**Asset Information Page**

**Moose**

**Sticky Note 1:**

**Moose are excellent swimmers, able to hold their breath underwater for 30 seconds!**

**Appearance:** Moose are the largest members of the deer family, standing six feet (1.8 meters) tall from hoof to shoulder, and weighing in at more than 1,000 pounds (450 kilograms).

Each of their light to dark brown hairs is hollow, and the air trapped inside provides insulation. Males are distinguished from females by their antlers, which grow up to six feet across.

**Habitat:** Moose are found in the northern regions of the United States, from Maine to Washington, throughout Canada, and into Alaska. Due to their large size and insulating fur, moose are limited to cold climates.

Forested areas with streams and ponds are ideal moose habitat.

**Movement:** Despite their large size, moose can run at over 35 miles per hour. Moose calves can outrun a human by the time they’re five days old!

**Diet:**  Moose are herbivores. Moose are so tall that they have difficulty bending down to eat grasses, so they prefer to feed on leaves, bark, and twigs from trees and shrubs.

A full-grown moose can gobble up to 70 pounds of food a day!

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 1---------------------------------------------------------

**Sticky Note 2:**

**Though females lack antlers, they aggressively protect their babies with powerful kicks that can break bones or even kill predators!**

**Reproduction:**  Male moose, called bulls, begin to grow antlers in springtime to prepare for the autumn mating season. Large, mature bulls with well-developed antlers usually get to mate with the female moose, called cows. After the mating season, bulls drop their antlers.

The young calves stay with their mothers for a year before venturing off to live a solitary lifestyle.

**Social Structures:** When the winter ice melts, moose spend much of their time swimming in lakes and rivers to keep their body temperature down on hot days, sometimes swimming without stopping for 10 or more miles.

**Communication:**  Moose calls or vocalizations can range from low-pitched grunts, whistles, snorts, and even screams depending on the situation.

The variety of moose calls allows individuals to recognize each other as well as alert others about potential dangers.

**Survival Skills:** Adult moose are too big to have many predators, but bears, wolves, and cougars prey on calves.

Moose are being hurt by overheating, disease, and tick infestation—all tied to warming temperatures. Moose are in jeopardy across the United States.

Moose often roam through residential areas looking for food, and motorists occasionally collide with them.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 2---------------------------------------------------------