

November 26, 2013

Re: Letter of Support for Big Bull Moose Derby

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for legislation that will allow the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association (TVSA) to facilitate a "Big Bull Moose Derby" annually. TVSA is a non-profit organization that provides an indoor shooting range in Fairbanks and supports local high school rifle teams and clubs. In addition TVSA provides training in firearms education and safe handling to youth and adults in Alaska's interior communities.

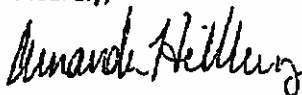
This derby will be facilitated by both TVSA and the UAF Rifle Team, with proceeds from ticket sales going to benefit both entities. The derby will provide an award for the bull moose with the widest antler spread legally taken in moose season. The hunter must have purchased a derby ticket prior to the opening day of the season. TVSA will provide the measuring station and official judge for the derby. The UAF Rifle Team will manage ticket sales. The "Big Bull Moose Derby" will be facilitated under TVSA's Gaming Permit.

This derby is similar to other derbies conducted throughout the State and has the potential to inspire the same community involvement, support, camaraderie, and other positive social effects that occur in other parts of the State thanks to the salmon and halibut derbies. In these times anything that brings the interior communities together in a positive way should be supported and rallied behind.

Moose hunting in general is a test of skill given the vast terrain moose cover, the marksmanship skills needed to take the animal down cleanly and quickly, the physical stamina required to follow a moose through any manner of topographical obstacles, and knowledge of the sequence of events involved in salvaging the meat properly. My family depends on moose meat each year and will continue to hunt moose as we always have. It is my hope that the "Big Bull Moose Derby" will be successfully developed and both TVSA and the UAF Rifle Team will benefit each year from this derby for years to come.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hillberry  
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