

Division of Wildlife Conservation
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Advisory Announcement

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State Closes Moose Hunt RM840 in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order to close the State resident moose hunt by registration permit RM840 in the Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains hunt area.

The State resident fall hunting season for bull moose by registration permit RM840 in Unit 22(B), that portion west of the Darby Mountains closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 10, 2021. Hunters should note that a season closure for federal public lands may be announced by federal managers.

The moose population in the western portion of Unit 22(B) declined 15% annually between 1987 and 1992. Since that time the population has persisted at low densities with poor recruitment that averaged 11% 1992-2019. To prevent overharvest, the Alaska Board of Game established a registration permit requirement for moose hunting in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains.

To provide both fall and winter moose hunting opportunities in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains fall and winter registration permit hunts with separate harvest quotas are administered annually. The allocation of the harvestable surplus between the fall and winter hunting seasons follows recommendations provided by representatives of the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee.

The Department plans to administer registration permit hunt RM843 beginning January 1, 2022 with a quota that will be dependent on the overall harvest during the fall RM840 season. The total reported harvest during the fall RM840 moose hunt is 19 bulls as of September 9, 2021. The total reported moose harvest is expected to exceed the fall harvest quota of 23 bulls if additional hunting opportunity is provided during the fall RM840 season. Harvest in excess of what has been allocated to the fall season would detract from the opportunity provided during the winter hunt.

The closure in Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains is additive to the RM840 season closures previously announced for Unit 22(C), Unit 22(D) in the Kuzitrin River drainage, and Unit 22(D) Southwest. This closure does not affect the remaining registration permit RM840 hunt area: Unit 22(D) Remainder.

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

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