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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: 9/13/2024

Fall Moose Hunt Season Extended for RM583

(Dillingham) Resident moose hunters who possess registration moose permit RM583 will have an additional 5 days of hunting in Game Management Units 17B & 17C this September. In an effort to meet moose harvest objectives the Alaska Department of Fish and Game issued an emergency order extending the resident hunt, RM583, from September 15 through September 20 at 11:59 pm. The bag limit remains one bull for all RM583 permit holders.

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 capitalize on a population that is at or above management objective. Bull harvest will be monitored closely to determine if quotas need to be adjusted accordingly or if a may be announced winter hunt (RM585) is warranted. This will not change general season (HT) dates of September 1–September 15.

Last year RM583 was extended 5 days to September 20 by Emergency Order due to lack of harvest. This was primarily driven by warm weather and storms early in the season, and similar conditions are occurring again this year.

Hunters are reminded that if you have already harvested a moose anywhere in Alaska this season that no additional state opportunity remains. To participate, hunters must be residents, possess a valid Alaska state hunting license, and already have in possession state registration permit (RM583). The bag limit remains unchanged at one bull.

Successful hunters can provide wildlife managers the information they need to closely track in-season harvest by filing hunt reports online at hunt.alaska.gov or the department's Dillingham office (907-843-2334). Additionally, successful hunters are reminded to report within 5 days of a kill. Hunters are also reminded that hunts may still be closed by emergency order should harvest be excessive

It is important that any hunt permittees return their fall hunt reports to provide wildlife managers the information they need to understand harvest by mailing in their paper reports, completing them online at https://secure.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=interperm.enter_report_hunterid, or in person at any Alaska Department of Fish and Game office.

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