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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **ADF&G Extends Resident Moose Hunting In the Lower Yukon and Remainder of Unit 18**

(BETHEL) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an Emergency Order season extension for moose hunting in the Unit 18 Remainder hunt area. The Emergency Order extends the resident season closing date to March 31<sup>st</sup>. The affected area includes the previously named 'Lower Yukon' portion of Unit 18. Winter weather has been unusually mild and snow-free preventing most hunters from harvesting moose in January and February.

Last year the Alaska Board of Game liberalized the seasons and bag limits for Unit 18 Remainder due to the high population levels and available harvest opportunity for hunters. The moose population in this portion of Unit 18 is estimated at approximately 12,000 moose and has had recent winter harvests of 150-200 moose annually. With poor hunting conditions occurring this year, we anticipate the winter harvest to date is a small fraction of average harvest. The season extension provides additional opportunity for hunters.

All other moose seasons and bag limits in Unit 18 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

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