

Federal Subsistence Board

<u>USDA</u>

1011 E. Tudor Road Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS FOREST SERVICE

Federal Subsistence Quota for Moose Established in Unit 26C Special Action Federal Subsistence Board

Under Authority of: 50 CFR Part 100.19 and 26 36 CFR Part 242.19 and 26

Special Action No: SA2019M01 Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, November 20, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 p.m., Wednesday, February 15, 2019

Expiration Date: 12:01 p.m., Sunday, April 15, 2019 -unless superseded by subsequent special

action.

EXPLANATION: The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Manager, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is authorizing a Federal registration permit harvest quota of THREE bull moose within the Kongakut River drainage in Unit 26C This harvest opportunity will be effective for the period February 15, 2019 to April 15, 2019. Under Federal subsistence regulations, only residents of Kaktovik are eligible to participate. The Federal registration permit drawing will be administered by the Native Village of Kaktovik in Kaktovik.

JUSTIFICATION: Surveys conducted by Arctic Refuge staff in April 2018 indicate a low number of moose in Unit 26C, with the exception of the Kongakut River and its tributaries. The number of moose observed in the Kongakut drainage has increased during each of the past 3 years, whereas moose numbers in the remainder of Unit 26C have not increased and are well below the historical average. During 2018, a total of 94 moose were observed in Unit 26C east of the Canning River drainage, 88 of which were in the Kongakut River drainage. Only 6 other moose were observed in all of the remaining areas of Unit 26C east of the Canning River drainage. Based on the increasing trend in moose numbers in the Kongakut drainage, the allowable harvest can be increased to three bull moose. However because of the low numbers of moose elsewhere in Unit 26C, limiting the hunt to the Kongakut drainage is warranted. The harvest limit has been established to allow for the continued recovery of moose within Unit 26C, thereby providing long-term subsistence opportunities for moose.

Authority has been delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Manager to set or adjust annual harvest quotas, set any needed sex restrictions, determine the number of Federal registration permits to be issued, and season opening and closing dates for moose on Federal public lands in Units 26B remainder and 26C.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to

/s/ <u>Steven Berendzen</u> Refuge Manager Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

DISTRIBUTION:

All public bulletin boards in Kaktovik Community announcement on the local CB radio channel

GOVERNMENT ORANIZATIONS

Edward Rexford, First Chief Native Village of Kaktovik Tribal Council; Gordon Brower, Chair of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council; Theo Matuskowitz and Carol Damberg, Office of Subsistence Management and Beth Lenart, ADF&G Division of Wildlife Fairbanks.