

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order 05-07-19

Issued at Utiqaġvik (Barrow), Alaska
October 4, 2019

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
October 4, 2019

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. October 18, 2019
unless superseded by subsequent
Emergency Order.

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Order opens hunting for muskoxen from October 4, 2019 to October 18, 2019 in a portion of Unit 26A in the vicinity of Atqasuk and Point Lay. The hunt is open to residents only by registration permit and the bag limit is one (1) bull muskox per hunter with a total quota of up to 2 bulls. All other muskox seasons and bag limits in the remainder of Unit 26A are not affected by this Emergency Order.

REGULATION:

The provisions of **5 AAC 92.046, PERMITS FOR TAKING INCIDENTAL OR STRANDED MUSK OXEN**, are being implemented in a portion of Unit 26A. Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.050(3), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN**, are superseded as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(3)

In Game Management Unit 26A, state managed lands within 20 miles of Point Lay and within 20 miles of Atqasuk

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull muskox by registration permit only. The season will be closed when 2 bull muskox have been taken.

Oct. 4-Oct.18

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

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All other muskox hunting regulations in Unit 26(A) remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Carmen Daggett
North Slope Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

In 5AAC 92.046, the Board of Game has authorized the Commissioner to open a season for muskoxen in Unit 26A and portions of Unit 24. The Board adopted this regulation based on testimony from local subsistence hunters that muskoxen have been observed to interfere with caribou movements, adversely affecting subsistence hunting for caribou. The Board of Game left it to the Commissioner to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether hunting of muskoxen should be used to prevent potential competition with caribou or interference with caribou hunting.

Residents have informed the Department that several muskox have recently moved into the Atqasuk area and Point Lay areas. A portion of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd and Teshekpuk Caribou Herd migrates through this pass during its annual migration. Residents in the village of Atqasuk and Point Lay rely on caribou harvested from this area and have testified that local hunters believe muskox would likely divert caribou from their normal migration path. The Department has determined that muskoxen hunting by permit may be allowed on state managed lands near Atqasuk and Point Lay with a bag limit of one bull muskoxen per Alaskan resident hunter. The season will be closed when two bull muskoxen are taken.

DISTRIBUTION:

Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Barrow, Kotzebue and Nome.

1. Lieutenant Governor
2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison, Anchorage)
3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - Assistant Director
 - Regional Supervisors
 - Regulation Coordination Team
 - Area Offices Statewide
 - Information Management Section, Anchorage, Juneau
 - Web-page Manager, Juneau (electronic copy)
 - Public Information Centers, Anchorage, Fairbanks
5. Division of Boards
 - Boards Support Section, Executive Director
 - Field Offices: Kotzebue
6. Division of Subsistence
 - Assistant Director
 - Program Director, Fairbanks
 - Field Offices: Fairbanks, Kotzebue
7. Public Communications Section, Juneau
8. Department of Public Safety, Fish and Wildlife Protection
 - Director
 - Detachment Commander, Soldotna
 - Field Offices: Coldfoot, Kotzebue, Nome
9. U. S. Department of the Interior
 - Bureau of Land Management, State Director
 - Bureau of Land Management, Northern Field Office
 - Bureau of Land Management, Arctic Team: Fairbanks
 - Bureau of Land Management, Northwest Team: Fairbanks, Kotzebue
 - Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Director
 - Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Federal Subsistence Management
 - Fish and Wildlife Service, Law Enforcement, Fairbanks
 - Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Advisory Councils
 - North Slope, Chairman
 - National Park Service, Regional Director
 - National Park Service, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve
10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate: Barrow
11. Regional Native Corporations /I.R.A. Councils/Traditional Village Councils/Other Gov't
 - Anaktuvuk Pass
 - Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
 - Atqasuk
 - Northwest Arctic Borough, Lands Office
 - North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management
 - Point Lay, Native Village of
 - Wainwright, City of

12. News Media:

Statewide: APRN

Anchorage: Anchorage Daily News, KTUU

Barrow: KBRW Radio; Arctic Sounder

Fairbanks: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, KUAC

Kotzebue: KOTZ Radio, Arctic Sounder