



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board Meeting Advisory



Forest Service

For Immediate Release
May 26, 2015

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Public Meeting Announced for Temporary Special Action Request to Close the Federal Moose Season in Units 26B Remainder and 26C

A public meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.; June 17, 2015, at the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) bunkhouse in Kaktovik to discuss a temporary special action request received by the Federal Subsistence Board. Temporary special action WSA15-08, submitted by the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, requests that the Federal moose season in Unit 26B remainder and Unit 26C be closed from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Currently, only residents of Kaktovik are eligible to hunt moose on Federal public lands in this area under Federal subsistence regulations.

Surveys conducted in April 2014 by the Refuge and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game indicated a 50 percent reduction in moose numbers and poor recruitment in Units 26B remainder and 26C. Additionally, surveys conducted in April 2015 continued to show low moose numbers. The moose population in the affected area has declined to a level where the current harvest quota is not sustainable and could result in further population declines. Thus, the population is no longer able to support the harvest quota of five moose currently listed in regulation. Due to this population decline, the Federal season was closed by temporary special action WSA14-02 for the 2014/2015 regulatory year. If temporary special action WSA 15-08 is adopted by the Board, the Federal moose season for the 2015/2016 regulatory year would be closed.

The public may attend the meeting in person or by teleconference. Public comments will be accepted by Federal staff, summarized and provided to the Federal Subsistence Board for its consideration on the temporary special action request.

Public Meeting information is below:

Kaktovik

7 p.m.; June 17, 2015
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Bunkhouse
Teleconference: 877-638-8165
Passcode: 9060609

The Federal Subsistence Board is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to the Office of Subsistence Management by calling (800) 478-1456, by emailing subsistence@fws.gov, or (800)-877-8339 (TTY), seven business days prior to the meeting.

Additional information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at www.doi.gov/subsistence/index.cfm or by visiting www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska.

Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues? If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov.

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