

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order R5-12-25

Issued at Bethel, Alaska
December 22, 2025

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
January 1, 2026

Expiration Date: June 30, 2026

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Order opens the state resident moose season in Unit 18 covered under that that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of the Carter Bay Drainage (59.180 N 162.003 W), under registration permit hunt RM621. The season will open January 1, 2026, and close March 31, 2026. The bag limit for the winter season in the Goodnews Hunt Area is one moose. The season will be closed by emergency order once the quota of 34 moose is reached.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.045 (a) (16), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in Unit 18.

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(16)

That portion that drains into Kuskokwim
Bay south of the Carter Bay Drainage
(59.180 N 162.003 W)

1 moose by registration
permit only

Jan. 1- Mar. 31

No open Season

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All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 18 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____



Keith Oster
Assistant Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game (BOG) established a registration permit hunt in Unit 18, that portion that drains into Kuskokwim Bay south of the Carter Bay Drainage (59.180 N 162.003 W) for a winter moose season at the January 2017 BOG meeting. The moose population in the Goodnews River Hunt Area is estimated to be between 400-450 moose and the combined quota for fall and winter hunts is 40 moose. To date, hunters have reported harvesting 6 moose in the fall, and the harvest quota for the winter hunt will be 34 moose. This announced winter season provides additional opportunity for hunters to harvest a moose now that winter travelling conditions allow hunter access to the RM621 hunt area. Hunters are asked to report their harvest within 5 days to the Bethel ADF&G office (907) 543-2839 or (907) 543-1678. Hunters that have already harvested a moose during this regulatory year (after July 1, 2025) are not eligible to participate in this hunt. Unsuccessful hunters and hunters that did not hunt need to report by April 15, 2026.

DISTRIBUTION:

This Emergency Order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game office in Bethel.

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, Douglas, Juneau
 - Public Communication/Information, Anchorage, Fairbanks
 - Federal Subsistence Liaison
5. Division of Boards
 - Boards Support Section, Executive Director
 - Field Offices: Dillingham, Kotzebue

- Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chair
 - Unit 18 AC, Central Bering Sea
 - Unit 18 AC, Lower Kuskokwim
 - Unit 18 AC, Lower Yukon

6. Division of Subsistence

- Assistant Director
 - Program Director, Fairbanks
 - Field Offices: Fairbanks

7. Public Communications Section, Juneau

8. Department of Public Safety, Alaska Wildlife Troopers

- Director
 - Detachment Commander
 - C Detachment, Western
 - D Detachment, Northern

Field Offices:

Unit 18: Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, McGrath, St. Marys

9. U. S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

BLM, State Director

BLM, Anchorage District

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Mgr.

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Subsistence

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Wildlife

Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS, Regional Director

FWS, Office of Federal Subsistence Management

FWS, OSM Regional Advisory Councils, Coordinators

FWS RAC Unit 18, Yukon-Kuskokwim

FWS, Refuges

FWS, Togiak NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Yukon Delta NWR, Refuge Mgr.

FWS, Law Enforcement, Bethel

National Park Service

NPS, Regional Director

NPS, Subsistence

NPS, Park Unit, Superintendent

Bering Landbridge, Nome

Gates of the Arctic, Fairbanks

Western Parklands, Kotzebue

10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate

Unit 18: Aniak, Bethel, Chevak, Emmonak, St. Marys

11. I.R.A./Traditional Village Councils/Regional Native Corporations

Unit 18:

Association of Village Council Presidents

Calista

Akiachak

Akiak

Algaaciq

Andreafsky

Aniak

Atmautluak

Bethel

Chefornak

Eek

Emmonak

Goodnews Bay

Hooper Bay

Kalskag, Lower

Kalskag, Upper

Kasigluk

Kipnuk

Kongiganak

Kotlik

Kwethluk
Kwigillingok
Marshall
Mekoryok
Mountain Village
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Newtok

Nightmute
Nunam Iqua
Nunapitchuk
Oscarville
Pilot Station
Pitkas Point
Platinum
Quinhagak

Russian Mission
Scammon Bay
Toksook Bay
Tuluksak
Tuntutuliak
Tununak

12. Statewide Media