



The types of moose tags hunters will have in their pockets this fall



**Bull** tags are specific to WMU and season (gun or bow) and can only be used to harvest a bull.



**Cow/calf** tags are also specific to WMU and season and can be used to harvest a cow or a calf (not both).



**Calf** tags are WMU-specific but are valid for the full length of all moose seasons within the WMU, meaning both the gun and bow seasons. If there is any uncertainty, always refer to the information printed on your tag.

**T**he major changes to moose hunting in 2021 in Ontario have been well documented here in the pages of *Ontario OUT of DOORS*. Previous stories (which you can find at [www.ofah.org/moose](http://www.ofah.org/moose)) have provided a high-level overview of the changes and breakdowns of the primary and second chance allocation stages. In this article, the focus is on the changes hunters need to know about as they head into the woods this fall.

**Before you go**

Moose tags will be available to print on August 17th. Tags can be printed online at [www.hunt-andfishontario.com](http://www.hunt-andfishontario.com) or through a licence issuer or participating Service Ontario. If you were awarded a tag during the second chance stage, you have until the end of the season to claim your tag if you wish to do so.

Tag transfers have been significantly restricted and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances such as injury, illness or death of the tag holder or an immediate family member, or redeployment by the Canadian Armed Forces. Anyone seeking such a transfer should contact the Natural Resource Information and Support Centre at [nrisc@ontario.ca](mailto:nrisc@ontario.ca) or by calling 1-800-387-7011 or 1-800-667-1940.

Starting in 2021, the opening date of gun season in southern Ontario (WMUs 46-50 and 53-63) has reverted to the third Monday in October.

**In the field**

One of the most important changes to remember this year is that a calf tag no longer comes with a moose licence and all tags are distributed through the allocation process. To go moose hunting, a hunter must have their own tag or be party hunting with another hunter who holds a valid tag. The rules for party hunting moose remain unchanged from previous years. Party hunting on someone else's tag does not affect your points.

Starting this year, non-resident hunters can only obtain moose tags through a tourist outfitter. Non-residents who are immediate relatives of an Ontario resident who has a valid moose tag can party hunt on that tag if they purchase a non-resident moose licence and are hunting during an open non-resident season. All hunters (resident and non-resident) who are hunting on an outfitter tag, either their own or through party hunting, must be a registered guest of the outfitter and carry documentation proving this.

**After the hunt**

All hunters who purchase a moose licence in 2021 must complete a mandatory moose hunter report.

- Resident hunters and non-resident hunters who hunt with an immediate relative must complete their regular moose hunter report by December 29, 2021.
- Resident hunters who received a tag through an outfitter must also provide a report to the outfitter by December 22, 2021 with information specific to their time hunting with the outfitter.
- Non-resident moose hunters hunting through an outfitter must provide a report to the outfitter by November 22, 2021.

Since the implementation of mandatory reporting, response rates for moose hunters have significantly improved from 51% in 2018 to 81% in 2019 and 85% in 2020. This provides crucial information for effective moose management and moose hunters should feel good about the positive contribution they are making.

**What the OFAH is doing**

The OFAH continues to push the government to review the changes to moose hunting within three years of their implementation to ensure they are working as intended, having a positive effect on moose populations, and not creating barriers to participation for hunters.

Refer to the *2021 Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* (online at [www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary](http://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary)) for detailed moose hunting seasons and regulations.