

2022
Moose Harvest
Recommendation

to the
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board



Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department
Agency of Natural Resources
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3208
802-828-1000

The Fish & Wildlife Department recommends the same moose hunting permit allocation adopted by the Board by straw vote on February 16, 2022. During the public comment period, which started immediately after the Board meeting on February 16, the Department did not receive any new or additional information to justify changes to the initial recommendation.

The following is the same text the Department submitted to the Board for its February meeting. All public comments received are provided in the appendices.

The Department’s goal is to improve the health of moose in northeastern Vermont by reducing winter tick abundance and their impacts on moose health, survival, and birth rate. The Department recommends issuing 100 moose hunting permits in WMUs E1 and E2 to reduce the moose population and thereby reduce winter tick abundance. See **Table 1** below for specific permit allocations.

The current number of moose in WMU E has been sufficient to sustain winter ticks at high levels that are negatively affecting moose health and survival. Winter ticks are a host-dependent parasite with moose being the primary host responsible for major fluctuations in winter tick densities. Therefore, reduction in moose density decreases the number of available hosts which in turn decreases the number of winter ticks on the landscape. Moose population reduction will be necessary to break the winter tick cycle and improve the health of moose in this region.

Failure to reduce the moose density will perpetuate the current, unhealthy state of the moose population in WMU E for decades and would be inconsistent with the Department’s established objective of managing for a healthy moose population. Importantly, 65% of Vermont residents support maintaining a smaller moose population through hunting if it reduces the number of moose that die each year from winter ticks. Only 15% oppose this approach (Responsive Management 2019).

Although winter ticks can be found on moose throughout the northeast, they do not significantly impact moose populations across the more-peripheral parts of their range, including the rest of Vermont, due to lower moose densities that limit tick abundance.

Table 1. Recommended 2022 moose hunting permit allocations by season, permit type, and WMU.

	E1	E2	Total
Archery Season			
Either-sex	9	6	15
Regular Season¹			
Either-sex	24	15	39
Antlerless-only	24	16	40
Auction²	choice		3
Special Opportunity²	choice		3
TOTAL			100

¹ Veteran permits are a priority draw for the first 5 regular season permits.

² Auction and Special Opportunity Permits are either sex and allow choice of season and WMU.

Summary of Key Points

- The moose population is stable in most of Vermont, including WMU E (E1 & E2).
- Moose density in WMU E remains above the objective of 1 moose/square mile established in the [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#).
 - No WMU outside of the Northeast Kingdom ever had a moose density of 1/mi².
 - Moose densities greater than 1/mi² support high numbers of winter ticks that negatively impact the health of moose.
 - Moose densities below 0.75/mi² support relatively few winter ticks that do not impact moose populations. This is the case in most of Vermont – winter ticks are present, but do not cause population level impacts.
- Results of moose research in WMU E indicate health of moose is very poor in that region.
 - Adult survival remains relatively good, but detrimental health impacts of winter ticks have caused birth rates to be very low.
 - Heavy winter tick loads can cause more than half of moose calves to die in late winter.
- The Department recommends 100 moose hunting permits (60 either sex and 40 antlerless only) be allocated in WMU E to reduce moose numbers and thereby reduce the impacts of winter ticks on the health of moose and help maintain a sustainable moose population.
 - This would result in the harvest of 51-65 moose, or about 5% of the current estimated population in WMU E. This same permit allocation in 2020 resulted in the harvest of 62 moose.
- No permits are recommended for the remaining 19 WMUs, which cover 93% of Vermont, because moose densities remain below objectives and hunting thresholds established in the [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#).

Goals

This recommendation aims to improve the health of moose in WMUs E1 and E2 by reducing the impact of winter ticks and to achieve moose population objectives established in the [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#).

Management Objectives

Moose population objectives for each WMU were established in Vermont's [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#). These objectives aim to maintain healthy regional moose populations at levels that are socially acceptable and ecologically sustainable.

In WMUs D2, E1, and E2, density objectives reflect the impact of winter ticks on the size and health of the region's moose population. Research has found reduced frequency of tick epizootics (where more than 50% of calves die from winter tick infestations) at moose densities below 1.06/mi² and no tick epizootics at densities below 0.75/mi² (Samuel 2007, Jones 2016). The Department will initially try to maintain moose densities at or below 1/mi² to reduce winter tick abundance and the frequency of epizootics, and improve the health of the moose population. However, if tick impacts are not reduced, the moose density may need to be reduced to 0.75/mi². Ultimately, the goal is to have healthy moose, with fewer calves dying each year from heavy winter tick loads and healthier cows with higher birth rates.

Moose density objectives throughout the rest of moose range in Vermont have been set at 0.5 moose/mi² (Figure 1). This lower objective reflects ecological limitations on moose densities in these regions due to limited young forest habitat, higher deer densities, and a warming climate. Moose densities in these WMUs have never reached 1/mi².

Hunting thresholds have also been established for each WMU at 75% of the density objective. The Department will only consider hunting moose when densities exceed this threshold for two consecutive years. This ensures that the other values of moose are maximized at these lower densities.

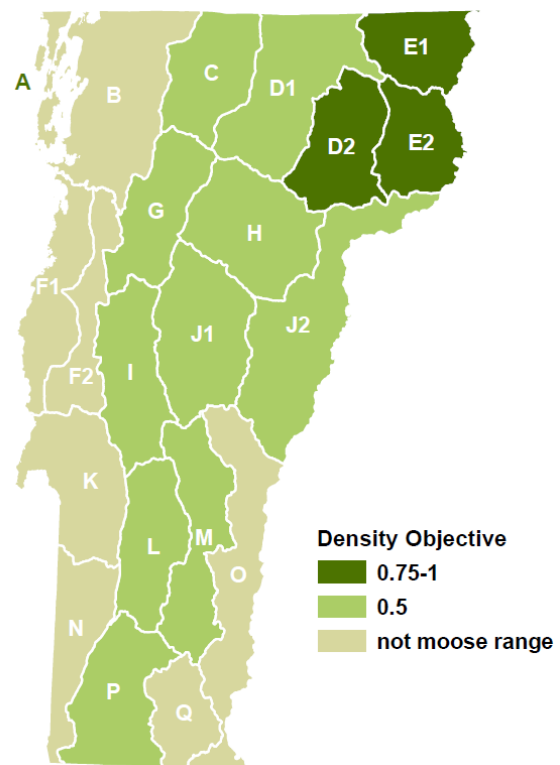


Figure 1. Moose density objectives (moose per square mile of moose habitat) established in Vermont's [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#).

Population Status

Moose and Winter Ticks

Recent studies in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine have concluded that winter ticks are the primary cause of moose mortality across their core range in New England (Musante et al. 2007, 2010, Bergeron et al. 2013, Dunfey-Ball 2017, Jones et al. 2017, Ellingwood et al. 2019, Jones et al. 2019, DeBow et al. 2021), with some moose hosting an astonishingly high number of ticks (>50,000/individual; Jones et al. 2019).

Core moose range (continuous red/brown area in **Figure 2**) in New England extends from northeastern Vermont through northern New Hampshire and western and northern Maine. This part of the region has a colder climate with longer winters, low deer densities, large blocks of forest, and an abundance of young forest created by commercial timber management which allows it to sustain higher densities of moose than more peripheral parts of their range. Importantly, population-level effects of winter ticks have only been observed in the region's core moose range, where moose densities have been high enough to support large numbers of winter ticks.

Although winter ticks can be found on moose throughout the region, they are not impacting moose populations across the more-peripheral parts of their range in the northeast, including the rest of Vermont, due to lower moose densities which limit tick abundance. Moose numbers outside of the Northeast Kingdom have declined, but the main cause of that decline was not winter ticks. Rather, it was likely due to a combination of declining quantity of young forest, increased parasite loads (particularly brainworm linked to increasing deer densities), and fewer moose in core moose range to migrate out to these other regions.

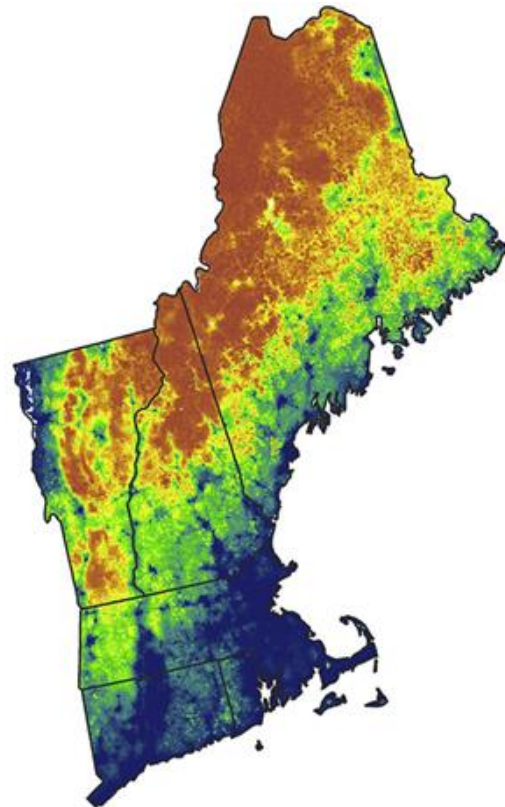


Figure 2. Estimated probability of occurrence of moose in the New England region from Pearman-Gilman et al. 2020.

Vermont Research

During 2017–2019, 126 moose (36 adult cows and 90 calves) were fitted with GPS radio collars in WMU E to monitor survival and birth rates. Results of this research clearly showed that chronic, high winter tick loads caused the health of moose in WMU E to be poor. Birth rates were low and overwinter calf survival was poor (49%; DeBow et al. 2021). Although observed adult female survival remained relatively good, it was lower than expected for a population without major predators. Survival of breeding age females has significant influence on population trends in long-lived species like moose.

Ongoing and Future Research

Fieldwork associated with the survival study concluded in 2019; however, the Department continues to monitor survival and calf recruitment in the remaining collared cows. Additionally, the large amounts of data collected during this study allowed University of Vermont researchers to analyze other aspects of moose and winter tick ecology. This related research focused on understanding 1) How winter tick impacts on moose relate to habitat use and quality (*see Blouin et al. 2021a and Blouin et al. 2021b*), and 2) How winter ticks affect moose nutritional condition and stress levels (*see Rosenblatt et al. 2021*).

Other recently completed research at UVM assessed the effect of various fungal pathogens on survival of winter tick larvae (*see Sullivan et al. 2020a and Sullivan et al. 2020b*). While some of these fungi resulted in high mortality of winter tick larvae in the lab, an important next step is to determine the effectiveness and feasibility of using these pathogens to control winter ticks in the field.

The Department is currently partnering with UVM, the University of Massachusetts, New Hampshire Fish and Game, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, and the US Forest service on a large, regional research effort focused on non-invasive monitoring of moose and winter ticks. The project includes the following: deployment of more than 400 long-term camera monitoring stations across the five states; track surveys; collection and analysis of urine and feces; winter tick surveys; and development of an integrated population model that can incorporate all of these data.

For more information about moose research in Vermont and New England, visit vtfishandwildlife.com.

Population Health

Many factors affect the health of individual moose and the overall population. These include diseases and parasites (e.g., winter ticks and brainworm), habitat quality, and environmental conditions. Ultimately, how fast a population grows and how resilient it is to additional sources of mortality is determined by how long individuals can be expected to live (i.e., the survival rate) and how many new individuals are added to the population each year (i.e., the birth rate).

In the early 2000s, moose were overabundant in WMU E. They were causing significant damage to forest regeneration and their physical condition was declining as habitat quality declined. The Department actively reduced the moose population in this area to bring it into balance with the habitat and to improve the health of moose. By 2011, the population had been reduced to a level the habitat could support; however, health measures did not improve (**Figures 3 and 4**).

Moose are not currently limited by habitat in the core part of their range, including WMU E (Dunfey-Ball 2017). There is enough available habitat and adequate forage to support the current population. However, habitat quality can influence the distribution of moose on the landscape (i.e., higher densities of moose in areas with the highest quality habitat), which can influence local winter tick abundance and impacts on moose health (Healy et al. 2019, Blouin et al. 2021a and b).

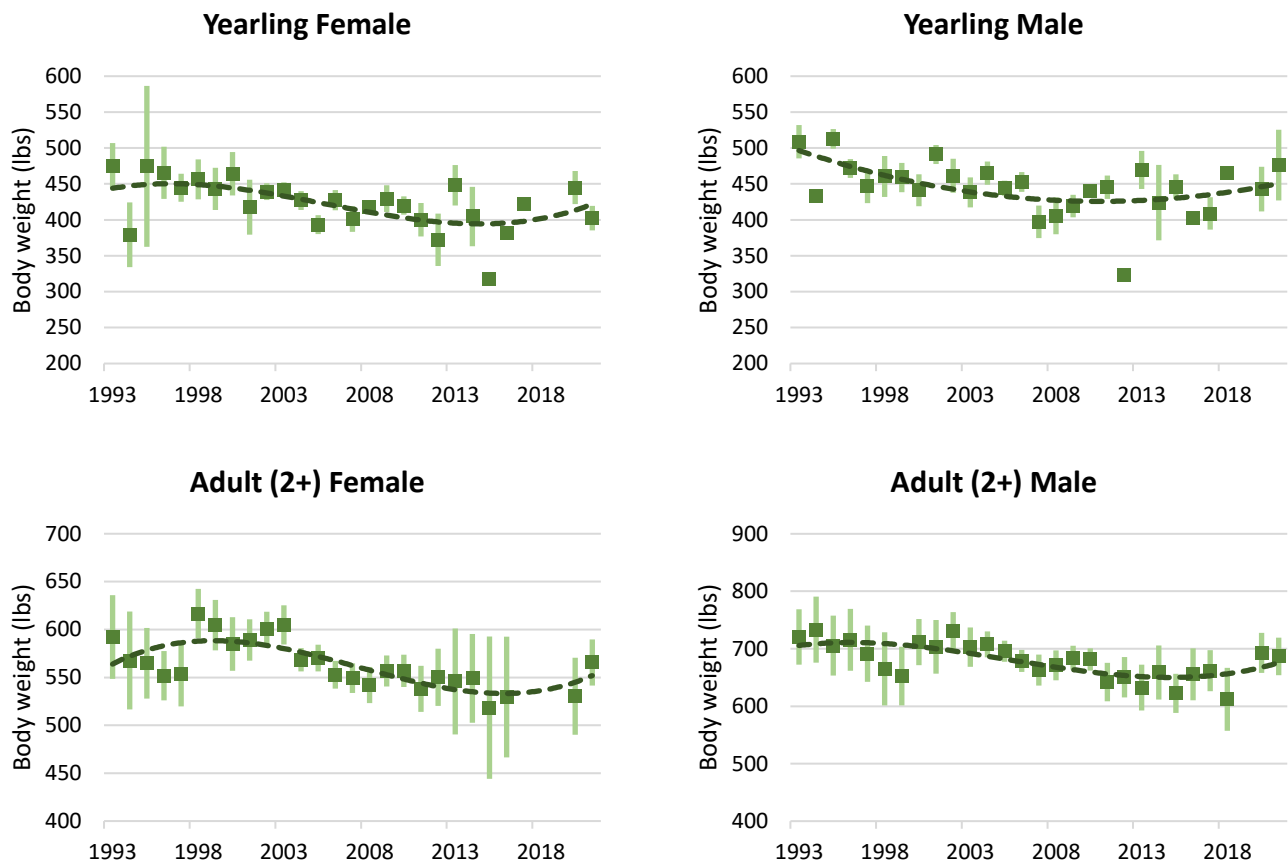


Figure 3. Field-dressed body weights of harvested moose in Wildlife Management Unit E, 1993–2021.

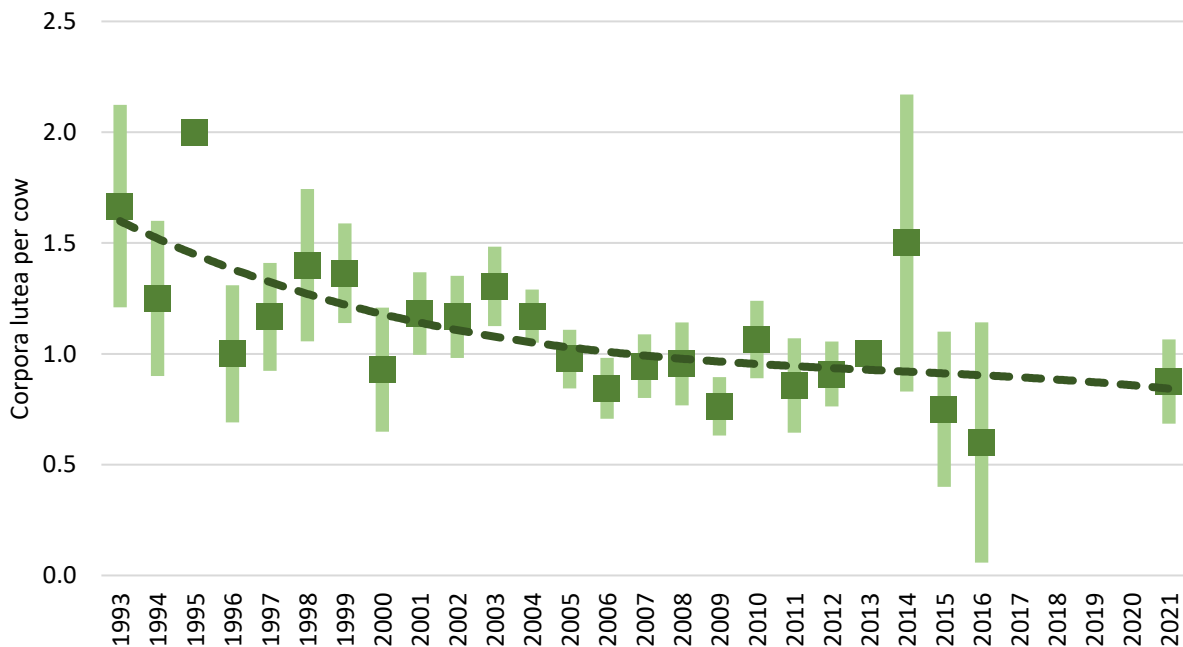


Figure 4. Ovulation rate of prime-aged (≥ 3 years old) cow moose in WMU E, 1993-2021. Data are from counts of corpora lutea in ovaries collected from hunter-harvested moose.

Recent Winter Tick Impacts

The severity of annual tick infestations is not only dependent on moose density, but also on climate, including temperature, humidity, wind, and snow. Annual variation in climate conditions results in variation in winter tick loads on moose. As long as climate conditions periodically result in reduced winter tick infestations, moose densities can remain at levels that perpetuate heavy tick loads and unhealthy moose for the foreseeable future.

Vermont has not collared moose calves since 2019. As a result, the Department relies on other sources of information to estimate winter tick impacts since that time. During 2020 and 2021, summer calf recruitment from remaining collared cow moose was better than during 2017-2019 (**Figure 4**). Additionally, the proportion of yearlings in the moose harvest, small improvements in body weight (**Figure 3**) and antler measurements of harvested moose, and anecdotal evidence (e.g., reports of dead moose, bloody beds, engorged ticks in snowmobile trails) suggest that tick impacts were lower in Vermont in 2020 and 2021.

While reduced winter tick impacts are encouraging, they are likely the result of unfavorable climate conditions for winter ticks in recent years. The long winter of 2018–2019 likely helped reduce winter tick abundance during 2019, resulting in lower tick loads on moose during the winter of 2019–2020. An early snow event in mid-October 2020 likely ended or significantly reduced winter tick questing, resulting in lower tick loads on moose during the winter of 2020–2021. However, current moose densities in WMU E will allow winter tick abundance and impacts on moose to increase again when climate conditions are more favorable for ticks.

Winter tick counts on bull moose harvested in October 2021 were comparable to those observed in recent years (**Figure 5**). While this measure provides an indication of tick abundance on the landscape, final tick loads on individual moose will be largely determined by the length of the questing period. The questing period is typically ended by weather conditions (e.g., persistent snow or freezing conditions) that kill questing winter tick larvae. Persistent snow did not arrive in WMU E until mid-November 2021, which may result in more severe winter tick impacts in 2022.

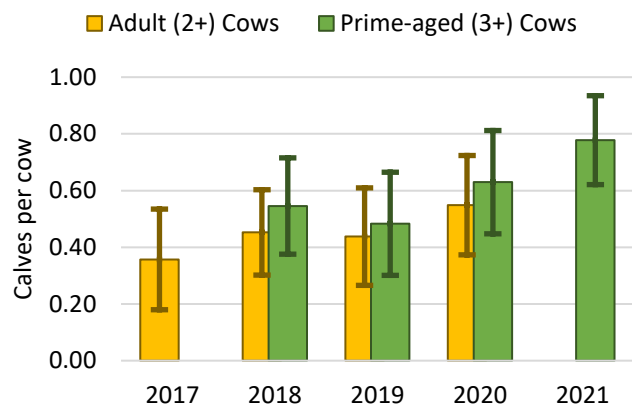


Figure 4. Summer calf recruitment of collared cow moose in Wildlife Management Unit E, 2017–2021.

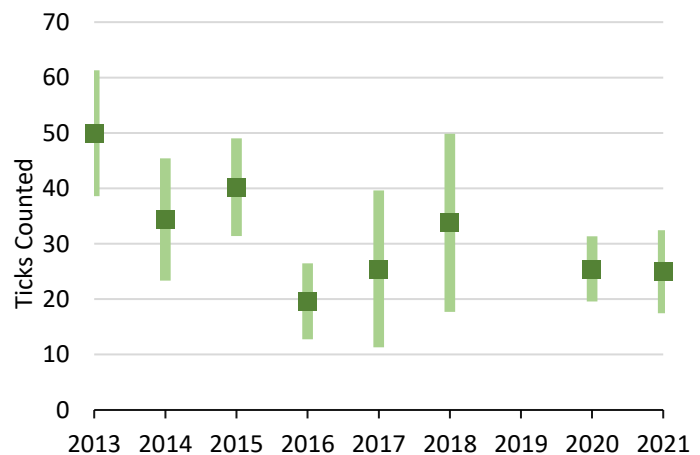


Figure 5. Winter tick counts on bull moose harvested in Wildlife Management Unit E, 2013–2021.

Population Estimates

Regional moose densities in Vermont are estimated from moose sighting rates reported by deer hunters during the November rifle season. This approach, originally developed by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, relates sighting rates to moose densities determined by aerial surveys (Bontaites et al. 2000). Aerial surveys conducted in Vermont allowed the Department to modify this model to better fit Vermont sighting data. Sighting rates often vary from year to year due to factors other than the number of moose (e.g., weather conditions), so a 3-year rolling average is used to smooth out some of this variation.

Using this approach, the 2021 (2019–2021 rolling average) density estimates for WMUs E1 and E2 are 1.99 and 1.49 moose/mi², respectively, which are well above the upper density objectives established in the 2020-2030 *Big Game Management Plan* (1 moose/mi²; **Table 2**). It appears that moose numbers have been relatively stable at this level in WMU E over the past 10 years (**Figure 6**).

The Department has received interest for moose hunting from foresters that have documented moose browsing impacts to forest regeneration in areas outside WMU E. They are interested in alleviating these impacts to protect forest health. While some of these local areas could sustain a limited moose harvest, the moose population density in all WMUs except E1 and E2 remain below established hunting thresholds (**Table 2**).

The uneven distribution of functional moose habitat (and therefore moose) in parts of Vermont is a challenge for management. The Department will be reevaluating moose habitat mapping, taking advantage of recent research efforts (e.g., Pearman-Gilman et al. 2020, Blouin et al. 2021a) to better reflect the area of functional habitat in each WMU. This should allow for more meaningful estimates of moose density in WMUs with less homogeneous moose habitat.

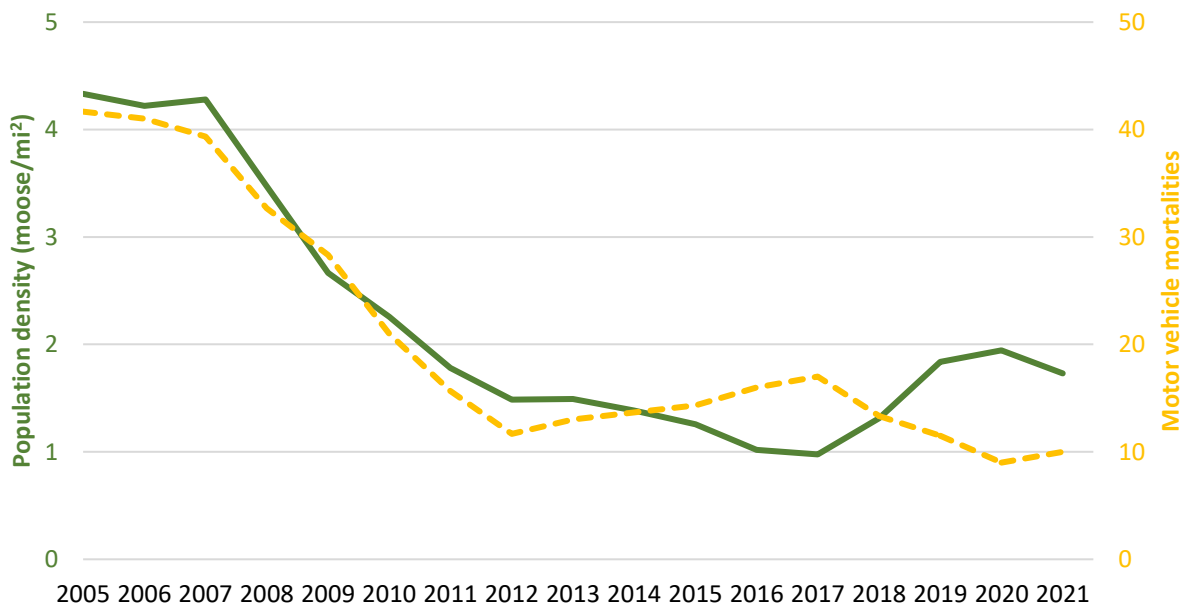


Figure 6. Rolling 3-year average moose density estimates (solid line) and motor vehicle mortalities (dashed line) in WMU E during 2005–2021. Density estimates are based on moose sighting rates reported by deer hunters.

Table 2. Moose density estimates based on sighting rates by deer hunters and density objectives and hunting thresholds established in the [2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan](#), by WMU. Density estimates are based on average sighting rates during 2019–2021.

WMU	Habitat (mi ²)	Density (moose/mi ²)			Population Estimate	
		Objective	Hunting Threshold	Current Estimate	N	(80% CI)
A	35	n/a	n/a	0.03	1	(1–1)
B	420	n/a	n/a	0.04	18	(15–21)
C	351	0.5	0.38	0.33	115	(94–136)
D1	449	0.5	0.38	0.22	99	(80–119)
D2	346	0.75-1	0.56	0.37	129	(107–151)
E1	306	0.75-1	0.56	1.99	608	(546–670)
E2	326	0.75-1	0.56	1.49	486	(425–548)
F1	108	n/a	n/a	0.04	4	(3–5)
F2	158	n/a	n/a	0.02	3	(3–3)
G	363	0.5	0.38	0.06	22	(15–29)
H	466	0.5	0.38	0.29	135	(114–156)
I	407	0.5	0.38	0.11	43	(33–54)
J1	464	0.5	0.38	0.07	33	(24–42)
J2	633	0.5	0.38	0.22	140	(117–163)
K	359	n/a	n/a	0.04	15	(10–19)
L	346	0.5	0.38	0.15	53	(41–66)
M	424	0.5	0.38	0.29	122	(95–149)
N	275	n/a	n/a	0.04	10	(6–15)
O	478	n/a	n/a	0.03	17	(13–20)
P	447	0.5	0.38	0.13	59	(41–77)
Q	219	n/a	n/a	0.04	10	(6–14)
STATE	7380				2123	(1789–2458)

Harvest Recommendation

The results of the moose study clearly show that the current density of moose in WMU E has been sufficient to sustain winter ticks at high levels that are negatively affecting moose health and survival. Research has shown that winter tick abundance is directly related to moose population density. Reducing the density of moose decreases the number of available hosts which in turn decreases the number of winter ticks on the landscape. Moose population reduction will be necessary to break the winter tick cycle and improve the health of moose in this region.

Without management action to reduce the moose population, high tick loads will continue to impact the health of moose in WMU E for the next decade and beyond. The resulting chronic stress, low birth rates, and high calf mortality may prevent the population from growing. However, it will be less resilient to

diseases, parasites, and environmental variation, which could cause the population to destabilize. Maintaining a healthy, stable, and sustainable moose population requires action to improve moose health.

Reducing winter tick numbers directly, either by treating moose or the landscape with some form of acaricide or fungal pathogen, is not currently a viable option. Research in this area is ongoing, but the realities of treating an entire landscape or a sufficient portion of the moose population make it unlikely that this will be a practical option soon.

The Department recommends harvesting at least 25 adult cow moose (5% of the cow population) in WMU E during the 2022 moose hunting seasons. The Department further recommends that this be accomplished through the issuance of 60 either-sex hunting permits and 40 antlerless-only hunting permits. Given historical success rates and sex-age composition of the harvest for each permit type, this allocation is expected to result in the harvest of approximately 60 moose (range: 51–65) with an expected breakdown of 31 bulls (range: 27–34), 25 cows (20–30), and 4 calves (3–5). Approximately 60% of permits are recommended to be allocated to WMU E1 due to higher moose densities in that WMU. Approximately 25% of either-sex permits are allocated to the archery season, based on the percentage of total applications that were for this season in recent years and the need to obtain sufficient biological data during the regular season. Allocations to the auction, special opportunity, and veterans are set by statute. Permit breakdown by season, type, WMU, and special allocation is provided in **Table 1**.

Population Projections

Based on survival rates and calf recruitment observed from collared moose during 2017–2021, the moose population in WMU E would be expected to increase in the absence of any moose harvest (**Figure 6**). If winter tick impacts are relatively severe each year (as observed during 2017–2019), the population would not increase. However, severe tick impacts do not occur every year due to variation in climate conditions that affect winter tick abundance. Thus, this represents an unrealistic, worst-case scenario, and the moose population should be expected to increase without some additional mortality from hunting. This is consistent with the observed population trend over the past decade, when the average annual moose harvest in WMU E has been 40 moose (range: 0-75).

Importantly, detrimental effects on moose health will continue as long as moose densities remain at levels that support high winter tick loads. Even under a worst-case scenario, taking no management action would perpetuate the current, unhealthy state of the moose population in WMU E for many years and would be inconsistent with the Department’s established objective of managing for a healthy moose population. Importantly, 65% of Vermont residents support maintaining a smaller moose population through hunting if it reduces the number of moose that die each year from winter ticks. Only 15% oppose this approach (*Responsive Management 2019*).

Starting with a population of 1,000 moose in WMU E (E1 and E2 combined) in the fall of 2022, the harvest of 25 adult female moose annually is expected to reduce the population slowly, assuming tick impacts similar to the previous 5 years, and no change in birth rates or survival rates (**Figure 6**). If tick impacts are relatively severe each year, it would take approximately 5 years at this harvest level to reach 1 moose/mi². Conversely, if tick impacts are reduced, as in 2020 and 2021, the population would be expected to increase over time.

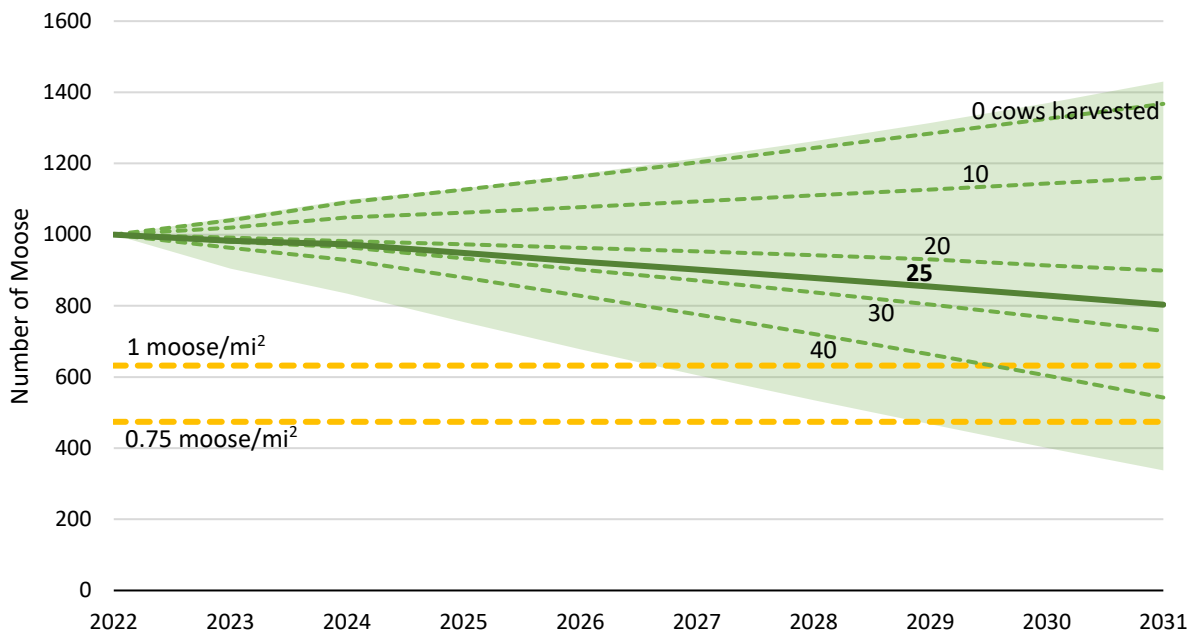


Figure 6. Moose population projections in WMU E at varying annual cow harvests and winter tick impacts, based on a population of 1,000 in fall 2022 and survival and birth rates from radio-marked moose. Projections assume consistent harvest each year and no change in survival or birth rates. Green shaded area represents the potential range of variation due to varying winter tick impacts at the recommended harvest of 25 cows.

Given the poor health of the moose population and a clearly identified cause, action to address this issue is warranted. The harvest of 29 cow moose in 2021 was an important step toward reducing the number of moose in WMU E, and thereby reducing winter tick abundance and impacts on moose health. Permit allocations and harvest in 2019 and 2020 have been conservative due to uncertainty around population estimates, lower survival and birth rates observed from collared moose during the first 3 years of monitoring, and very low permit numbers in previous years.

The 2022 harvest recommendation remains conservative. It is sufficient to prevent the moose population in WMU E from growing, and, if winter tick impacts are severe, it will facilitate population reduction toward the target of 1 moose/mi².

Ideally, moose health should be improved as quickly as possible. However, low survival and birth rates observed from Vermont moose, uncertainty around apparent improvements in calf recruitment in the past two years that result in higher population projections, and broader, regional declines in moose populations justify a continued cautious approach at this time. Management of moose in WMU E and throughout Vermont must continue to be adaptive and respond to new information as it becomes available. If continued monitoring indicates that health, survival, and birth rates remain poor, and the moose population in WMU E remains above the objective, a more aggressive approach will be necessary to improve the health of the region’s moose.

Literature Cited

- Bergeron, D. H., P. J. Pekins, and K. Rines. 2013. Temporal assessment of physical characteristics and reproductive status of moose in New Hampshire. *Alces* 49:39-48.
- Blouin, J., J. DeBow, E. Rosenblatt, C. Alexander, K. Gieder, N. Fortin, J. Murdoch, and T. Donovan. 2021a. Modeling moose habitat use by age, sex, and season in Vermont, USA using high-resolution lidar and national land cover data. *Alces* 57:71-98.
- Blouin, J., J. DeBow, E. Rosenblatt, J. Hines, C. Alexander, K. Gieder, N. Fortin, J. Murdoch, and T. Donovan. 2021b. Moose habitat selection and fitness consequences during two critical winter tick life stages in Vermont, United States. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 9:642276.
- Bontaites, K. M., K. A. Gustafson, and R. Makin. 2000. A Gasaway-type moose survey in New Hampshire using infrared thermal imagery: preliminary results. *Alces* 36:69-76
- DeBow, J., J. Blouin, E. Rosenblatt, C. Alexander, K. Gieder, W. Cottrell, J. Murdoch, and T. Donovan. 2021. Effects of winter ticks and internal parasites on moose survival in Vermont, USA. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 85:1423-1439.
- Dunfey-Ball, K. R. 2017. Moose density, habitat, and winter tick epizootics in a changing climate. M. S. thesis. University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, USA.
- Ellingwood, D., P. J. Pekins, and H. Jones. 2019. Using Snow Urine Samples to Assess the Impact of Winter Ticks on Moose Calf Condition and Survival. *Alces*.
- Healy, C., P. J. Pekins, L. E. Kantar, R. G. Congalton, and S. Atallah. 2018. Selective habitat use by moose during critical periods in the winter tick life cycle. *Alces* 54:97-112
- Jones, H., P. J. Pekins, L. E. Kantar, M. O'Neil, and D. Ellingwood. 2017. Fecundity and summer calf survival of moose during 3 successive years of winter tick epizootics. *Alces* 53:85-98.
- Jones, H., P. Pekins, L. Kantar, I. Sidor, D. Ellingwood, A. Lichtenwalner, and M. O'Neal. 2019. Mortality assessment of moose (*Alces alces*) calves during successive years of winter tick (*Dermacentor albipictus*) epizootics in New Hampshire and Maine (USA). *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 97:22-30.
- Musante, A. R., P. J. Pekins, and D. L. Scarpitti. 2007. Metabolic impacts of winter tick infestations on calf moose. *Alces* 43:101-110.
- Musante, A. R., P. J. Pekins, and D. L. Scarpitti. 2010. Characteristics and dynamics of a regional moose *Alces alces* population in the northeastern United States. *Wildlife Biology* 16:185-204.
- Pearman-Gillman, S. B., J. E. Katz, R. M. Mickey, J. D. Murdoch, and T. M. Donovan. 2020. Predicting wildlife distribution patterns in New England USA with expert elicitation techniques. *Global Ecology and Conservation* 21.
- Responsive Management. 2019. Vermont residents' and hunters' attitudes toward big game hunting and management. Responsive Management Report, Harrisonburg, VA. 199pp.
- Rosenblatt, E., J. DeBow, J. Blouin, T. Donovan, J. Murdoch, S. Creel, W. Rogers, K. Gieder, N. Fortin, and C. Alexander. 2021. Juvenile moose stress and nutrition dynamics related to winter ticks, landscape characteristics, climate-mediated factors and survival. *Conservation Physiology* 9.
- Samuel, W. M. 2007. Factors affecting epizootics of winter ticks and mortality of moose. *Alces* 43:39-48.
- Sullivan, C. F., B. L. Parker, A. Davari, M. R. Lee, J. S. Kim, and M. Skinner. 2020a. Evaluation of spray applications of *Metarhizium anisopliae*, *Metarhizium brunneum* and *Beauveria bassiana* against larval winter ticks, *Dermacentor albipictus*. *Experimental and Applied Acarology* 82:559-570.
- Sullivan, C. F., B. L. Parker, A. Davari, M. R. Lee, J. S. Kim, and M. Skinner. 2020b. Pathogenicity of *Metarhizium anisopliae* and *Metarhizium brunneum* isolates and efficacy of Met52 G against winter tick larvae, 2019. *Arthropod Management Tests*, 45:1-3.

Appendix A: Summary of comments, questions, and department responses from 2022 moose public hearings

Note: comments are arranged from most common to least common. A total of 86 members of the public attended these four hearings.

Support the plan/OK with moose season proposal/leave it to the science

Similar comments were received from the majority of focus groups

Are permit numbers having an effect on the moose population?

In favor of being more aggressive. Why don't we issue more permits?

Similar comments or questions were received from multiple focus groups

Fish and Wildlife Response: It's too early to tell if recent harvests have had the intended effect of reducing the moose population in WMU E. It may take 2-3 years to detect a change in the population, if there is any.

Ideally, we would like to improve moose health as quickly as possible, which would require reducing the density of moose more quickly. However, there are several concerns that support a more conservative approach to reducing the population. In addition to biological concerns related to genetics and population stability, there is also the practical management concern of being able to reliably estimate the size of a rapidly changing population. Our current methods of estimating moose population size and trends are not well suited for this, which would make it difficult to know when the population had reached the target of 1 moose per square mile. This is further complicated by uncertainty about the severity of winter tick impacts each year and the effect they would have on population trajectory.

That said, it is important that we reduce moose numbers in WMU E within a reasonable timeframe and make actual progress improving the health of the moose population there. That may require issuing more moose hunting permits in future years if the current permit allocation and harvest is insufficient.

Is there something we can do to kill the ticks?

Similar comments or questions were received from multiple focus groups

Fish and Wildlife Response: The short answer is no, not at this time.

This is a logical question that usually stems from us treating our pets for ticks. Moose are not pets or livestock, they are wild animals.

Reducing winter tick numbers directly, either by treating moose or the landscape with some form of acaricide (a pesticide specifically for ticks) or fungal pathogen (there are some naturally occurring fungi that can kill ticks), is not currently a viable option. The Department has supported research at UVM looking at using naturally occurring fungi to control winter ticks. While it shows promise in the lab, it has not been tested in a natural setting and so its true effectiveness and potential side effects are unknown. Research in this area is ongoing, but the

realities of treating an entire landscape or a sufficient portion of the moose population make it unlikely that this will be a practical option in the near future.

Further, treating ticks does not kill all of them and provides them an opportunity to adapt to the treatment and develop resistance. As long as there is a high density of moose on the landscape, tick numbers will simply increase again when treatments stop or when the ticks become immune to them.

Introducing animals that consume ticks (e.g., guinea fowl) is also not a viable option. Aside from the potential consequences from introducing a new animal into an area, and the fact that they could not survive the winter in that part of Vermont, they simply would not be effective at reducing winter tick numbers. The life cycle of winter ticks results in minimal opportunity for them to be predated. Adult ticks essentially only occur on the host, not on vegetation, and larval ticks are very small and either in the leaf litter or relatively high up on vegetation.

Lastly, we may dislike ticks because we find them unsightly or are concerned about diseases they may carry (remember, winter ticks do not carry those diseases), but we must remember that they are a native species just like moose. We just need to find the appropriate balance between winter ticks and moose.

Lots of moose in WMU E/Island Pond.

Similar comments were received from multiple focus groups

Seeing fewer moose/low moose population.

Similar comments were received from multiple focus groups, primarily in reference to central or southern VT

Seen more moose in southern VT (where logging is going on).

Similar comments were received from multiple focus groups

Should D2 be opened up for moose? Seems like a high population of both deer and moose.

Fish and Wildlife Response: Current moose population estimates in WMU D2 remain below the hunting threshold established in the 2020-2030 Big Game Management Plan. As long as that is the case, the Department will not recommend moose hunting permits in that area.

Recognize difficulty of trying to manage for deer and moose in same area.

Can we do a bonus point system? Can we do a rule similar to Maine where you automatically get a permit after so many points?

Fish and Wildlife Response: Vermont currently has a bonus point system in place for the moose hunt lotteries. Hunters earn a bonus point (one additional entry in the lottery) for each consecutive year that they apply and do not win a permit.

Current Maine law guarantees a moose hunting permit for Maine residents who are 65+ years of age and have accrued at least 30 bonus points. Maine issues several thousand moose hunting permits each year, so a resident is unlikely to go that long without winning a permit. At current

permit allocations in Vermont, it would take more than 50 years for all applicants to receive a permit. So, a system like Maine's wouldn't work. Our moose permit lottery is a chance drawing, and, unfortunately, some people will never win. There is no practical way around that given the small number of permits issued in Vermont.

We have the best archery moose hunt in the country – also the cheapest.

Could we look into having both moose hunts during the rut (9/15-10/15)?

Fish and Wildlife Response: This will be considered when moose hunting regulations are reviewed.

How do you keep the moose study going? Why not keep capturing them?

Fish and Wildlife Response: Capturing and collaring moose is expensive. At this point, the value of information from new collared animals would not justify the cost.

The Department is now partnering with the University of Vermont, University of Massachusetts, and state agencies from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and New York on a regional research effort focused on non-invasive methods of monitoring moose populations in the region. This effort includes deployment more than 400 camera monitoring stations (trail cameras) across the region, track surveys, collection of scat and urine, and winter tick surveys. Collectively, this will provide information on moose abundance and population trends, reproductive rates, health status, and impacts of winter ticks, among other useful information. The hope is that this will provide some new and more cost-effective tools for monitoring moose populations across the region.

Appendix B: Moose Public Comment Emails

From: Daniel Mosle <20wick12@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:52 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

Please stop killing the best moose leaving tick infested alone..moose don't need a bullet! Thank you dbm

From: Cheryl Pinto <adventureose@icloud.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:12 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Dr.Skinners research is informative.

From: aimee Pallozzi <aimeepallozzi@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 3:06 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

To whom it may concern:

Please do. not allow the 2022 moose hunt to happen. This is a cruel and unnecessary act that should not be allowed in our great state. Killing them will. not, despite some theories, reduce the number of ticks.

Please protect these amazing creatures and vote no to moose hunting licenses.

Sincerely,

Aimee Pallozzi

Vermont Resident

From: Alice Roberge <alice.roberge@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 8:06 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: STOP THE MOOSE HUNT

Greetings,

Killing moose is not the way to kill ticks. There are other ways, such as naturally occurring fungi. There is a declining moose herd and having a moose hunt is NOT the way to increase the herd, nor will it make the surviving moose healthier. Hunters want trophy animals. Those are the ones that are killed. If you want to help moose, stop the moose hunt, and use funds to spread fungi through moose habitat.

Thank you.

Alice Roberge

84 Simpson Brook Drive

Waterford, VT 05819

From: Allen Hood <allenhoo3@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 8:01 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

To my way of thinking, the best way is to follow the idea of using a fungus to kill the ticks. This application would help humans as well as all creatures.

From: Anna Boarini <anna.boarini@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:08 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Anna M. Boarini

Humane Education and Outreach Coordinator

VINE Sanctuary

From: Anne Jameson <annejameson@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 11:15 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I oppose a 2022 moose hunt

Dear Fish & Wildlife Department,

Speaking for myself, a resident of Marshfield, and as the Wildlife Advocacy Coordinator for Green Mountain Animal Defenders, I strongly oppose any moose hunt this year!

The 'science' behind your Department's moose-tick theory is questionable, especially so since the supporting study was funded by the trophy hunting organization Safari Club Int'l. Simple logic would advise that to build a stronger, healthier moose herd, the healthiest ones (the ones usually targeted by hunters) should be allowed to live and contribute to the gene pool of the overall population. And since moose also battle brain worm, heat stress, and other threats, why would we kill moose in order to kill just winter ticks?

I urge you to place a moratorium on the moose hunt and refocus your resources on continuing research on a naturally occurring fungus that kills winter ticks, thereby benefiting not only moose but deer as well. Moose will continue to suffer from a host of threats due to climate change. Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them in non-lethal ways!

Please do NOT hold a moose hunt in 2022!

Thank you!

For the animals,

Anne Jameson

Wildlife Advocacy Coordinator

Green Mountain Animal Defenders

From: Ann Smith <anniesmith6975@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 5:12 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Arden Scranton <ardenscranton@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 8:02 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose Hunt

We are strongly opposed to the 2022 moose hunt. Killing these majestic animals to “save” them makes no sense. They are extremely stressed by environmental factors. To reduce their numbers will eventually add to their demise. This makes absolutely no sense.

From: artstherapy@myfairpoint.net

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 7:58 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Proposed upcoming moose hunt.

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to comment on the proposed upcoming moose hunt. I am 100% AGAINST any hunting of moose.

When your studies are funded by trophy hunting organizations such as Safari Club International, and you depend solely on data collected from hunters, your results and conclusions are skewed and biased. This is a trophy hunt disguised as conservation. Rather than killing moose to solve the winter tick problem, PLEASE invest in studies to mitigate the situation non-lethally, and utilize biologists not associated with the FWD, to conduct the research.

There is no demonstrable need for a moose hunt and these iconic animals prove to be very easy targets for hunters. Moose are threatened by more than winter ticks. They are losing habitat and food sources to human encroachment and climate change. Those are the issues that need to be resolved.

I say NO to a 2022 moose hunt in Vermont.

Beth Newman, LMFT, ATR-BC

From: ashley prout <ashleyprout@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 8:22 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 'NO' to a 2022 moose hunt!

Please hear my concerns.

NO to a 2022 moose hunt.

Thank you,

Ashley McAvey

From: baxterk2@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 11:17 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
ANR,

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

F&W must realign itself and come into the best practices promoted by it's own National Association.

Wayne Curley
Huntington, VT

From: becca.coons@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:25 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please, no 2022 moose hunt!

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Killing moose to reduce ticks is an abysmally terrible way to address the problem.

Rebecca Coons
Williston, VT

From: Beth Wirsul <bethwirsul@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:02 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Betsy Donlon <betsgets@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 7:44 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose hunt
No! No! No!
Sent from my iPad
Betsy Donlon
Greensboro, VT.

From: Barbara Felitti <bfvermont@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 10:47 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: NO to 2022 moose hunt

Dear Fish & Wildlife Department,
There is no science behind a moose hunt as a to protect moose from the winter tick issue.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face and refocus resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

It's time to explore more options to wildlife management and protection. Not just hunting.

Sincerely,
Barbara Felitti
Huntington, VT

From: GREGG DESPART <brookfieldae@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 4:16 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: moose project

WOW killing the moose to get rid of the ticks, you guys should be in Washington DC your on your way to the big time !!!!, did you ever think of treating the moose with one of a dozen different tick treatments we use every day on domesticated animals ? they can be applied thru foods, sprays, dips, collars, injections and you could do this after hunting season when the moose where in their winter feeding grounds and the ticks are most concentrated on the animal and wipe out whole generations in one month, or is this really just about getting more money from the lottery ? this just seems to darn much like cutting off the finger because the finger nail is to long.

Gregg Despart

From: Bruce McClelland <bruce5402011@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:00 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Christien Beeuwkes <cabeeuwkes@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:34 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO to the moose hunt 2022!

I would like to voice my opposition to moose hunting; moose populations are already suffering from a number of diseases!

From: cake <cakearon@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:15 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Hello,

I believe that Vermont Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thanks for you consideration.

Coleen Kearon
Montpelier, Vt

From: Carol Cherhoniak <carolcherhoniak@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:20 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Carol Davis <caroldavis1023@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:50 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Killing moose to save is absurd and cruel. Please suspend the moose hunt. Protect and treat! There are humane ways to handle the tick problem.

Carol Davis
Brattleboro, VT

From: Carol j Scafuro <carolforanimals@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 5:33 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I follow these issues diligently, and once again, it seems that Vermont is taking the lazy way out. For the benefit of the few.

I firmly believe, as do multitudes of other Vermonters who are well informed on wildlife issues that these decisions to hunt are shallowly based on short term results, if even that. More personal desires and immediate satisfaction.

Why can't the VT Fish & Wildlife Department take an intelligent, grown up approach and place a moratorium on the moose hunt and refocus its resources on continuing research on a naturally occurring fungus that kills ticks . Moose will continue to suffer from a host of threats due to climate change. Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them.

For decades moose have been a symbol of pride and somewhat of a "mascot" for states like Maine, NH, and VT.

Why not give them the time and respect they deserve.

Please do not follow through with this 2022 moose hunt. Please.

Thank you
Carol Scafuro
Andover, VT

From: Colleen Schuster <caseyjonesvt1@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:48 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern,

I believe that the Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Moose will continue to suffer from a host of threats due to climate change. Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them.

To make the herd stronger, healthy moose should be allowed to contribute to the gene pool. How is killing moose going to make the herd healthier? Healthy animals should be allowed to breed and pass along their genetics. Moose also battle brain worms, heat stress, and other threats. Why would we kill moose in order to kill ticks?

Please reconsider your position and suspend the moose hunt.

Colleen Schuster

Bristol, VT

From: Angela <catchersmom2@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:34 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I am a veterinary nurse with wildlife experience. I am against a moose hunt.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Lindzey Beal <lindzey86@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 1:49 PM

To: VT Fish & Wildlife Board List <ANR.FWBoard@list.vermont.gov>; Herrick, Christopher <Christopher.Herrick@vermont.gov>

Subject: [ANR.FWBoard] NO to Moose Hunt

The 2022 Moose Hunt should not be happening this year! (Or as a minimum the allotted permits should be greatly reduced).

The VT moose population continues to struggle and the F&W Departments solution is to hunt them!? If we continue to hunt the most healthy and largest moose with good genes for an already struggling population, doesn't that harm the gene pool and the future herd??

The theory that in order to kill/decrease the amount of ticks that harm moose is to hunt them, is complete nonsense. The F&W Department should not be taking scientific advice from the trophy hunting organization Safari Club International, hunters or hunting guides. These people and groups only care about making money and fulfilling their personal desires. Profit and selfish fulfillment over the greater good for Vermont's wildlife seems to be an ongoing trend with the F&W Department.

For once could the F&W Department base their decisions off of sound science as opposed to what will help the department to make the most money?

Lindzey and Jeff Beal
Wolcott, VT

From: chaugen976@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:32 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

One of the most innovative solutions I have run across is using paint balls (or some such) filled with ivermectin to kill the ticks, instead of killing the moose. The hunters who would be shooting the moose with bullets could shoot them with something to apply the medicine to the moose instead of taking their lives.

An idea that occurred to me is to use drones, even ones with infrared cameras, and dust the moose with ivermectin from the air.

Allowing the moose to be hunted is counterproductive, as the hunters and trophy hunters are only interested in the healthiest moose with the biggest trophy antlers. Allowing the unrestricted extermination of coyotes is counterintuitive as they can keep the moose herd healthier by eliminating the moose with the brain worm parasite as well.

Please think about non-lethal controls rather than just allowing hunters to get a thrill by killing these Vermont wildlife. I have heard that killing a moose is like walking up to a Volkswagen bus and shooting it. This is not sporting at all.

Sincerely, Christine Haugen
South Burlington

From: chichibarrett@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 3:19 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Hunt
We are against having moose hunted in Vermont. Moose are already under pressure from loss of habitat and ticks. Hunting moose would put even more pressure on them and decimate the herd.

We urge you to rule against hunting moose.

Respectfully,
Maria Barrett
Frederick Barrett
Richmond, Vermont

From: Christine Hartman <christineart1962@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 7:54 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Growing up in Vermont it was very rare to see a moose and now our population has made a comeback, only to face the wasting effects of the winter tick and the irresponsible suggestion of a moose hunt for animals already suffering.

The concept of issuing 100 permits when moose are in such a precarious state makes no sense to me. More should be done to combat the winter tick than killing moose. If this is the only solution you will likely still have winter ticks on other hosts and the moose population will be rare if not extinct in our state.

In the battle to save moose from winter ticks, fungi on small grains of millet could be the ultimate weapon. Morris Animal Foundation-funded researchers at the University of Vermont recently produced granular formulations of insect-killing fungi and successfully tested their efficacy against winter tick larvae under laboratory conditions. "There is a critical need to develop effective, high-quality, fungal-based biopesticides for use against ticks," said Dr. Margaret Skinner, Research Professor at the University of Vermont's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "Winter ticks kill too many moose, our icon of the north woods. But right now, the only management strategy we have to lessen the tick burden is through host reduction—killing moose to decrease ticks' food source."

Having a healthy moose population overall is more important than hunter's trophies, and using sources like this insect killing fungi could be the answer to having a healthy population that could then support a viable hunting season down the road while still maintaining a healthy population in our state.

PLEASE vote NO to the 2022 Moose hunt.

Christine Hartman, Berlin VT

From: Anne Dillon <clerestory@gmavt.net>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:09 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you for addressing this with right action.

Sincerely,
Anne

From: Anne Dillon <clerestory@gmavt.net>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:42 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I oppose the moose hunt
I oppose the 2022 moose hunt.

Sincerely,
Anne Dillon
Waitsfield

From: Clifford Borden <cliffb100@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:09 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: No
No to the moose hunt

Clifford borden
144 pine ridge rd
Stowe

From: Colleen Driscoll <cmad.wtr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 1:43 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

If you do have a moose hunt you are doing irreparable damage to Vermont as a vacation place and as an environmentally aware State. Our moose are important to us for so many reasons. Heal the moose as any responsible State wildlife office would. Don't bput this stain on Vermont's beauty and environmental record.

I live on a mountain in harmony with the wildlife, including moose.

From: Craig Mooney <craigpaint1@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:36 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Crystal Young <crystalricker484@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:43 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt!
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue, please. Thank you.

From: cw10631@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:15 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Charles Wolf
Stowe, VT

From: cw10631@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:35 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Please cancel the 2022 Moose hunt

Please cancel the 2022 Moose hunt. Why should we kill Moose in order to kill ticks?

Charles Wolf
Stowe, VT

From: Carol Hatcher <czhflyingbear@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:02 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: What about Moose?

I am a land owner living in Newfane, VT, and I do NOT BELIEVE THAT KILLING MOOSE to KILL TICKS is NOT THE ANSWER!

My husband and I would like to see the VT Fish & Wildlife Department (FWD) to place a moratorium on the moose hunt and refocus its resources on continuing research on a naturally occurring fungus that kills ticks. When they find a solution different than killing moose, you are doing EVERYBODY, including our wildlife a favor.

Carol Hatcher and John Flores
Newfane, VT 05345

From: Eric Dahlin <dahlineric3@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:03 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Eric Dahlin
Newfane Vt.

From: Jennifer Davidson <davidsonjc10@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:05 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I say NO a 2022 moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern,

I want the VT Fish & Wildlife to pause and suspend the moose hunt for 2022.

Let's refocus efforts and resources on non-lethal methods to address the winter tick issue.

It makes sense that in order to make a moose herd stronger, healthy moose be allowed to contribute to the gene pool. How is killing trophy moose going to make the herd healthier? We all know it won't! Healthy animals need to be allowed to breed and pass along their genetics. Killing moose to 'save' moose is clearly not the answer. AND, past moose hunts haven't made the current population healthier. The problem had only gotten worse. VT needs to include people other than hunters in finding solutions to keep moose healthy. Moose are an important part of VT's ethos. Stop killing them!

One final point is related to the moose estimates in VT. There is little faith in VT Fish and Wildlife moose estimates b/c since these come from hunters themselves. Hunters...the very same people who want licenses to kill moose. Hunters who come in from out-of-state to kill moose in VT. They have all the motivation to exaggerate the moose population since it serves their purposes.

Please suspend the moose hunt for 2022, and implement other ways to make the VT moose population healthy. Maybe a moratorium on hunting for 3-5 years to allow for a researching and solving the tick issue is the way to go.

Thank you for listening.
Jenny Davidson

From: Diana Burritt <dburritt@gmavt.net>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:49 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Dorothy Dahm <ddahmvermont@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:33 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 Moose Hunt

Good morning,

I am concerned that Vermont's Department of Fish and Wildlife still intends to proceed with the 2022 moose hunt. Given the myriad threats to Vermont's moose population, there should not be a moose hunt this year.

Vermont's moose are suffering and dying from ticks, brainworm, and heat stress. The Department of Fish and Wildlife has a responsibility to protect wildlife from these and other threats. For that reason, it should explore ways to safeguard both individual animals and the species as a whole. Particularly promising is research conducted at the University of Vermont about a fungus that kills ticks. The Department might collaborate with researchers to apply the fungus in moose habitat to best protect Vermont's herd.

Please place a moratorium on Vermont's moose hunt and use a science-based approach to protecting these magnificent herbivores so that future generations can marvel at these icons of the northern woods.

Thank you for your time.

Best Wishes,
Dorothy A. Dahm
Hubbardton, Vermont

From: Dan Galdenzi <dgaldenzi@eisgroup.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:48 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I realize that you will probably delete or bury most of the comments against a Moose hunt like you did last year, but we have to keep trying. The majority of Vermonters opinions and views are not being represented in the echo chamber you all live in.

Why not this. Put a hold on the Moose hunt for a year. How could that be a bad idea? The tick issue will not get worse and you can't, objectively argue it will, because your data, and data collection methods are deeply flawed and only anecdotal. Why do you always look at Moose through the lens of hunting first? I realize you get hunting license funding. I realize most of you at the department hunt. I realize that you have hunting lobbyists that push you hard. But don't forget that you work for all of us. Not just the small minority of Vermonters that you are friendly with and associate with.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt for 2022.

Dan Galdenzi
Stowe Vermont.

From: Diana Mikus <diana2005@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:12 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

--

Diana

From: Dianne Dashnow <dianne.dashnow@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:19 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Protect the moose, not the NRA.

From: diggahlamp@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 6:48 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: KEN KERO <dkdoc1@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6:02 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose hunt
Please cancel the moose hunt until moose are healthy enough to reproduce. Killing healthy moose is ignorant.

From: Diana Burritt <dmgburritt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 7:13 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.
Thank you.
Diana Burritt

From: Donna Saks <donnasaks@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 4:58 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Dorcas Gray <dorcas592@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:47 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Dorcas Gray
Brattleboro

From: Dottie Nelson <dottienelson2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:12 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: No Moose Hunt in 2022
I'm writing to express my concern about the planned moose hunt in Vermont in 2022. I'm not at all convinced that the Vt FWD has studied the situation with the moose population adequately and in an unbiased manner. Specifically I am appalled by the fact that Safari Club International funded a "study" of

VT's moose (and has funded similar "studies" in other States) to the tune of over \$120,000. The VT FWD is and always has been biased in favor of hunters and will listen to any group that supports hunting and will donate money. I would like to see a genuine, unbiased study conducted by a university or other non-hunting organization that has scientific knowledge of the health and numbers of moose in Vermont before I feel comfortable about a moose hunt.

In addition, I have reason to believe that VT FWD misrepresented the 2020 public comment that was conducted on their moose hunt proposal. I believe they failed to consider public opinion if the party opposed moose hunting in general. When someone or some group asks for public comments they must consider all the comments...not just the ones they like. Vermont's wildlife belongs to all Vermonters. The FWD is only there to act as stewards of wildlife. They are not supposed to be a good 'ole boys hunting club.

All this to say, I vote NO to any moose hunt in 2022. I vote YES on a fair, unbiased, scientific study by a group that is not pro-hunting that would study the problems Vermont's moose are facing. They deserve nothing less.

Thank you,
Dottie Nelson
Middlebury

From: Catherine Bodnar <drcbodnar@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 2:46 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

As a 35-year Vermont resident, I am a strong advocate for the state's wildlife.

I must say NO to the 2022 Moose hunt.

The moose are suffering enough from disease and habitat loss to vehicular deaths and wanton poaching.

They need our help to survive!

They are awesome unique animals that do not belong on people's walls or in their freezers.

They belong in the wild, in the woods, drinking from the rivers and brooks, protecting their young.

Let them live! Help them live!

STOP THE MOOSE HUNTS -- THIS YEAR AND ALL YEARS GOING FORWARD

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Bodnar and John Bodnar

South Burlington VT

From: Eric Coe <e.coe802@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 6:54 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment on 2022 moose hunt

Dear Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department,

You have asked for public comment on your proposal to issue 100 moose hunting permits to land unit WNU E in 2022. My comment is that this is a bad proposal. In the alternative I propose issuing zero moose hunting permits in 2022.

My basis for this proposal is it will save about 62 healthy moose per your account from last year. Hunting targets the exact healthiest specimen that would typically survive well during environmental stressors such as tick infestations. Additionally the reason for any tick problem in Vermont is not because of our moose population.

Thank you for reading my comments and considering my proposal.

Thank you
Eric Coe
Brownington VT

From: Liz Furkay <ef14art@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:13 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Erica Hare <emhare@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:08 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
To whom it may concern:
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Erica Hare
Berlin, VT

From: Eric Perkins <ericjperkins72@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 3:59 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Opposed to moose hunt
I am strongly opposed to a 2022 Vermont moose hunt. I understand the theory is that such a hunt may help reduce winter tick numbers, but I have not seen any science that supports this theory. I observe moose activity via trail cams and it's clear that this last winter was rough on moose. Hunting tends to take out the healthiest, strongest moose -- not a good approach to strengthening the herd.

As you know, the Vermont moose population has declined dramatically in recent decades, and disease and harsh winters (in addition to ticks) are continuing to deplete the population further. Humans should not exacerbate the problem by removing the healthiest remaining individuals in the area of the state with the highest moose density.

With such a small statewide moose population and all the stresses currently impacting it, we should hold off on hunting until population numbers are more clear. And as for tick control strategies, we should use the approaches (such as the tick-killing fungi) being developed at UVM once they are ready. In the meantime, we should stand back and monitor moose population trends and health status using non-lethal methods.

Thanks for considering my comments.

Eric Perkins
Woodbury VT

From: Kara Evarts <evartsk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:25 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: No to the 2022 Moose hunt
Hi,

I wish to say No! to the 2022 moose hunt.
The reason being the casual killing of a wild animal under intense environmental threat should not be killed mostly to curb tick populations.

Shooting a moose is like shooting a cow, not much sport in that. When we kill wild animals we all lose, even our humanity.

Thank you,
KC Evarts

From: Kate Kenner <faunesiegel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:32 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

To think the way to get rid of ticks is to kill moose is appalling. It is not just moose who carry ticks and this is clearly just an excuse for hunters to kill them. Moose are in trouble and it is a sad thing that instead of helping moose hunters think of it as an excuse to do what they love. It is time to stop catering to hunters and think of the effects on wildlife, in this case moose. I do not support the 2022 in any way, shape, or form. It would only do harm to an already struggling population.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Kate Kenner
Guilford

From: Fearn Lickfield <fearnessence@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:07 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
hello folks,

I am writing to you today to let you know my strong feelings about moose and their population, health in VT. I feel it is very important that Fish & Wildlife suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

THank you for protecting our wildlife from more threats to their survival in these challenging times.

Catherine Lickfield
Worcester, VT.

From: Linda <flowersnrattles@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:21 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Killing moose is not a reasonable or really any solution to the problem. It's just an excuse for hunters to shoot more moose and feel righteous about it. Vermont is better than this. It's time wildlife held as much importance to Fish & Wildlife as do the hunters and trappers. No one is asking that guns be banned or hunting seasons be suspended. However, many of us Vermonters are asking for responsible, humane scientific methods to be followed when policy decisions are made.

Linda Cannon-Huffman
Hyde Park, Vermont

From: Frederica Emerson <fredericaemerson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:19 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Pow

Absolutely no to killing moose. The animals were here first !

F M Emerson
Essex, VT

--

Rickie Emerson

From: Jennifer Fenn <freyalisa@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 12:08 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Hunt

I completely oppose the proposed moose hunt due to lack of unbiased, adequate studies proving that it helps.

I oppose this hunt. Thank you.

--

~jenn

From: Pamela Simmons <gabbysafterthought1@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:00 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

This is a really bad decision; killing more moose doesn't stop the ticks! Once again, Vermont F &W is not protecting or even properly caring for wildlife. I am not against ethical hunting practices, as I am a fifth-generation Vermonter and appreciate the value of hunting. But to keep cutting the numbers of moose, isn't the answer to the problem.

Pamela Simmons
Putney

From: gigi mcdonald <geegemcd@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 12:31 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I ABSOLUTELY DO NOT SUPPORT THIS VERY BAD IDEA to kill moose in order to save them from ticks.

PLEASE can we assemble our ideas for a more humane solution to the tick infestation?

1- Set up an area of anti-tick medication along with small amounts of food within access to moose. They can nibble on the food which has anti-tick meds included. Large animal veterinarians and biologists can be part of this concept to be put into place.

2- Even more aggressive, but not as much as killing them with shotguns, can we think of tranquilizing them to apply anti-tick meds? They could also be tracked to monitor their progress. This tranquilizing method for treating large animals is done all over the globe for large animals (lions, cheetah, gorillas, etc.)

PLEASE CONSIDER ANYTHING besides KILLING THEM! The mothers need to be alive to care for their calves. Fathers need to be alive to protect a herd. WE NEED TO KEEP THE MOOSE POPULATION. We need to find a better solution than to kill them. PLEASE DO NOT SHOOT THEM IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE POPULATION! It is counter-intuitive to the cause. Moose are a key part of the northern New England natural structure; disruption by reducing their numbers by killing them is not the answer to the tick problem. We can find another way to treat the issue. Please listen to us. We want to be engaged in our environmental challenges.

Gigi McDonald
Middlebury, VT

From: Mary Giammarino <giammarino57@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:00 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Please!!!!

The moose were here in Andover where I live 20 years ago, now they are all gone!

A healthy ecosystem will support the wildlife if you give them a chance! So many other fatal obstacles they face besides people willingly hunting them down ! Please stop killing them! Please, Mary Giammarino

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Alice Ryan <goatheads@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:11 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Please suspend this hunt

Alice Ryan

Newfane

From: Dr. Gretchen Rous Besser <grbesser@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:19 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 Moose hunt

A loud and resonating NO!!

Dr. Gretchen Rous Besser

3679 Stagecoach Road

Morrisville, VT 05661

From: ToDo Institute - Gregg <gregg@todoinstitute.org>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:18 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Oppose 2022 Moose Hunt

I would like to go on record as being OPPOSED to the 2022 moose hunt.

- Gregg Krech

1278 Rotax Road

Monkton, VT 05469

From: Henry Coe <henrycoevt@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:49 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose Hunt, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

With plenty of available evidence that the moose herd in northeastern Vermont is in bad health due to tick infestations, and brain worm, it is senseless for the Fish and Game Dept to promote a moose hunt with 100 available permits/tags. Global warming has come to Vermont and it accerbates the conditions which nurture these parasites, deadly to moose. It is not rocket science. Speak up you biologists and scientists with ANR's Fish and Game Department. Have the courage of your convictions and the data. Killing off trophy moose does not strengthen the gene pool, and will not encourage a stronger herd. Act to stop the 2022 Moose Hunt.

I know it won't happen, but could I still wish that a trained biologist or scientist within the Department would have the courtesy to address these comments, either privately or publicly?

Thank you,
Henry Coe, Danville, Vermont

From: HShadroui <hisha@wanadoo.fr>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:25 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: stop the moosehunt

Please stop the hunting of moose in Vermont. They are majestic and wonderful animals, already stressed by disease and adjusting to climate change. They are an essential part of Vermont's echo-system. No need to hunt them.

Sincerely
Hilary Shadroui
600 Clark Road
E. Montpelier

From: Mike F <hopenmike99@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:37 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Cc: Protect Our Wildlife

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. When I read that F&W supported subtracting ONE HUNDRED moose from OUR HERD, I thought I was reading a piece from the Onion!

Talk about killing the patient to cure the sickness! Who is your scientist?

Timothy Leary? I am willing to bet that the VAST MAJORITY of Vermonters want MORE wildlife, not less! F+W has made it abundantly clear that you take Vermont's wildlife, such as moose, for granted. Why? I follow wildlife issues closely, and

I NEVER hear anything approaching conservation from F+W! This is simply unsustainable and feckless. These animals are not infinite.

People who want to say they shot one are. An unsustainable equation. GIVE THESE ANIMALS A BREAK! CAN WE TAKE ONE SEASON OFF?

I also noted, with dismay, that your "experts" summarily declared that moose are not sustainable in the southern tier of the state. I've got breaking news for you. Just last summer, 2 moose, a bull and a sow, walked out of the forest in Halifax, right in front of my wife, who photographed them both! Why is it that (it seems) only folks who want to slaughter wildlife have a say? As for the local moose, they probably had a hard time finding any beaver ponds to hang out in, as some locals in Halifax kill beaver as soon as they are discovered. Routinely. I have witnessed this for 30 plus years. I implore the F+W to rethink it's approach to wildlife.

Please consider, Michael Ferzoco
US Army Veteran

From: Helen Wagenvoord <hwagenvoord@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:31 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Dr Claudia Welch <info@drclaudiawelch.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:35 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you well.

IMO, Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on effective non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I do not support a 2022 moose hunt.

Thank you,
cw
--
Dr. Claudia Welch

From: Dr Claudia Welch <info@drclaudiawelch.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 4:39 PM
To: Caitlin Kaye
Cc: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Re: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
ps Both Caity Kaye and I are from Calais, VT.
my phone # is 802.456.0808 if you need it. I forgot to add those to my letter...
Dr. Claudia Welch

From: Protect Our Wildlife VT <info@protectourwildlifevt.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 3:46 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment on Moose Hunt

I am writing on behalf of our 3,000 Vermont supporters as well as our 20k+ social media subscribers from every corner of the state, in opposition to the 2022 moose hunt.

Moose are under various threats with winter ticks being only one of them. The fate of these iconic species is unknown; to allow a 2022 moose hunt with all of the uncertainty surrounding moose health seems grossly irresponsible.

We encourage the Department to follow the precautionary principle and actively pursue non-lethal methods of addressing the tick issue. Climate change is not going away. Threats to moose will only be intensifying. Killing them to 'save them' is not the answer.

Brenna & the POW Board of Directors

Brenna Galdenzi

President

Protect Our Wildlife POW

From: jennifer lovett <jagl815@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 12:35 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Proposed moose hunt: NO!

I would like to comment on the proposed upcoming moose hunt. I am 100% AGAINST any hunting of moose. This is a trophy hunt disguised as conservation. When your studies are funded by trophy hunting organizations such as Safari Club International, and you depend solely on data collected from hunters, your results and conclusions are skewed and biased. Rather than killing moose to solve the winter tick problem, why not invest in studies to mitigate the situation non-lethally. And utilize actual biologists, not associated with the FWD, to conduct the research.

There is no demonstrable need for a moose hunt and these iconic animals prove to be very easy targets for hunters. Moose are threatened by more than winter ticks. They are losing habitat and food sources to human encroachment and climate change. Those are the issues that need to be resolved.

I say NO to a 2022 moose hunt in Vermont.

Thank you,

Jennifer Lovett

Starksboro, VT

From: jennifer lovett <jagl815@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 3:11 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Proposed Moose Hunt: NO!

I would like to comment on the proposed upcoming moose hunt. I am 100% AGAINST any hunting of moose. This is a trophy hunt disguised as conservation. When your studies are funded by trophy hunting

organizations such as Safari Club International, and you depend solely on data collected from hunters, your results and conclusions are skewed and biased. Rather than killing moose to solve the winter tick problem, why not invest in studies to mitigate the situation non-lethally. And utilize actual biologists, not associated with the FWD, to conduct the research.

There is no demonstrable need for a moose hunt and these iconic animals prove to be very easy targets for hunters. Moose are threatened by more than winter ticks. They are losing habitat and food sources to human encroachment and climate change. Those are the issues that need to be resolved.

I say NO to a 2022 moose hunt in Vermont.

Thank you,
Jennifer Lovett
Starksboro, VT

From: Jan Feldman <Jan.Feldman@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:01 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Dr. Jan Feldman
171 West Hill Rd,
Northfield, VT. 05663

From: AnnaJohn Benson <jandabenson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 12:16 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: moose hunt
NO!!! to killing moose.

Signed by
Anna Rose Benson
John W. Benson
Will Benson
Elias Benson

Werybridge, VT 05753

From: Jane B. Fitzwilliam <janebfitzwilliam@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:02 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Jane Fitzwilliam
802-376-9449 cell/text
Putney VT

From: Jane Fitzwilliam <jbfitzwilliam@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:32 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do NOT support a 2022 moose hunt
EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.
URGENT: Fish & Wildlife must suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. The healthiest moose will be killed, leaving the moose population weaker.

Jane Fitzwilliam
Putney VT 05346

From: Janine O. <janineoosterman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:49 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Hunt
As a longtime Washington county resident I vote NO to a 2022 moose hunt. Moose are under attack from winter ticks at an unprecedented rate. Allowing hunters to take the healthiest moose could be devastating to the local population. The number of calves who survive has continued to decline. No to a 2022 moose hunt!

From: John Beagan <jbeagan.vt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:25 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

John Beagan
Jamaica, VT

From: Jim Mosher <jim@frenchhornstudio.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 10:44 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
As a Vermont resident, I strongly believe Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Vermont needs to maintain its diversity of wildlife. Promoting ways to deter the moose tick problem will be a much more farreaching solution than eliminating moose through a hunt.

Thank you,

Jim Mosher
231 W. Pinnacle Ridge Rd.
Waterbury, VT 05676

From: Jim Fredericks <jimfredericks2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:51 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Scientific data does not the support moose hunting in VT. Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Jim Fredericks
Greensboro, VT

From: Janice Nadworny <jnadworny@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:29 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: NO to moose hunt
As a Vermonter who wants to make sure our state's special natural resources can continue to thrive, I urge you to stop the moose hunt until there is robust science behind the reasoning. Killing moose to save them - while there are alternative strategies - does not make any sense. This is an extreme and untested, pie in the sky proposal. If there is scientific evidence behind it, I'd appreciate your sharing it.

I also encourage you to support the vast majority of Vermonters who feel as I do, rather than small special interest groups funded by out of state hunting lobbyists.

Sincerely,
Janice Nadworny
Hinesburg

From: JoAnn Hanowski <joannhanowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:53 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

The current management plan does not seem to include an assessment of how young adults could emigrate from the area and colonize new habitat. I live n Greensboro and have many acres of moose habitat and so do my neighbors. We have had a young bull moose in the are for a few years looking for a suitable mate. If you kill the excess population in one small area of Vermont, you are killing the possibility of moose colonizing other habitat near by.

Please, stop the hunt!

JoAnn Hanowski

From: johngcoster <johngcoster@protonmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 11:09 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose Hunt

Killing Moose to get rid of ticks? Please, we hear enough scientific nonsense on a daily basis from the mainstream media without adding this idea to the mix. What about field mice? I guess stuffed mouse head's on some idiot's wall in Manhattan is not so impressive. Bad idea: You are not going to diminish the tick population, only the already threatened moose population. I am not anti hunter and I've had Lyme disease several times so I'm all in favor of sound efforts to control ticks.

John Coster

Halifax Vt.

From: Joyce Bradbee <joycebradbee@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:09 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Joyce Reddy-Bradbee

Burlington, VT 05408

From: Joyce Bradbee <joycebradbee@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:14 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

I say NO to the moose hunting plan.

Let's find a better solution.

Thank you,

Joyce Reddy-Bradbee

22 Northshore Drive

Burlington, VT 05408

From: jshad2000@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:32 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: killing moose to kill ticks is wrong

please find another way to control moose population and fight ticks.

killing moose is wrong. Janet Shadrui

From: Janice Stearns <jstearns918@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 7:21 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose

Moose are experiencing a variety of threats from brainworm to heat stress to winter ticks. Killing moose to kill ticks is not the answer. NO to the 2022 Moose Hunt!

Janice Stearns
1460 Halladay Rd
Middlebury

From: Judy Bellairs <judybellairs@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:37 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Kill the idea of a 2022 moose hunt

Healthy moose should be allowed to breed and strengthen the herd. A moose "study" funded by the Safari Club raises serious questions about bias. The seriously depleted moose population is facing many threats. An ill-advised hunting season should not be one of them.

Judy Bellairs

From: Judith Haggerty <judyhaggerty6@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:50 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Kathleen Moore <kathleen1moore@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:59 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Killing moose is not the answer!

Moose are experiencing a variety of threats from brainworm to heat stress to winter ticks. Killing moose to kill ticks is not the answer.

From: Kathy Archibald Clarkson <kathyaclarkson@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:41 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: K Cameron <kcameron914@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 7:51 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Please don't allow the 2022 moose hunt.

Dear Agency of Natural Resources and Fish & Wildlife Department:

I am concerned with yet another year of going all in on this single study that was partially funded (\$120,800) by the highly controversial Safari Club International, a mouthpiece for trophy hunters worldwide. SCI is known for supporting trophy hunting of exotic animals like giraffes and elephants despite their dwindling populations. Why isn't the Department looking into alternatives like fungus or

looking to places where moose are doing well, like New York, instead of continuing with this kill moose to allegedly save moose theory. Please do not allow a moose hunt this year and look at other options.

Thank you,
Kristen Cameron
Burlington, VT

From: Kelsey Cummings <kcummings638@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:22 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

As a Vermonter, there are many reasons I do not support a 2022 moose hunt right now.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I am not against all hunting, but our moose, a symbol of Vermont, are currently at risk. Hunting them will not address or solve the tick issue.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Kelsey Cummings
Leicester, VT

From: kellyastrology@gmail.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:44 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I vote to suspend a 2022 moose hunt

Dear Members of the VT Fish & Wildlife Board, please suspend the 2022 moose hunt due to the numerous threats that they face, and will continue to face, and refocus our resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. So sad!!! The mantra for the past 2+ years has been: FOLLOW THE SCIENCE!

So let's do just that and take a break on the moose hunt in 2022. Let's enlist non-partisan Biologists to study how to best deal with the threats to the dwindling moose population and go from there. Yes, there will be lost revenue for the State of VT by not selling licenses but we will be taking responsible action that could prove to be priceless in the long run.

Let's be effective stewards of the wildlife we are entrusted to care for.

Thanks for listening!

Kelly Wicker
Windham, VT

From: kathleen gaffney <kgaff059@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:32 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: PLEASE NO MOOSE HUNTING NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please preserve our declining Moose population by seeking to aid these majestic animals in the plights they face (such as winter ticks) & varying diseases and NOT by culling the remainder.

Until the population of ANY species is healthy, no individuals ought to be taken.

PLEASE do not remove this beautiful animal from the face of Vermont. Wildlife enthusiasts COME to VT in hopes of glancing a peek at such wildlife - in life, NOT death.

Thank you,
Kathy Gaffney
Manchester, VT

From: kipross@kipross.com
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 3:45 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: No to Moose hunt
There should be no moose hunt in 2022. Moose are vulnerable to ticks and suffering the consequences.

It is beyond obvious that killing more moose to save moose from the ravages of ticks and other deleterious maladies makes ZERO sense!

But, when has the Vt. Fish and Wildlife made any decisions based on common sense and science?????

Here's an example of poor VT. F and W policy: Wholesale slaughter of our apex predator, the coyote. The coyote's primary food source is rodents. Mice are the primary carrier of ticks.

No moose hunt in 2022! Plus a major change in the way Vt. F and W operates and mandates policies affecting MY wildlife is in order, post haste!

Kip Ross
23 Center Rd.
Hyde Park, VT 05655

From: Kip Douglas <kipsive@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 9:02 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: "No" to a 2022 Moose Hunt
The VT Fish & Wildlife Department (FWD) needs to pause its proposed 2022 moose hunt.

The FWD proposes to cull Vermont's dwindling moose population, recommending that 100 hunting permits be issued for the season. According to FWD, the moose need to be killed in order to control the tick population in Vermont. But wouldn't it make more sense to kill the ticks?

Vermont's Moose suffer from a host of climate change-related threats in addition to ticks. Vermont needs a fact-based plan that goes beyond hunting permits.

FWD delegated the decision whether to kill Vermont moose to a multi-million-dollar exotic hunt club called Safari Club International (SCI), a moose hunt sponsor. No surprise that a \$120,800 SCI-funded "study" found that Vermont has too many moose. SCI's estimates of the moose population are largely based on hunter's reports. So whether there are "too many moose" in the Northeast Kingdom, where the hunt is to take place, remains an open question.

With so many known -- and unknown -- threats to this iconic, imperiled wildlife species, the Legislature should apply the Precautionary Principle, and do the least amount of harm to the Vermont moose herd - until it knows the unbiased facts about their numbers .

Susan Sively
161 South Main St.
Brattleboro,VT

From: Kristina Madarang Stahl <kjmadstahl@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:44 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Klad InVermont <kladinvt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 2:30 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: 2022 Moose hunt
To Whom This May Concern,

It's a big fat NO to a moose hunt this year or any year in the future, when the moose population is dwindling. Consider ALL Vermonters' concerns and rights in these decisions and not just the 'hunters' and their 'privilege' to hunt.

Sincerely,
Ken Bechtel
Starksboro

From: Klad InVermont <kladinvt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:53 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose hunt
To the Fish and Wildlife Dept.,

I'm contacting you to strongly recommend that you place a moratorium on the moose hunt and refocus resources on continuing research on a naturally occurring fungus that kills ticks. Moose will continue to suffer from a host of threats due to climate change. Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them.

Good stewardship means conserving and protecting our dwindling wildlife for future generations to enjoy and not handing their survival over to the 'highest bidders'.

sincerely,
Ken Bechtel
Starksboron

From: Michele Klein <kleinmichele2@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 4:18 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

We need to focus on a more sustainable solution to winter ticks. Please suspend the Moose hunt 2022.

Thank you

From: Greg Kogut <kogutgreg@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 5:39 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: kwklutz@stowe.nu

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 11:57 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them. Hunting them is not the answer!!!!!!!

Please suspend the hunt. Our poor Moose could use a break!

Thank you!

Katie Whittaker

Stowe VT

From: Lori Campbell <l.rikert.campbell@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:09 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Sincerely,

Lori Campbell

Tunbridge, VT

From: lamphere.jeff@gmail.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 6:45 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Kill moose to rid ticks?

Dear ANR, if the ANR's position is to alleviate the winter tick population via killing moose in those heavily infested areas, I am opposed.

I believe the fungus approach is much more desirable.

Sincerely,
Jeff Lamphere
Peacham landowner

From: Laura Scarpinato <Laura.Scarpinato@uvm.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:51 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do NOT support a 2022 moose hunt
Killing healthy (trophy) Vermont moose is not an acceptable solution to a tick issue and will be detrimental to a healthy, strong moose population. It is a non-solution. As a Vermont resident, I am very against a moose hunt, especially one that appears to not be based in truly ethical reasons.

My trust in Vermont's Fish & Wildlife Department has been eroded over the years and this issue is not helping.

Do not hold a moose hunt.

Sincerely,
Laura Scarpinato

From: Laura Yanne <laura_yanne@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 3:03 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: No to the moose hunt!
I strenuously object to the 2022 moose hunt.
Fish & Wildlife department infuriating justification for it, to reduce ticks (ridiculously asserted in a self-interested Safari Club Int'l -funded "study"), lacks imagination, common sense, any desire to preserve these majestic animals. Most people who've lived here for decades have never even laid eyes on a moose, despite Moose Crossing signage along the highways and frequent hikes deep into purported moose territory.

Moose and other animals, large and small, are under too many stressors as it is.

You'd get more support from more Vermonters, not just your hunting buddies, if you would spend resources on developing and implementing tick eradication programs. Such programs would benefit moose, deer, dogs, and humans alike.

NO TO THE MOOSE HUNT.

Laura Yanne
3833 Route 30
Dorset, VT 05251

From: Laurel Copeland <laurelacopeland@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 9:04 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt. The data on ticks/bull in their moose harvest reports are inconsistent, and the scant research on the relationships between herd size, herd health, and tick burden is inconclusive.

A far better use of Fish & Wildlife resources is to devote them to developing methods of controlling winter tick populations, such as with fungal pesticides currently being investigated.

Laurel Copeland
Halifax, Vermont

From: lauren Alpert <laurenmichelealpert@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:06 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue near and dear to me.

Lauren
Waterbury Vermont

From: Linda Benoit <lb032548@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:22 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Linda Benoit <lb032548@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 5:10 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: SAVE THE MOOSE!

Please do NOT give out any moose permits!

Linda Benoit
Derby, Vermont

From: Linda Suter <lbsuter444@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:30 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose

Please stop the killing of moose. They have so many threats now with climate change, ticks, etc. Killing moose to kill ticks is not the answer.

Linda Suter

Montpelier

From: lori weber <lcweber69@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 11:22 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

It makes no logical sense to start a hunt to cull out the healthiest moose which will in effect weaken the entity heard genetically. The true reason behind this Theory of moose hunting is based on misguided ego and a lack of knowledge regarding the balance of Wildlife.

Vermont needs a chance to stand up and be better, to be ethical to all wildlife. Finding a way to alleviate the ticks that are killing moose is the logical and sensible route to go rather than manipulating the facts, just have a trophy on a wall. They deserve better and we need to help them have that.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: lesley finlayson <lesleymoragh@hotmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 9:25 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO! To the Moose Hunt!

I want to voice my opposition to moose hunting.

Thank you.

From: Linda Gage <linda@softpawranch.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 3:40 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO to moose hunt

Hello,

I am submitting a NO to the 2022 moose hunt in Vermont. Moose already battle brain worm, heat stress, and other environmental and human threats (development). Why would we kill moose in order to to kill ticks? Killing moose to kill ticks, the very thought is preposterous. No one is proposing to kill large numbers of other mammals or companion animals because they have ticks so why the moose.

Moose are iconic to Vermont and a treasure to the environment and enjoyment of all. Studies funded by organizations or companies with a vested interest are always suspect regardless of the issue.

Please please – NO NO NO to the moose hunt.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Linda Gage

Hinesburg VT

From: Linda Burns <lindalou159@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:01 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

I am writing to say NO to the 2022 moose hunt.

Linda Burns
South Burlington, VT

From: Lindsay Sanderson <lindsayhsanderson@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 7:24 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Lindsey Waldman <lindsey.cleary@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:19 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Please do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Brigett Wilson <littlewoofvt@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:03 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I think the moose is an important part of the Vermont wildlife population and we should be helping them, not hindering them by hunting them.

Thanks,
Brigett
Essex, VT

From: Linda Burlak <lkb@catscoffeechoocolate.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:14 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: No to 2022 Moose Hunt

I am writing to speak against the proposed 2022 Vermont moose hunt. I have read that the stated reason for the moose hunt numbers is to control ticks. If that's true, that makes very little sense, as the numbers of small rodents and deer harboring ticks is much greater than the statewide moose population. I would like to see clear, science-based evaluation of the moose numbers in Vermont, and the carrying capacity of Vermont for moose before any hunt is permitted. IF it is determined that the number of moose in specific areas is outgrowing the carrying capacity, I would like to see licenses granted first and foremost to Vermont residents before any out of state residents are allowed to participate in the hunt.

Thank you.
Linda Burlak
Brookman Rd., Pownal, VT

From: Laura Nelson <lnelson1961@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:36 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 moose hunt

Hello folks,

This is a note to ask you please to just entertain alternative ideas about how to solve the moose/tick problem without "killing them to save them". I am aware you believe you have the science on your side to back this practice.

I am asking you please to keep an open mind toward alternative measures. Your organization gets the rap of being a mouthpiece primarily for hunters and trappers. Demonstrate this to be false.

Show that you care about the priorities and ideas of all Vermonters with an interest in the health of our wildlife populations, not just those who want to hunt them. The word is going around they're willing to pay big dollars to come to VT to do so. It shouldn't be about the money.

Fungal-based biopesticides? I don't pretend to be an expert or have your level of knowledge on the topic. But I know there are a lot of people with researched ideas on how to address the problem. Please listen to everyone at the table; respond with respect, civility and an open mind. Avoid contentious bickering if possible.

Thank you

Laura

From: Lisa Jablow <lnjablow@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:45 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I am totally opposed to the moose hunt. The answer to winter ticks and the other conditions afflicting the moose population is NOT to kill more moose. That is simply absurd. The ticks will simply find another host. Ticks must be addressed directly and there are numerous ideas and non-lethal means to do that. Using the winter ticks as an excuse for a moose hunt is not only not sound science, but selfish and cruel. HELP the moose, don't kill them!

Lisa Jablow

Brattleboro

From: Lorraine Johnson <lorrainejohnson8@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 10:39 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Ticks are so harmful to humans even though we take measures to protect ourselves. These animals have no defenses. Seeing the wildlife roam is a real pleasure.

Sincerely,
Lorraine Johnson

From: Lance Polya <lpvt14@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 6:42 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Hello,

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you,
Lance Polya, PhD
46 Fields Ln
Jericho, VT 05465-9627

From: Maggi Landau <maggi.landau@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:16 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: NO! to the moose hunt

Hi all ~

If it's true that you are proceeding with the moose kill based on your research and the moose research project received funding from an exotic trophy hunting group it seems to me that raises a huge red flag about the outcome of the study. Rather than encourage moose killing based on a flawed or biased conclusion, the common sense, upstanding and ethical act would be to pause the kill and conduct unbiased research. Please err on the side of a fair study.....you can't un-kill the moose if humans make a tragic error.

We need more faith in the decisions of public entities, not less. And we need our moose.

Thank you for listening.
Maggi Landau
Moretown

From: Caitlin Kaye <maplecornerkaye@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:58 AM
To: Dr Claudia Welch
Cc: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Re: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Hello,

I also do not support the 2022 Moose hunt. I and am in agreement that the focus of Fish and Wildlife could shift in a positive direction to address previously stated winter tick issues.

Sincerely,
Caity Kaye

From: marcrph <marcrph@vermontel.net>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:26 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do NOT support a 2022 moose hunt
Hunting Moose is no longer an appropriate means to manage over population!

Climate change is already causing a decrease in the Moose's ability to thrive. Killing the healthiest Moose does not support herd health. Ticks and parasites are thriving with climate change and throwing off the natural balance.

NO Moose hunt!!!

--

Gina Cote
P.O. Box 405
Saxtons River, Vermont 05154

From: Marge Christie <marge_c@hotmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 12:29 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. I have lived in "the woods" for over 50 years, and it distresses me to see how the moose population has declined. Killing moose is not the answer to ridding them, and the environment, of winter ticks. Scientists can surely find another way to tackle the problem.

I hope that Fish and Wildlife will take a pro-active, science-based approach to this problem.

Thank you,
Sincerely
Marge Christie
Plainfield

From: Matt Metcalf <mattmetcalfv@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6:55 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2021 moose season recommendations

You are claiming that habitat is the main reason for the decline in size of antlers and body weight what is the states plan to improve it? We loose available land to hunt due to development and posting every year, it needs to stop.

From: M. C. Ruth <mcruth_2000@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:28 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 03 21 2022 I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Vermont Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face. Vermont Fish and Wildlife should refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Why is being a responsible steward and guardian to our wonderful wildlife such a chore?

Please do the right thing and suspend the 2022 Vermont Moose hunt.

Thank you for your time

From: M. C. Ruth <mcruth_2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:57 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: 03 28 2022 I Say NO to the 2022 Moose Hunt
To Whom it May Concern

I am writing to ask you to vote "NO" on the 2022 Vermont Moose Hunt
Thank you for your time and service to our great state.
I hope this email finds you and your loved ones Safe and in Good Health
Please vote NO in regards to the 2022 Vermont Moose hunt
Best Regards, Ron Ruth

From: Monica Farrington <meemacat@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 11:27 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: We do not support a 2022 moose hunt

We do not support a 2022 moose hunt.
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

To kill moose in order to kill the ticks that are on the moose is the same logic which would call for killing a child who comes home from school with head lice.

The "kill the moose to kill the ticks" is the most bizarre "solution" we've heard ever coming out of Fish and Wildlife. They ought to be ashamed of themselves for such madness.

They need to think out of the narrow aperture of a gun sight and find non-lethal solutions to the problems. NO MOOSE HUNT 2022!

Thank you for taking our comment.

Monica & Al Farrington, native Vermonters
4 Green Dolphin Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403

From: megwich <megwich@protonmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:44 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose

To the VT Fish and Wildlife Department leaders and staff,
I call on you to cancel any plans for a moose hunt this year, or next, and to research ways to kill off ticks without injuring or killing the moose.

To propose to kill moose is to support shooting the messenger. Vermont can do better, and it's way past time to start. Forget the pay-offs from deep pockets in the trophy wildlife hunting organizations, and listen to Vermonters who see through this destructive proposal.

We are all up against stressors due to climate disregulation; we also have wildlife biologists and entomologists who could train their attention on the challenges to Vermont's moose herd health.

Killing the moose does nothing for the well-being of the herd, and in no way mitigates the pressures of climate weirdness. Let's get Vermont out front, leading the way, and also learning from other states dealing with tick infestations in their moose populations.

We do not need trophy hunters from out-of-state coming in to kill off Vermont moose. We can enlist our own professionals in researching the problem of ticks on moose and providing alternative responses to the challenge.

Yours truly,
Elizabeth Champagne
East Calais, Vermont

From: mekabay@gmail.com

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6:59 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: STOP KILLING MOOSE

There is absolutely no good reason to kill moose in a misguided attempt to reduce ticks!

In today's continuing environmental degradation, we should be working to PRESERVE populations of wild animals, including specifically moose.

Don't let "hunters" use excuses for their abominable habit of killing innocent creatures. We should be celebrating our fellow animals, not murdering them to amuse sociopaths who increase their sense of self-worth through their disgusting practices.

And stop putting hunters on your committees! They are NOT committed to your mission "To preserve, enhance, restore and conserve Vermont's natural resources and protect human health for the benefit of this and future generations." They are committed to their sick ways of amusing themselves at the expense of innocent creatures.

Sincerely,
M. E. Kabay, PhD

From: Peggy Larson <meowvet1@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 2:17 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

Stop killing moose to prevent tick infections. The remaining moose will be hosts to even more ticks. We need to increase the population of animals that eat ticks, like opossums, squirrels, wild turkeys, frogs and lizards.

Peggy W Larson, DVM MS JD
Williston, VT. 05495

From: Peggy Larson <meowvet1@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 2:16 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Killing moose over the tick problem

I oppose killing moose to stop the tick infestation. The moose that are left will likely be loaded with ticks. A better way would be to increase the opossum population and use different pants to decrease the number of ticks.

Peggy W Larson, DVM MS JD

Williston, VT. 05495

From: Mikaela Saccoccio <mikaela.e.saccoccio@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:16 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: No to a 2022 Moose Hunt

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to voice 'NO' to a 2022 moose hunt. I stand with Protect Our Wildlife's recommendation that the VT Fish & Wildlife Department (FWD) place a moratorium on the moose hunt and refocus its resources on continuing research on a naturally occurring fungus that kills ticks. Killing moose to save moose is not the answer. Moose are an important and special part of Vermont's ecosystem and I'm horrified by the proposed approach to managing ticks. The FWD must do better.

Best,

Mikaela Saccoccio

Stowe, Vermont

From: Mike Schuster <mikeschustervt@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 5:18 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern,

I believe that the Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Moose will continue to suffer from a host of threats due to climate change. Vermont needs to be more creative about how to protect them.

To make the herd stronger, healthy moose should be allowed to contribute to the gene pool. How is killing moose going to make the herd healthier? Healthy animals should be allowed to breed and pass along their genetics. Moose also battle brain worms, heat stress, and other threats. Why would we kill moose in order to kill ticks?

Please reconsider your position and suspend the moose hunt.

Mike Schuster

Bristol, VT

From: Thomas Miller <millertthomasg@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 11:56 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I do not support an increased moose kill as a solution to the tick problem. Science--not bullets!! If you stop thinking about taking life and begin thinking about preserving it, I know you'll find good and financially affordable alternatives to an increased kill.

Start thinking outside the box of out of date management approaches. And while you're doing that, try thinking about installing a wildlife biologist as the department head, rather than some political hack.

Tom Miller
Rockingham, VT

From: Admin Service <millswarren@msn.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:23 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I have been a hunter and conservationist most of my life. As the moose numbers dwindle it only makes sense to suspend the moose hunt until the numbers rebound.

In years past when the turkey population was down they allowed for the decimation of that population and it took years for a rebound in their numbers.

I am sincerely hoping that we do not allow that to happen for our moose population.

Please consider suspending the moose hunt altogether or at the very least reduce the number of permits allowed.

Sincerely,
Warren Mills
12 Clems Drive
Essex Junction, VT

From: Jean Farrell <minke5412@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 8:23 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Respectfully

Jean Farrell

Andover Vermont

From: Michael Libecci <mlibecci@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 11:13 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Hello:

I'm writing to suggest that the Fish & Wildlife suspend the upcoming moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. An effort to decrease the moose population as proposed by a major hunting organization is a conflict of interest. There is a problem with ticks because of the tremendous imbalance that exists in nature due largely to human activity and intervention. Perhaps we take a step back for once and allow nature to run its course.

Michael Libecci
Pittsfield, VT

From: maurey mcnaughton <mmmaurey@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 11:47 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Hunt

NO MOOSE HUNT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Kill the message (ticks), NOT the carrier (moose).

Shame on you for even considering such a destructive, useless and pathetic policy as you have put forward. NO!

Maurey McNaughton
Putney, Vermont

From: Carrie Kessler <montedenfarm@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 8:20 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I am strongly opposed to a 2022 moose hunt. If moose are plagued by ticks, should the answer be to kill the victims? That is barbaric, to say the least.

If this IS The Department of Fish and Wildlife's answer, let's pray none of them ever become caretakers of sentient beings...but wait, that is what we have entrusted them to be, and they are royally failing us with a brutal approach to the "problem".

Thank you for your consideration.

Carrie Kessler

From: Gerard Monteux <monteuxgallery@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:20 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

The notion that killing Moose to protect Moose is a sham argument -- obviously designed to increase the number of Moose permits and entice out-of-state hunters and MONEY.

From: Susan McDonald <mrdarcy444@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:21 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Wildlife face so many threats as it is. I implore Vermont's Fish and Wildlife department to choose a far more humane path.

There is far too much killing going on and being proposed as a "solution."

Susan McDonald

From: Melissa Shoenthal <mshoenthal@outlook.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:53 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I think killing moose to regulate ticks is about the stupidest thing I have ever heard. It makes zero sense and smacks of greedy grabbing for hunting fees.

I pray for the day VT Fish And Wildlife actually protects OUR wildlife and stops exploiting it.

Thanks,

Melissa Shoenthal

From: Melissa Shoenthal <mshoenthal@outlook.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:39 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support the VT moose hunt!

Hello humans,

I oppose the VT moose hunt.

Killing moose to save moose is about the stupidest thing I have ever heard.

Who comes up with this claptrap?

Stop slaughtering Vermont wildlife.

Stop pandering to the few who love to kill and destroy.

Stop taking money from SCI while you're at it.

Thanks and best,

M Shoenthal

From: nckittenbird@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:54 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do NOT support a 2022 moose hunt!

Please - Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

After a couple years of listening to VT F&W's "reasoning" to kill moose in order to save them, I am flat out disgusted with this. I am a scientist, and it blows my mind that F&W even came up with this so-called "solution". And to be affiliated with and funded by the Safari Club International - wow! Disgraceful and despicable. Just kill all the moose and be done with it. It makes me very, very sad knowing that I get less of a chance even seeing a majestic moose in the wild cause of the very Agency which is supposed to protect them. Shame on F&W!!!!

Regards,
A VERY concerned Vermont citizen

From: Nora Paley <norapaley@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:28 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I am very upset about this murderous sort of ill logic. We have less barbaric paths to solve our problems.

Nora Paley
Thetford,Vt

From: orliac.britte@gmail.com

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:03 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Brigitte Orliac

From: Packof5@kingcon.com . <packof5@kingcon.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:48 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 Moose Hunt

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to voice my opposition to the proposed 2022 moose hunt on a number of counts.

Mainly, my concern is that the moose population in most counties is on the decline and no one seems to have clear answers or a plan on how to help the herd recover. The moose herd is stressed as it is and it makes absolutely no sense to kill moose to save moose. The Fish and Wildlife officials are charged with making decisions based upon sound wildlife management and biology. To continue to pander to trophy hunters and keep the local hunting community happy is NOT sound wildlife management.

I say a vehement NO to a 2022 moose hunt.

Respectfully,
Joyce Littlefield
P.O. Box 1393
Lyndonville

From: pam fischer <pamela.fischer@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:14 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunting is not the solution to moose ticks.

Please be aware that the moose population is being threaded in many ways from climate change, to brainworm to winter ticks.

Let them live and work threw this.

Animals have a way of dealing and moving forward without human intervention.

The mood hunting is wrong.

Thanks a concerned citizen.

PV Fischer

From: Pam Perry <pamperryvt@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:03 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: "NO" to 2022 Moose Hunt

The moose population faces a variety of threats. Please look for a sound science-based solution to the tick problem. Killing moose to kill ticks sounds like an effort to appease hunters at the expense of wildlife. This would be a dangerous experiment.

Pamela Perry
Plainfield, VT

From: Pam Perry <pamperryvt@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:13 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: "NO" to 2022 Moose Hunt

The moose population faces a variety of threats and a hunt is not warranted. Please look for a sound science-based solution to the tick problem. The idea of killing moose to kill the ticks sounds like a means of appeasing the hunting community at the expense of an already struggling wildlife species. A dangerous experiment.

Thank you,
Pamela Perry
Plainfield, VT

From: Patrick Finnie <pat.finnie@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 3:06 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose/deer Hearing

I am a native Vermonter, and I am a hunter. I wish I could have attended the meeting at Spaulding High School, but mudseason happened. I have been lucky enough to have been part of 5 Vermont moose hunts since the inception of moose hunting in Vermont I have seen, and taken pictures of moose that are so infested with Winter Ticks that they rub all of their fur off trying to rid themselves of these blood sucking parasites. It's sad for me to see moose plagued with these killers. I have always wondered why it is that we can keep ticks off of our pets, but we can't find an anti-tick solution for winter ticks on moose ? If we can put tracking collars on them, why are we not putting tick repellent on these collars, or placing a tick repellent collar on them at the same time ? If we can put an anti-rabies vaccine in bait for coons, why can't we address winter ticks on moose with bait laced with anti-tick medication similar to what you can buy for a pet, or applying it with a paintball ? Just thoughts, but I'd really like an answer !

Sincerely,
Pat Finnie

From: pateinv@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:25 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

This what comes up.

From: pateinv@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:30 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

While you may feel that the above sentence is similar to others you have received the sentiment is perfect for how Vermonters feel about destroying our scarce wildlife. The moose hunt benefits no one except a few hunters. Shameful. Just shameful.

Pat Monteferrante
Stowe, VT.

From: Paula Spellacy <pinupvirgin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:37 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt
Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.
Thak you- Paula Spellacy, Hancock VT

From: Polly McArthur <pmcgarfield@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 11:39 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: No to 2022 Moose Hunt

This email is to express our concern regarding the 2022 Moose Hunt. We are very opposed to this. Killing moose is not the answer for killing ticks.

Charles and Pauline McArthurul
Morristown residents

From: DONNA CAIN <poppee59@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 11:00 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

I have lived in this beautiful state since fleeing the Florida area since 2019. I live in Jay, the upper north corner of Vermont. I have not seen ONE moose . I drive everywhere, ski everywhere, snowshoe everywhere, walk everywhere and never a moose.

There are not too many moose and killing them will NOT fix the tick problem.

Please stop killing wildlife!!!

Donna Cain
15 High Pine Dr
Jay, VT 05859

From: Prema Fitzpatrick <premafitzpatrick@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:57 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Please do not do the moose hunt. Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Jane Gallagher <pumawavej@msn.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 2:57 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt!!

To Whom it May Concern,

Please immediately stop the planned 2022 Moose hunt in the Northeast Kingdom. The moose population in Vermont is threatened enough from many directions without adding a hunting season that will likely deprive the herd of the healthiest Mooses. It's imperative that Fish and Wildlife refocus its resources on non-lethal methods to address the winter tick issue. Effective ones are available and getting better with each season.

Deciding on a hunt, based on a study about addressing tick born disease in Moose funded by Safari Club International, which makes its money selling hunting trips, is no way to get at an objective answer to the best method to address the situation. Moose populations are dwindling statewide due to disease. Killing them off will only hasten their extinction in a state where most people are thrilled to even have a chance to see one!

Sincerely,
Jane Gallagher

From: Richard Fitzhenry <r.fitzhenry@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 3:40 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO to the 2022 Moose Hunt!

To whom it may concern:

As the public are invited to offer comment on the Fish & Wildlife Department's proposed moose hunt this year, I am writing to express my view that killing moose to "save" them is clearly not the answer. It seems hardly coincidental that a study conducted by FWD and funded to the tune of \$120,800 by Safari Club International should conclude that killing more moose is the most effective way to ensure herd health. It seems when the only tool you have is a gun, every problem you have is solved with a bullet. I wonder if the FWD can explain how taking trophy animals, likely the strongest and biggest of the group, will bolster herd strength and genetic diversity or have hunters from out-of-state pledged to cull only the sickest, weakest animals after paying for expensive permits? The conclusion that a species under threat needs more, not less, killing can only have come from a department predisposed to advocate culling as the easiest, simplest resolution and in which politics trump science. I do not support this proposed hunt and believe that FWD should adopt the Precautionary Principle while seeking other, less lethal options for building moose herd health.

Yours,
Richard Fitzhenry
Hyde Park

From: Rebecca Trono <rebecca_trono@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 3:44 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO on 2022 Moose Hunt!

Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm emailing to add my voice to the issue of Vermont Fish & Wildlife's desire to hold a moose hunt this year, in 2022, despite the dwindling number of moose here in the state.

To say Vermont F & W has mismanaged our moose population is a gross understatement; to hold a hunt this year would be the height of being irresponsible. The board routinely ignores the clear science on the moose situation, while pandering to special interest group and groups who have far too much influence on wildlife matters in this state due to monies donated,

As a native Vermonter who comes from a deep familial history of honorable and sustainable hunting practices, I say NO to a 2022 moose hunt here in Vermont, and SHAME on Vermont Fish & Wildlife!

Regards,

Rebecca Trono
Milton

From: Carole Reeves <reevescarole50@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:07 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Killing moose, a declining animal in the state, is not the answer.

Carole Reeves
Shelburne, VT

From: Callahan, Renate M. <renate.callahan@northernvermont.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:47 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Sirs,

Since your committee opted to maintain the status quo on the outdated and cruel animal abuse of trapping and hounding, you successfully managed to keep Vermont woefully lagging behind the rest of the civilized world with your vote against banning coyote hounding and trapping. Congratulations! Every one of you, with the honorable exception of Senator McCormack, openly and consciously opted to ignore the pain, suffering and torture of wildlife that was placed under your protection in your supervisory role. You chose to relegate morality to a backseat in Vermont legislation, and chose the easy way out to appease a sadistic minority with paid lobbyists in the statehouse. . Well done!

Now Fish & Wildlife is at it again with a proposed moose hunt of some 100 hunting licenses under the motto: to kill ticks one needs to kill moose. What a scientific concept!

I urge you to work on suspending the 2022 moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose already face, and will continue to face, and to refocus Fish & Wildlife Departmental resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thanks,
Renate & Glenn Callahan
Johnson, Vermont

From: richardson.76@gmail.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:58 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern,

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt until an independent scientific study (not based on hunter anecdotes) accurately assesses the numerous threats that moose face in our region as well as a range of methods to address the winter tick issue.

Sincerely,

Scott Richardson

From: Rick Cowan <rickcowan00@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:21 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Please do not kill any of our dwindling moose herd. There are better ways to address the tick issue.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

-Richard Cowan
Rockingham, VT

From: Rick Cowan <rickcowan00@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 8:40 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose Hunt

Dear ANR,

Please accept this VT citizen's vote against the 2022 moose hunt. Killing more of our dwindling moose herd makes no sense.

There are better solutions.

Richard Cowan
Rockingham, VT

From: Betsy Lundberg <rilben.lundberg@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 8:38 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Please, please, please DON'T allow the hunting of the precious few moose we now have. PLEASE spend your time and money on finding a way to help them live instead of killing them!

Gary and Betsy Lundberg

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Richard Maizell <rmaizell@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 10:58 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunting

Good morning,

I would like to raise strenuous objections to the 2022 moose hunt. It completely fails the common sense test to hunt an animal that is being afflicted by ticks and associated diminishing numbers. We need to stop pandering to a minority who frame their ill-advised advocacy in a "tradition" that warrants killing animals that are already stressed and disappearing from our landscape.

Thank you for considering my feedback.

Regards,
Dr. Richard Maizell
973-903-9583
1640 West County Road
Calais, VT. 05648

From: Jeremy Frederick <roastedcode@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 11:01 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Hello,

As a Vermont resident and landowner, I am concerned about the Fish and Wildlife's proposed moose hunt. Given the involvement with the Safari Club International (SCI) and it's donation to the VFW I honestly don't trust your intentions. This looks like an outside trophy hunting club attempting to influencing the decision making process for a state run group.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face. Fish & Wildlife should continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you for you time.
- Jeremy Frederick
Fletcher, VT

From: Russel Ryan <ryanvt@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 7:24 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

The failed old policies of culling herds while allowing more and more development are not serving anyone's interests other than developers and realtors. It is time to start using biology to really protect and maintain Vermont's flora and fauna before it is all depleted.

A Vermont resident of 43 years, who loves this state.
Russel Ryan

From: John Fagan <sakeski10@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:26 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Hunt

I am opposed to the 2020 moose hunt for many reasons.
John Fagan Wine Consultant
Regional Manager, Hand Picked Selections
71 Pinnacle Point
Waterbury, VT 05676

From: Sally Boudreau <saleno@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 3:05 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Sally Boudreau

From: Sally Madeira <sallymadeira@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:34 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Dr. Sally Madeira

From: S. Peck <sarahpeck.vt@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:13 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I feel very strongly that Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sarah M. Peck

Jamaica, VT

From: Sbgutwin <sbgutwin@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:19 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: NO to a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife Dept. is a collection of hunters. They are biased and incapable of decisions that do not involve hunting as a solution.

Wildlife do not belong to hunters. The purpose of wildlife is not to hunt. Every Vermonter has equal rights to wildlife and my rights to even just seeing wildlife is threatened. Where I live near Catamount Rec. Center in Williston in only a few years we have gone from seeing deer, coyote, fox, opossums... to seeing just squirrels. I listen to gun shots in the woods on a regular basis, and one hunter shot a coyote in broad day light a couple hundred feet from my house.

The VT Fish and Wildlife support the hunters.

It must get to a balance.

It sickens me.

sharon gutwin

From: L. Winter <sbmwinter@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 8:02 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. I fail to understand how killing moose translates to killing ticks.

Certainly, moose are not their only host. I also fail to understand how killing the healthiest (trophy) moose improves the stock. I am not opposed to hunting in general.

Thank you,
Laura Winter
Wilmington

From: Sandy Butkovich <sbutkovich57@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 9:11 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 Moose Hunt

I say NO to the 2022 moose hunt. Killing moose to kill ticks makes no sense.

Spend your time and dollars finding a smarter way to tackle this problem.

Sandy Butkovich
Newport, VT

From: shaun hill <shaun@hillfarmstead.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:28 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do NOT support a 2022 moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern,

I have lived in Vermont my entire life and have only seen a few moose here in the Northeast Kingdom. They are one of the most majestic animals that I have had the pleasure of seeing - and the rationale that killing them to save them is a logical fallacy and deserves to be analyzed.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Shaun Hill
Greensboro, VT

From: Kathy Kingston <shawkingston@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 8:25 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: No to the 2022 moose hunt

Hello,

I am not opposed to hunting.

I am opposed to people coming in from out of state to hunt healthy moose. And I am opposed to there being a hunt when many of Vermont's moose are struggling.

You all know that wildlife populations are kept healthier by NOT killing the healthy breeding adults.

Our moose are suffering, due to a number of issues. Please follow solid, unbiased research as the people of Vermont rely on you to do.

Thank you,
Katherine Kingston

From: Shawn M. Smith <shawn@earthasset.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:17 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Cc: Shawn Smith

Subject: NO to the 2022 moose hunt

I DO NOT support VT Fish and Wildlife Department's proposal for a 2022 moose hunt. If anything, with the climate and tick challenges faced by moose, a moratorium ought to be adopted, not reducing an already fragile population of this species.

Shawn Smith
Huntington

From: Shelby S. Grantham <Shelby.S.Grantham@dartmouth.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:17 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Shelby Grantham
Norwich, VT 05055

From: Stewart McDermet <smcdermet1@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:10 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Please reconsider the planned moose killing and find a way to work with nature.

Nature has had a better success at keeping things in balance and harmony than when we try to "balance" nature. Remember DDT.

Thank you,
Stewart and Kristen McDermet
Dummerston

From: sarah rosedahl <srosedahl@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:48 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: moose hunting

I would rather see a study conducted that involves treating moose for ticks vs. killing them.

For example

<https://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/article/moose-winter-ticks>

Sarah Rosedahl

From: Stephanie Jackson <steph.notis@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6:54 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Proposed 2022 Moose Hunt

I am filing my public comment on the proposed 2022 Moose Hunt and say NO. Please protect our precious Moose by not expanding the Moose Hunt. We have encroached on the wildlife population to the point they have few options.

If there is an individual Moose being killed by ticks then humanely euthanize it. Let's not kill healthy animals. Thank you.

Stephanie Jackson

Lyndonville

From: Sumi Sin <sumi.sin@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 4:59 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I DO NOT support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Best,

Sumi Sin (Bristol Resident)

From: Mary Sonnekson <sunxsun@comcast.net>

Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 10:04 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Sonnekson

Athens, VT

From: susannahkeith@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:37 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: 2022 Moose Hunting

Hello,

Please count me in as saying NO on the 2022 moose hunt!!

How atrocious is the mindset behind this hideously cruel agenda? The facts in this proposal to diminish ticks do not make scientific sense.

Killing our endangered, unprotected, defenseless moose population is unnecessary and barbaric.

Vermont is better than this.
Sincerely,
Susannah Keith.
Halifax, VT.

From: Tanya Sousa <tanyasousa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 8:34 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Moose Management
Good Day!

I've lived in Vermont since I was 4 years old (I'm 55 now), and have seen a state with basically few to no moose, to having what some people considered too many moose. I lived in Norton for 4 years, and the NEK the entire time I've lived in VT, and I've seen the shift again to hardly a moose to be seen. When I'd hike regularly in Norton, I saw a moose only occasionally - and that is prime moose country.

Moose are struggling right now with various issues, and it's the wrong time to be hunting or increasing hunting of them. Killing moose to kill ticks is not a sound plan.

Let's see us work on better ways to manage ticks than killing off animals who are already down in numbers.

Many thanks!
Tanya Sousa
North Troy, VT

From: Roger Goldstein <taurus0137@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 4:07 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Once again the easy way out is to accommodate trophy hunters under the guise of concern for the health of wildlife. A bit more serious effort focused on a solution apart from a head on the wall might finally receive priority.

Yours,
Roger Goldstein, PhD
Licensed Sportsman
Full Time Vermont Resident

From: Maureen Rich <tincantucker@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:03 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Holly Tippet <tippetth@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:25 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

For the past several years, Fish & Wildlife has used a flawed study to justify the moose hunting season.

And, its been brought to the

public's attention that they worry that if they suspend the hunt it will never restart so they refuse to do so. That study was funded by an international trophy hunting organization -- Safari International which supports the killing of lions, elephants, and giraffes so what are a few Vermont moose to them?

This is irresponsible 'stewardship' and the moose hunt should be suspended due to the massive threats they are already facing from climate change, habitat loss and ticks.

Holly Tippet

Panton

From: Todd <toddjosephthomas@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:29 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Comments regarding the proposed 2022 moose hunt

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Fish & Wildlife,

Please consider suspending the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus the department's resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Todd Thomas

100 Maple Street

Morrisville

From: Sarah Lyda <udderjoy@me.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:29 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

To whom it may concern ...

I feel strongly that Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt NOT increases it due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Sarah Lyda

Washington

Vermont

From: vermontelements@comcast.net

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 1:25 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt

To Whom It May Concern:

I am concerned that Vermont's moose hunt. Our moose population is suffering from ailments like winter ticks, and the population is dwindling.

Please place a moratorium on the 2022 moose hunt. A "No" vote will give the moose herd time to repopulate, and researchers will have more time to find a cure for winter ticks.

Thank you for considering my request,

Bonnie Duncan
851 Cricket Hill Road
Hyde Park, VT 05655

From: Cathy Hartshorn <vt.dogs@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:20 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Dear ANR/FW:

As a life-long Vermonter, I was thrilled when the moose started populating Vermont! Since then, however, the sanctioned hunts on these unassuming animals continue to dwindle their numbers. The planned hunt is not necessary, will only hurt the moose population, and is totally nonsensical. Ask yourselves why is this necessary? And what benefits would be gained if there were no hunt?

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Cathy Hartshorn
Berlin

From: Gisela Alpert <vtsnowgise@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:54 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Dear Fish & Wildlife,

It is imperative to suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. Killing more moose is not the answer to control ticks. If we can control rabies, we certainly can find ways to keep the moose healthier.

Best,
Gisela Alpert

From: William Abel <wabel2000@verizon.net>

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:29 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

From: Brad Caswell <wbc@tops-tele.com>

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:26 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. While reading about the Fish & Wildlife plan to reduce the moose herd in order to reduce the number of ticks on moose, I looked and looked for references to technical articles that support this proposed action. There were no such references. Subsequently I learned that Fish & Wildlife conducted its own study with financial assistance from the Safari Club International, an organization with a widely known agenda to support trophy hunting. There is no scientifically prepared and peer reviewed analysis of the proposed plan.

The moose tick problem is an important issue for Vermont that needs serious technically based investigation to solve.

Brad Caswell

Pike Hill

Corinth, Vt

From: Wendell Sargent <wdsargent53@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 5:55 AM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: Moose hunt proposal:

I am against a moose hunt in the NE kingdom as a management strategy to combat tick infestation. Killing moose to keep moose alive is absurd on its face. Let us be honest and recognize that this is about hunters wanting to hunt moose and ticks are just a pretext to do that. Years ago it was car collisions to justify a moose hunt. Today it's ticks. The Fish and Wildlife Agency has no credibility when it comes to protecting Vermont's wildlife. I say NO to a moose hunting season until a real scientific study on moose populations can be done by a neutral organization.

Wendell Sargent

Huntington, Vt.

From: Comcast <weeksfamily@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 5:11 PM

To: ANR - FW Public Comment

Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I hear over and over again how long time Vermonters never see moose anymore and now we want to kill them?! It seems the deck is already stacked against them and the last thing we should be doing is killing them.

Fish & Wildlife should suspend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that moose face, and will continue to face, and refocus its resources on non-lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue.

Thank you for your consideration,

Melissa Weeks

Winhall, VT

From: went mail <went@mail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 7:09 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: I do not support a 2022 moose hunt

I have lived in the NEK for 3 years and have yet to see a moose, though there are many street signs saying there will be moose crossing and to be cautious. I have 12 acres and haven't seen a moose. I live in a remote rural area and none so far.

The tick argument makes no sense to me when hunters aren't relegated to killing sick or moose covered with ticks. Even though I don't buy the tick argument, if I did, wouldn't killing healthy moose defeat the purpose? There are other ways to try to control the tick population. My dogs get ticks and I don't euthanize my dogs to control the tick population, I give them prevention instead.

I totally understand if there was an overpopulation and the herds needed to be reduced to keep them healthy, but that's not the case with the moose population. The moose are facing climate changes as well and will be having a harder time without being killed by trophy hunters.

Please suspend this moose hunt and let them get back to a healthy number before you consider another hunt. Unfortunately, with all the other threats, they may never get back to a healthy number. Please research other ways to control the tick population, please consider our comments.

I don't think money should be a driving factor in this. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Wendy Tuller
Island Pond/Morgan VT

From: Walter Medwid <wmedwid@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:28 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: 2022 Moose proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed recommendation for the 2022 moose season.

As the Fish and Wildlife Department (FWD) is apprised, an internal survey of staff revealed data about the culture, character and composition of the department that may have impacted this year's moose recommendation and all other recommendations involving game species. The science and data coming out of the internal survey is relevant to the science contained in the moose recommendation in that the internal survey documents an extreme institutional bias that may have influenced the moose recommendation.

As the internal survey* shows, the extreme bias of staff's orientation to wildlife and the values they hold depart dramatically from the public's orientation and values it holds. Raising further concerns, the survey indicated that nearly half of the staff (40.3%) believe the FWD defaults to a political agenda over science. The science underpinning the moose proposal cannot ignore the science within the internal survey's science.

Title 10, Chapter 103 of Vermont Statutes sets principles for how the management of wildlife must be measured against. The documented extreme institutional bias within FWD runs counter to legislative intent as stated in Titled 10.

In order for the moose proposal to go forward there must be a process to ensure that the moose recommendation, the findings of the internal survey and the principles of Title 10 are in uniform alignment. The establishment of an independent, professional wildlife panel would be one path forward to addressing these multiple conflicts. Unless and until these foundational conflicts are fully vetted, the moose proposal will remain incomplete and under a significant cloud that threatens public confidence in our wildlife governance infrastructure. I oppose the recommendation until the defects are addressed.

Walter Medwid, Derby

Appendix C: Moose Public Comment Voicemail Transcripts

Note: these are automated transcriptions of voicemails left on the Department's public comment phone line. The accuracy and quality of transcripts varies. Please review the associated audio file if there are any questions about the content of a message.

3/19/2022

Hi, my name is Deborah voltolina. I live in Troy Vermont. I think your moose hunting proposal is the most ridiculous thing. I have ever heard of them has to be other options that will help the population. I was hoping that someday my grandchildren can come here and see moose, and it doesn't look like it's ever going to happen because God Vermont's doing a good job wiping them out. Please reconsider the 100 moose permits because it's the dumbest idea I've ever heard of you. Say the Moose. I'm telling them. Yeah not going to happen. Thank you. Bye.

3/21/2022

Yes, my name is Karen Neilson. I live in Morrisville Vermont. I want to put in my comment that I do not support a 2022 moose hunt song. I am a wildlife biologist with a master's degree in Psychology and I can tell you that this is not the solution to the problem fish and wildlife keeps trying to make this seem like you can solve everything with moose hunt. I am sick and tired of Fish and Wildlife not using good sound science for a lot of their decisions the fish and wildlife board is made up of mostly hunters and Trappers not good sound wildlife biology biologist Fisheries biologists environmental biologist, and you should be ashamed of yourself for that month. I think fish and wildlife should spend the moose hunt due to the numerous threats that we face and will continue to face and refocus its resources on Thursday. Lethal methods of addressing the winter tick issue. There are many other states and lots of very qualified biologist that you could consult with to look at possible solutions. And at least actions to take to try to mitigate this situation suspend the moose hunt you haven't done the science do the science. Thank you very much.

3/22/2022

I wanted to McDonald's in Middlebury Vermont. I'm calling to make an emphatic no to the proposed moose hunt on home situation. I was hoping you might be able to provide maybe food stations in the woods, which would also include some kind of anti tick off for the moose instead of killing them. I hope we can find a more humane way to settle. This filling them is really not too many, and it's not going to settle down situation for the foremost. Let's think of another way. Thank you so much, bye-bye.

My name is Jane Horner. I lived in Burlington Vermont for 30 years. I'm now in North Carolina. I am heartbroken to see this page currently three generations of killers wandering around in Vermont killing a beautiful animal. I hope we can do everything possible to stop this and to bring the world to a level of awareness of the value of the Wild and the value of precious animals dead.

3/23/2022

Hi, my name is Doctor Kenneth Karo. I live in Waterbury Center. And I would just like to say that I'm totally opposed to the moose hunt Moose are dying naturally Thursday. And the population is down. I don't see why you want to go out and kill even more of them. There has to be a better way of handling this unbelievably I can't believe the fish and wildlife where their brains are. Anyway, thank you very much by now.

3/24/2022

My name is Barbara salucci. I lived in Huntington Vermont. I my comment is about the moose hunt to say no to the hunt. I think it is important for the fish and wildlife department to explore other options for dealing with ticks and helping to save most and to keep them from suffering. Thank you.

3/28/2022:

This is Marilyn Magnus and I'm speaking for my husband David Magnus and we're residents of peach in Vermont. And we say no to the 2022 moose hunt Moose experiencing a variety of threats from brain worms to heat stress to Winter ticks killing moose to kill ticks is not the answer. Thank you. Bye.

Hello, this is Mary Brown of East Hardwick Vermont calling to say no to the 2022 moose hunt. I think the moose population is under terrific stress and shooting off on top of me take situation and the other stressors on their health just makes no sense. If we want to have any proof population. My number is _____. Thank you for taking my comment.

Hi and good afternoon. My name is Eric cycle. I am a resident of Stowe Vermont for some Thirty Years Sterling Valley specifically, and I'd like to express my disagreement with the current moose hunting proposal for a variety of reasons. Not not the least of which is that as a zoologist and a former. So ology major in the former Wildlife enthusiasts and currently a wildlife conservation enthusiastic along with Steward for a stolen trust. I have a problem with that with the moose hunt that's proposed for twenty twenty two years. There are much better ways to try to control ticks and that this is most ineffective and harmful to the wildlife which I among others thoroughly. Enjoy. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Good afternoon. My name is Allison Cutler. I am calling from Middlebury Vermont and I am calling to State my opposition to talk to the 2022 moose hunt. I do not believe that an accurate assessment can be made by the organization that off apparently likes to hunt them. I don't think they are a unbiased group to receive information about how many moves them are. So I live in the state and quite honestly have never seen a moose. So there can't be that many bottom line is I am against hunting and I would like to State again. I am pleased. I am say no I'm saying no to the 2022 moose hunt. Thank you so much, bye-bye.

Hello, we would like to express our opposition to the Moose killing that is proposed for this year. We realized the Mossad experiencing threats of the various things from ticks, and we don't see the value of killing the Moose to extermination to deal with this problem. If you kill the Moose, we can't see how you're going to solve the problem of the infection disease, whatever you want to call it off. We do not support in the end killing moose. Thank you very much. My name is McDermott from dummerston. Thanks. Bye. (second call)

Hi, this is Stuart and Kristen McDermott calling from dummerston. And we wanted to leave a comment on the proposed moose killing them is due for this year. And our, is we realized that this is supposed to be addressing killing a number of moose will hopefully cut down on the tip population. This is at best. I guess we would recommend that you work more with science and finding and nature and try to find a way to address this population then annihilating some of the most population. Thank you very much. Bye. (Called on 3/21/2022)

3/29/2022

Hi, my name is Kerry Squires. I live in Lamoille County more still and I'm calling to say no to the moose hunt to control ticks off. That just doesn't seem like an adequate way to control ticks and my mind also, I haven't seen a moose in eight years. I feel like their numbers are dwindling. I could be off on that but killing moose to kill ticks and to control the population of moose. It just doesn't make sense. So please no. Thank you very much.

Good morning. My name is Jim Hornikel h a r n a g e l i live in Pasadena, California, but I'm a very frequent visitor to Vermont and all that offers and I'm urging you to please please please place a moratorium on the a pending moose hunt and and direct your energies towards better and more comprehensive research rather than killing moose to save moose. My phone number is _____. Again, my name is Jim Little in Pasadena, California.

Hi, my name is Aimee Carrero Carretto. I live in Burlington Vermont, and I am calling to share my life my opinion of very strongly opposing the 2022 moose hunt and I also oppose very strongly the 2022 proposed migratory bird hunt. Thank you very much, bye-bye.

Hi, my name is Emerson Gail of Strafford Vermont in Orange County here calling to get a public comment about the moose hunt in particular game and really concerned that this decision is being rushed through without looking at alternative strategies other than thinning already troubled most population in a Mont and I'm also concerned about the involvement of special interests and having this hunt and taking some of the bull moose that we need to keep a list populations healthy in Vermont. So please consider for Stallings decision until more research can be done about the best ways to take care of the tick issue. Thanks so much.

3/30/2022

Good morning. My name is Star Wolf and I'm from Windham County Brattleboro Vermont and I am calling to cast off my comment as know to the 2022 moose hunt because of tick infestation off. It seems that the Vermont fish and wildlife is all about destroying Vermont's Wildlife. I feel that you are all to blame for the trapping and the hounding and now you're just trying to justify killing more animals, which to all of you is just a v sport. It is not necessary for for eating consumption in no way. I'm appalled at the Vermont fish and wildlife to suck. That organization that you have and I am claiming my comment as know to the Vermont moose hunt of 2026. I think all of you need to really rethink your strategies and come up with healthier ways of maintaining balance in the forests and the private parcels and tracts of land here in Vermont. Thank you.

Hello, my rolled on my phone is not to the moose hunt 2022. That is outrageous. It's dead killing those poor animals. My name is Courtney.

My name is Janice Nadworny. I live in Hinesburg and I'm leaving him a message about the moose hunt 2022 moose and I'm opposed to it off not only are are moose populations declining but this is a untested and radical proposal to help them lose by killing them. There are other methods and I believe that the fish and wildlife service should follow science tested science and also with mine in mind that there's a month climate change events are depleting our populations as it stands and this is something that we cannot afford to do. I think you should listen to South and include the majority of Vermonters who do not want to see more moose killed. Thank you.

Hi, my name is Brenna Galdenzi and I'm calling from Stowe Vermont and I am calling as an individual citizen to oppose the 2026 moose hunt for a number of reasons namely because there's not enough

proof out there that killing moose to kill pigs to save moose is actually going to result in healthier moose in the future and I also urge Department to put a pause on all future moose hunts and refocus your energies on non-lethal solutions to the problem. Also consider the variety of other threats that are out there from brain worm to heat stress. to Habitat really mortality caused by humans is the only control that we have so allowing hunting is something that we can control and it's a I think in the best interest to put hunting on pause until we know a bit more about what's going on with the heard. Thank you, bye-bye.

Hello, my name is Sophia Parker and I live in Charlotte Vermont, and I was calling to give my input on the flu season and migratory game bird season for the moose season, please vote. No. We do not want to move hunting season here in Vermont or to give out-of-staters permits to hunt booth and for the migratory gamebird proposed. So, um, please reduce the number of permits and definitely do not have an open season for any of those words. Thank you so much. If you have any further questions, you can call me at _____. Have a good day.

Hello, my name is Jeffrey Perez. I live in Charlotte Vermont and I want to comment on vote to reduce the permits for migratory game bird and absolutely no open season for them and I will also like to vote against know to the moose hunting proposal. Thank you very much.

Hello, this is Linda Huebner calling from West Halifax Vermont to note that I oppose moose hunting in Vermont. It seems that we've climate change and all of the other threats to the moose population that having Hunters go out and kill them doesn't make any sense. I've heard the arguments for the winter tick control, but it seems to me that the there are other strategies that ought to be tried before that, especially like those that have been used on deer to control black-legged ticks and it just seems that something meant to be non-lethal to the Moose. But lethal to the text would make a lot more sense than killing moose to try to control ticks. So that's my two cents. Again, it's Linda Huebner West Palm. Vermont 802-368-7269. Thank you. Bye.

Hello, my name is Lindsay Waldman. I live in Jeffersonville Vermont. I opposed the 2022 moose hunt. Thank you.

This is Joyce Littlefield from Lyndonville, and I oppose both especially vehement Lee the moose hunt. I think it's absolutely absurd and against good science to confirm hunt against the Moose, which in most areas is declining. Thank you.

Hi, my name is Sharon. I live in Williston. Thanks for taking comments. I would very much appreciate a know to the moose hunt down into the migratory bird hunting for the Moose. I haven't seen a movie. I used to see a lot of books. I just don't and there's just other Solutions if it's about ticks off shooting an animals and not the answer your phone gets like there's treatments anyways, and then birds mate for life, and that's just cruel and there's enough cruelty in the world, and there's not enough birds in the world. So that's an easy one no to both. Thank you.

Hi, my name is Claire pain. I live in Georgia Vermont and I opposed the 2022 moose hunt for one number two two. I think the migratory bird hunting season. I think from what I see. I'm a photographer about Thursday. It's unsafe for me to go in many places, and I've gotten used to that deer hunting, but now it's gone to a place where anywhere there's a bird. There's a bunch of em, I think that there's too many licenses going out, and I think it should be more limited. So again, my name is Claire Payne and I live in Georgia Vermont, and if you need it, my phone number is _____. Thank you.

Hey Mark, Putney, Vermont. Don't kill anything. What's the matter with you? What would you like it? If someone hurt anyone? You looked don't even think about hurting a moose. Do not hurt any food or Home Alone? What's the matter with you? You can't think of anything else to do?

3/31/2022

This is Anne Smith from Westminster Vermont, and I do not support the moose hunt climate change is changed the Dynamics of the tick population, and that's a human problem. We created it. We need to create a better Humane solution for the textured not hunting. Thank you.

Hi, my name is Kimberly D'Onofrio and I live in Morristown or Morrisville. If you will Vermont and I oppose the 2022 moose hunt. I do not believe killing is conservation and being the owner of a very popular. It's up and Stowe Vermont wage. I am asked by many people where can I see a moose? I tell them they're probably not going to see a moose. So let's try to get most populated back populated in areas where we don't have them instead of killing the ones we have again. I pose the Moose 2022. Thank you.

Hi, my name is Marilyn Dupree do u p r e n? I live in Underhill, Vermont on this comment is for the moose hunt and I'm not going to go into a lot of detail. I am strongly opposed to this, but let's just say that I think we need to really step back and think about what we're doing and why we're doing it and I think there's been plenty of comment on why it's a really really bad idea. So I don't think you need me to go through the whole Litany of reasons just suffice to say that. I am really on the side of saying no to this year's moose hunt. Thanks a lot. Take care. Bye.