

Recognizing the same moose sighted over a season and even over several years is key to understanding its individual behavior. Yet it can be very challenging just to identify a moose from one day to the next. It can even be difficult to decide on the sex of a moose when it is in its first year or when bulls have shed their racks, unless you know the trick: females exhibit a characteristic white patch under their vestigial tail, usually from a very early age and on throughout their lives. You can see these patches clearly on mother Billi and her daughter Kei (middle and right), while none is apparent on Kei's twin brother Kid to the left. Determining the sex of a moose is of course only the beginning of identifying individuals...

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