Hunting and Trapping

nergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R4-1-24

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska February 27, 2024

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m.

March 1, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. March 15, 2024

unless superseded by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the State of Alaska winter antlered and antlerless moose hunting season in Game Management Unit 17A (RM575 & RM576). The hunting season extension will be open at 12:00 am on March 1, 2024. This season will close on March 15, 2024 at 11:59 pm, unless closed by subsequent Emergency Order. To participate, hunters must possess a valid 2024 Alaska state hunting license, and a state registration permit(s) (RM585 and/or RM576) available at the Dillingham Fish & Game office, and the village of Togiak. Hunters are allowed a two moose bag limit but only one of which may be an antlered bull (RM575) or an antlerless moose (RM576). As a reminder, if hunters have already harvested one antlered bull anywhere in the State, only RM576 will be available.

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

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in 5AAC 85.045(15), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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

Units and Bag Limits

General Hunts)

Nonresident **Open Season**

(15)

Unit 17(A)

Up to two moose per regulatory year, only as follows:

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 moose by registration permit only; or

1 antlered bull by registration permit only; or

1 antlerless moose by registration permit only;

. . .

Aug. 25 – Sept. 25 (Subsistence hunt only)

Jan. 1 – Last day of Feb.

Mar. 1 – Mar. 15 (Subsistence hunt only)

Jan. 1 – Last day of Feb. **Mar. 1** – **Mar. 15**

(Subsistence hunt only)

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

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

John H. Landsiedel

Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The 17A winter moose hunts are an important subsistence opportunity within Unit 17. In 2022, the Alaska Board of Game authorized set season dates of January 1st through the last day of February. This was adopted to increase harvest on a population currently over objective, to capitalize on a broad range of dates and the increased likelihood of adequate travel conditions. The most recent population estimate from 17A was in October of 2022 resulting in 1,976 ± 217. Moose harvest over the last 5 years has averaged 114 moose annually across both the fall and winter seasons. The last 5 years average winter harvest has been 63 moose. Current harvest totals for 17A from the fall and winter hunt are at 46, and this year's current winter harvest totals 24 moose. The winter of 2023 -2024 travel conditions were poor on and off through both January and February with rain events reducing snow pack and many rivers and creeks still open.

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Permittees must call and file a hunt report by phone (907-842-2334) within 5 days of killing a moose.

The extension of the 17A winter moose hunts is designed to supplement fall moose hunting opportunity and liberalizing antlerless harvest to slow population growth.

Registration permits will continue to be available in person at the Dillingham ADF&G office and the Togiak Traditional Council office. Successful hunters are required to report online or to the Dillingham ADF&G office (907-842-2334). All permit reports must be returned to ADF&G, regardless of success, within 15 days of the close of the season.

As a reminder, those who were successful in harvesting one antlered bull moose anywhere in the state are unable to participate in this hunt to acquire RM575. It is important that any hunt permittees return their winter hunt reports to provide wildlife managers the information needed 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.

For questions or more information about moose hunting opportunities in Unit 17, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham at (907) 843-2334.

DISTRIBUTION:

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Anchorage, Juneau, Dillingham, and Fairbanks.

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5. Boards Support Section, Executive Director Board of Game

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- 6. Division of Subsistence, Anchorage Regional Supervisor
- 7. Public Communications, ADF&G, Juneau, Anchorage
- 8. Department of Public Safety, Bureau Wildlife Enforcement Director

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Field Offices: Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Iliamna, King Salmon

9. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Regional Director, Anchorage

Togiak NWR, Dillingham

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- 10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate: Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Naknek
- 11. Village Councils: Aleknagik, Clarks Point, Dillingham, Ekuk, Goodnews Bay, Manokotak, Platinum, Quinhagak, Togiak, Twin Hills
- 12. BBNA, Dillingham
- 13. News Media:

Statewide: APRN

Dillingham: KDLG Radio, KRUP Radio, Bristol Bay Times

14. Wood Tikchik State Park