:

Todd A. Rinaldi Regional Management Coordinator

<u>JUSTIFICATION:</u> The fall registration moose hunt RM583 in Game Management Units 17B & 17C will be extended through September 20, 2024. There is additional opportunity this fall in Unit 17C. Information on moose calf survival obtained through on-going department research in Unit 17C continues to document good calf productivity and increased over winter calf survival.

The most recent aerial survey conducted in Unit 17C under good snow conditions was in February 2023, and resulted in an estimate of 3,629 moose, above the population objective of 2,800–3,500. Weather continually hampers efforts to survey the moose population in Unit 17B. November 2022 composition surveys estimated 51 bulls and 23 calves per 100 cows across both units. Last year RM583 was extended 5 days and 22% of the harvest occurred within that period for a total of 45 additional bull moose harvested. Harvest objectives have not been met in recent years, and this is additional opportunity for resident hunters to capatilize on a population that is at or above management objective.

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