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September 14, 2026

Subject: Emergency Special Action Request to Extend the 2026 FM1203 Fall Moose Season

Dear Federal Subsistence Board:

The Northway Village Council respectfully requests an Emergency Wildlife Special Action extending the 2026 fall moose season for Federal Subsistence Hunt FM1203 from September 20 through September 30, 2026. This request applies to the portion of Unit 12 within Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge and federal lands within Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve north and east of the Pickerel Lake Winter Trail from the Canadian border to Pickerel Lake.

Local hunters report that few moose have been seen or harvested during the current season. Warmer fall conditions and the later arrival of the rut have delayed bull movement into areas accessible to Northway hunters. Without an extension, many families may be unable to meet their subsistence needs. Moose is an essential traditional food source for Northway families. The continued closure or limitation of winter caribou hunting opportunities further increases food-security concerns in our remote community, where store-bought food is limited and costly.

The Federal Subsistence Board extended the FM1203 season in 2022 and approved extensions through September 30 for the 2024 and 2025 seasons. In approving those extensions, the Board determined that the additional harvest opportunity was sustainable and would provide federally qualified subsistence users a more meaningful opportunity to harvest moose. Because the current season closes September 20, we respectfully request expedited consideration so hunters receive adequate notice. Northway Village Council also intends to pursue a regulatory proposal for a longer-term solution during the next available wildlife regulatory cycle.

Thank you for considering this urgent request and the subsistence needs of Northway and other federally qualified Upper Tanana residents.

Sincerely,

Taniesha Moses, Tribal Administrator
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