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## "Let's Grow Some Moose!"

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Believing in the value of healthy moose populations for all Alaskans, the Alaska Moose Federation will be the leader in the effort to both initiate and maintain the quantity and quality of Alaska's moose population.

### "What does Alaska need another outdoor outfit for?"

#### Inside this issue:

**Why does Alaska need a new outdoor outfit?** 1

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#### Specific Programs:

- Moose trans-planting .
- Cow and calf protection programs.
- Habitat enhancement using machines and controlled burns.
- Road and railroad protection.
- Continual education to all Alaskans of the benefit of healthy moose populations.

This is a good question to ask. My name is Gary Olson and I am the Chairman and the founder of the Alaska Moose Federation. Alaska already has organizations for wild sheep, elk, ducks, grouse, fish, bears, etc. Are we missing anything? Alaska's moose have been taken for granted long enough.

Most Alaskans think there are more moose than ever. The only problem is that they are in our cities. Our neighborhoods have become incubators for our long eared friends. Though most of us are used to moose in the driveway and have adjusted our lives, over 600 moose are killed in our cities by vehicles annually. At an average of \$15,000.00 per accident (per AKDOT), that is an increasing annual loss of over \$9,000,000.00 to Alaskans in vehicle damage alone.

Take into account that each cow moose is worth an average of 30 moose based her population potential. With a calculation of the moose that are hit (50% cows, 10% bulls and 40% calves), we lose just over 12,000 moose on our city roads each year!

Now imagine the AMF working with the Department of Fish & Game taking a trailer full of our city moose and trans-locating them to Unit 13. How about a 20' connex special made container loaded with cows and calves moved out to McGrath. This would go a long way towards healing the 'urban-rural' divide that others have created to pit Alaskans apart.

This is why we have begun to work with the our new Admini-



**Cow moose with a newborn calf. Spring time is the most dangerous time for Alaska's calves.**

stration, Legislators, Departments of Fish & Game, Natural Resources, Transportation and Public Safety. Another necessity for the AMF is that it will conduct itself with salaried staff. This is a lesson that we have learned from outside special interests that spend millions of dollars to influence Alaska.



## The Alaska Moose Federation Goes To Juneau!



Eberhard Brunner, John Floyd and Gary Olson flew to Juneau on March 31 for a 3-day "get to know you" with our new Administration and Legislature.

Our message was simple: "The AMF is neither a hunting nor an anti-hunting outfit. It is neither a subsistence priority nor a anti-subsistence priority organization. We are solely committed to healthy moose populations statewide."

We also detailed to the Legislators the benefits of healthy moose population. Our tourists will have moose to see, Alaskans (both rural and urban) will once again have their Alaskan lifestyles back and our predators will have something to eat. The current state of extremely low, if not zero, recruitment of calves to mature moose is as unacceptable as the wolf pups being eaten by the adult wolves for lack of food.

The AMF detailed how we run our railroad through some of the best habitat in the state, our roads run through major moose migratory routes and we do a good job putting most fires out as soon as they start that would otherwise make moose food. It is time for Alaska to be better stewards of our moose and you know what, nearly all Legislators from all corners of Alaska agreed 100%.



## The Alaska Railroad and the Alaska Moose Federation Working Together!



We have targeted a Railroad corridor in the Cantwell area that is the perfect candidate for our new form of proper moose stewardship.

The Cantwell Alaska Railroad Corridor Project is located adjacent to the confluence of the Jack and the Nenana Rivers. This particular area is ideal for wintering moose habitat that draws moose from many areas in the vicinity. Primary land Owners in the vicinity include the State of Alaska, AHTNA

Native Corporation lands, Denali National Park and other Federal Lands as well. With the moose being drawn to the food every winter, this puts large numbers of moose in jeopardy from collisions with the Railroad. Approximately 8 miles of track run through the middle of this ideal food source that results in the loss of over 100 moose on heavy snow years. This is where the Alaska Moose Federation comes in.

We, at the AMF, are currently working with the Denali Citizens Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Alaska Railroad, AHTNA Village Council, Denali Borough, Senator Ted Stevens and now the Alaska Legislator and the Alaska State Administration to change this. We are proposing a fenced corridor with underground/overpass crossing areas as performed on the Glenn Highway between Muldoon and Hiland Road. Other areas in the world use fencing and underground



**Overpass proven highly successful for moose crossing over railroads or roads.**



**Underpass proven highly successful for moose crossing beneath railroads or roads**

causeways extensively to significantly reduce the loss of their animals.

We are not proposing unique or risky concepts, just implementing successful programs as seen

## Is Transplanting Moose new to Alaska? Not at all! How did Moose get in Cordova?

The first moose transplant in Alaska was conducted near Cordova on the Copper River Delta between 1949 through 1958. During that period, calves were received from well-meaning Alaskans throughout South-Central Alaska believing that the calves had been abandoned by their mothers. During that period,

approximately 50 calves were collected with the largest single transplant taking place of 5 moose in 1951.

By 1954, considerable evidence had been gathered that observed successful wintering and breeding of this new moose herd to the Copper River Delta. A limited harvest occurred in 1960.

Twenty-five bulls were harvested that year. Hunting again resumed in 1962 with another 25 bulls harvested. The herd has been completely self-sustaining now for decades. This is the last era the State of Alaska actively pursued the organized transplant of moose until now.

**“It’s Time To Help Our Moose!”**

**[www.growmoremoose.com](http://www.growmoremoose.com)**