

TIMISKAMING FIRST NATION MOOSE MANAGEMENT 2023

MOOSE MANAGEMENT
GUIDELINES

ANISHNABE
HUNTING PRINCIPLES



THREATS
TO THE MOOSE

MOOSE
KNOWLEDGE &
IDENTIFICATION





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INTRODUCTION

A moose management plan must be guided by our own people, grounded in our own knowledge and our relationships with our Moose relatives. We aim to build this plan together. Our Moose Management Plan must be inclusive, taking into account the whole territory, other species, and the many other factors besides hunting that are threatening the moose (climate change, forestry, mining, disease, etc).

Moose are the icons of the northern forests. They hold an important place in northern ecosystems and are an integral part of our biodiversity. They hold significant value for indigenous peoples as well as contribute substantial social, economic and ecological benefits to the people. They are highly sought after as a game animal, and a means of sustenance.

We envision a healthy environment that is naturally diverse and supports a high quality of life for the people through sustainable development. Our mission is to manage our territory's natural resources in an ecologically sustainable way to ensure that they are available for the enjoyment and use of future generations. We are committed to the conservation of biodiversity and the use of natural resources in a sustainable manner.



TFN Moose Management Goals

HUNTING WITH RESPECT FOR LIFE

- BE SAFE & RESPECTFUL
- UTILIZE EVERY PART
- MINIMIZE AND DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY
- SHARE, GIVE THANKS



MAINTAINING SACRED RELATIONSHIP

to Ni dakinan (our land). This sacred relationship is expressed through respect, rights, responsibilities and to reciprocate with all relations, as the land holds the energy of ancestors. Our Creator gifted the Anishnabe with responsibilities to care for the land and all things that inhabit it, which is reflected in traditional harvesting practices and principles.

SHARE KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY POPULATIONS:

Gain better knowledge of the current state of the moose population, determine the support capacity of the environment and the quality of the moose habitat on the territory. To ensure sustainable moose populations, further promote conservation & use Indigenous Knowledge combined with western science to protect the moose and our food sovereignty. As well as, bringing our communities together.



WASTING ANIMALS IS DISRESPECTFUL AND AGAINST ANISHNABE WAYS.





GUIDELINES & HUNTING PRINCIPLES

If you harvest an animal that appears to be sick, you are still responsible for salvaging the meat, even if you think the meat is not fit for consumption or you do not intend to eat it. Be cautious when eating raw game meat. It is best to cook game meat thoroughly to prevent disease. Cook any game scraps you may feed to your dogs.

PRACTICE LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES, CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF AND LEAVE THE ENVIRONMENT AS IT WAS

*It is important to dispose of any carcass properly. Hunters are required to remove and care for all edible portions of meat. This includes the meat from hind quarters as far down as the hock, meat of the front quarters as far down as the knee and meat along the backbone which is the loin and tenderloin.

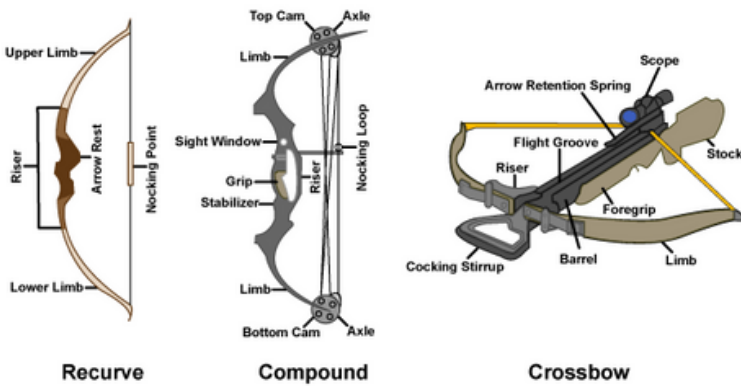
*Whether you're hunting for sport or for sustenance, when the hunt is over, make sure you finish the hunt completely with the proper and responsible disposal

YOU DON'T TAKE THE MOOSE; THE MOOSE GIVES ITS LIFE TO YOU.

There is a lack of sufficient enforcement for poaching, and it's been expressed with deep concern about the staggering amount of waste that is seen on the territory. Trophy hunting has also been cited as a major waste of moose meat and other valuable parts that could be useful to the community such as hides and organ meat. This waste is not just observed in the moose but for other harvested animals like bears.

HUNTING GUIDELINES

Types of hunting bows

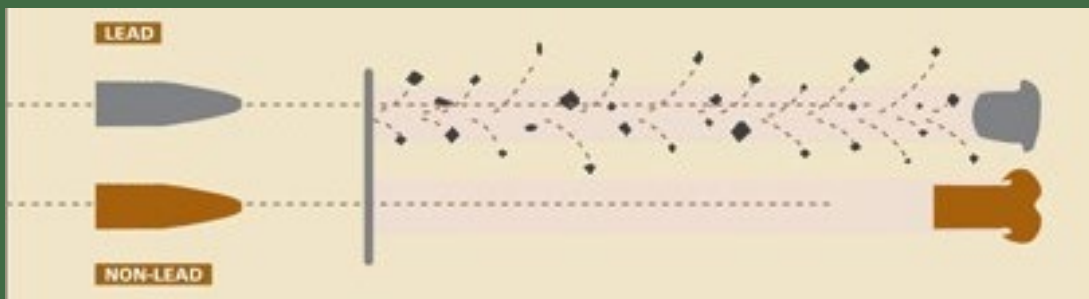


Practicing sustainable bow hunting

- avoid hunting in areas where its prohibited and where moose populations are under threat
- use appropriate hunting equipment that is designed specifically for bow hunting
- avoid using broadheads that cause excessive damage to animals and the environment
- practice ethical hunting. Always aim for a clean & quick kill and avoid taking shots that can wound but won't kill an animal
- show respect by giving thanks and using all the parts given by the animal and minimizing waste
- hunt only what you need, avoid over hunting and hunting for sport

Aim to use non-lead ammunition

Bullets typically consist of a lead core surrounded by a copper or brass jacket. Lead is used because it can easily be molded into a desired shape. However it poses significant risks when discharged from a firearm, lead bullets can fragment upon impact causing lead particles to spread into the environment. These particles contaminate the soil and water as well as the game meat. Lead is also harmful when ingested by humans.





INDIGENOUS MOOSE KNOWLEDGE

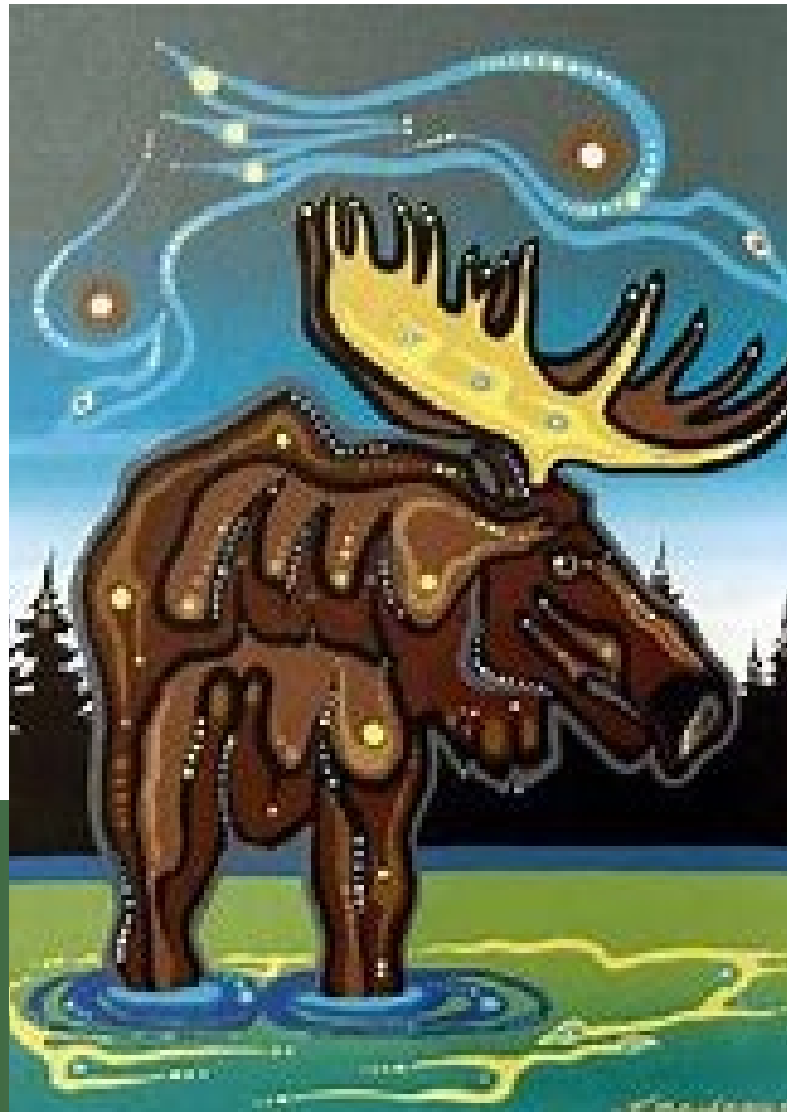
The moose represents the hoofed beings and symbolizes endurance and survival, strength and power.

MOOSE ARE SUCH AN ELEGANT AND UNIQUE ANIMAL THAT SIGNIFIES PRIDE, STRENGTH, AND SELF-ESTEEM.

THIS SPIRIT ANIMAL TEACHES YOU TO STAND LOUD AND PROUD AND OWN WHO YOU ARE! IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR INDIVIDUALITY IS YOUR STRENGTH.

Our people have hunted moose for thousands of years as a means of sustenance and continue to do so today. Using the entire animal for food, clothes, tools, and other essential items. Moose are also important to the environment and are a keystone species that play a crucial role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. They help to regulate the growth of plant species, provide food and are a food source to other predators.

**FROM THE ALGONQUIN
WORD MOZ MEANING
“STRIPPER AND EATER
OF BARK”**





FACTS ABOUT THE MOOSE

- Moose are great swimmers and can swim as fast as 6 km/hr
- The moose have very large diets in order to sustain themselves.
- They eat birch and aspen twigs, sedges, horsetail, roots, grasses, and pond weeds. Also, buds, twigs, some woody plants, lichens, aquatic plants, and several of the taller plants that grow on land.
- In the winter, moose will snack on various shrubs and pinecones. They often use their hooves to scrape snow in areas to get mosses and lichens.
- After the mating season, males drop their antlers to conserve energy for the winter. A new set of antlers will then regrow in the spring. Antlers take three to five months to fully develop, making them one of the fastest-growing animal organs.
- Birds, carnivores, and rodents eat dropped antlers as they are full of protein, and moose themselves will eat antler velvet for the nutrients.

INFO ON MOOSE

HEIGHT:

1.4 – 2.1 m (Adult, At Shoulder)

MASS:

up to 1,400 lbs (Male),
800-1,300 lbs (Female)

SPEED:

56 km/h (Maximum,
Adult, Running)

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

Alces alces

ALGONQUIN NAME:

Moz

COMMON MOOSE BEHAVIOURS

Females (cows) often give birth to twins, and even sometimes triplets. They are very attentive and protective mothers.

Moose are peaceful animals which rarely become aggressive. They will defend themselves if threatened. The most common “aggressive” behavior is called bluffing to charge

Moose are mostly solitary, but they can form groups in some seasons or situations



WHILE MOOSE MAY NOT YET APPEAR ON FEDERAL OR PROVINCIAL ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTS, DECLINES IN POPULATIONS ARE IMPACTING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND HAVE RIPPLE EFFECTS IN THE FOREST ECOSYSTEM. THE PRESSURES ON MOOSE ARE COMPOUNDING, INDUSTRIAL PRESSURES, OVER HUNTING, POOR MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT, DISEASE, HABITAT LOSS AND CLIMATE CHANGE.

**THE MOOSE IS THE
LARGEST AND HEAVIEST
EXTANT SPECIES IN THE
DEER FAMILY**



THREATS TO THE MOOSE

Sport hunting has been systematically identified across all communities as being the principal threat to the moose. Lack of proper provincial moose management and regulations, forestry, and mining throughout the territory also contribute to the degradation of a once-healthy moose population.

MAIN THREATS:

over hunting
forestry & mining
predation, disease, climate change
waste & poaching

“Sometimes it takes 10 days to find a moose where it used to take two days,” said a hunter. “I haven’t eaten moose in seven years,” said another, adding that he’d grown up on moose meat but the numbers in his traditional territory are so low that he’s voluntarily stopped hunting. “That is fasting,” said a councillor. “A big sacrifice. This is our traditional food, it’s our culture, and it has nourished us for hundreds of years.”

It is important to manage forestry and mining in a way that minimizes their impacts on our ecosystems and wildlife populations.

The destruction of forests through clear-cutting, logging, and mining activities reduces the amount of suitable habitat available for moose. This loss of habitat can force moose to move to less suitable areas, where they may be more vulnerable to predators, starvation, and other threats.

These industries may create physical barriers such as roads, pipelines, and fences that can prevent moose from accessing their preferred habitat

Mining activities can release heavy metals and other contaminants into rivers and streams, which can contaminate the water that moose rely on for drinking and feeding.





MOOSE IDENTIFICATION



Male Adult Moose

Only male moose have antlers, which they use for mating rituals and combat with other males. Antlers can grow up to six feet wide and are shed and regrown each year.

Male moose have a long, over hanging bulbous nose and a longer more rectangular shaped face with prominent ears and a bell. The bell is a beard like flap of skin under the moose throat.

Cow Moose

Cow moose do not have antlers or a bell.

Cows will have a shock of white fur on her hindquarters, and a white patch on her rear which is called a vulva patch.

Cows stand at about 6ft at shoulder height and weigh between 700-1200 lbs.



Calf Moose

Moose calves have a small fine featured nose, short ears and almost no bell.

Calves also have a shorter and more stout head than an adult. They have a square body with a sharply pointed shoulder hump.

Calves appear to be more legs than body and do not have the muscular development that adult moose have.

Moose calves stand at about 4ft high at the shoulder and typically weigh 350- 400 lbs.





MOOSE MANAGEMENT 2023

Ni Dakinan has made this guidebook for educational and management purposes. To be apart of TFN Moose Management objectives, we ask that members who harvest a moose or witness a moose road kill or other, please report to the lands and resources department.

We are located at 13 Kateri Street, Timiskaming First Nation
or call us @ [819-723-2291](tel:819-723-2291) MIIGWETCH!

Name:

Date:

Location:

Buck or Cow:

Any sign of disease or sickness:

Additional information:

TIMISKAMING FIRST NATION MOOSE MANAGEMENT 2023



~Meegwetch~

Meegwetch to our elders and knowledge keepers for sharing & passing on invaluable knowledge.

We would like to thank the Moose for all that you have provided for us since time immemorial.

You have kept us alive, gave us food and shelter, gave us clothes, mukluks, baby clothes, moccasins, and drums.

You give us ceremony, education, stories, economy, a way to live. You have protected and provided for us.