

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

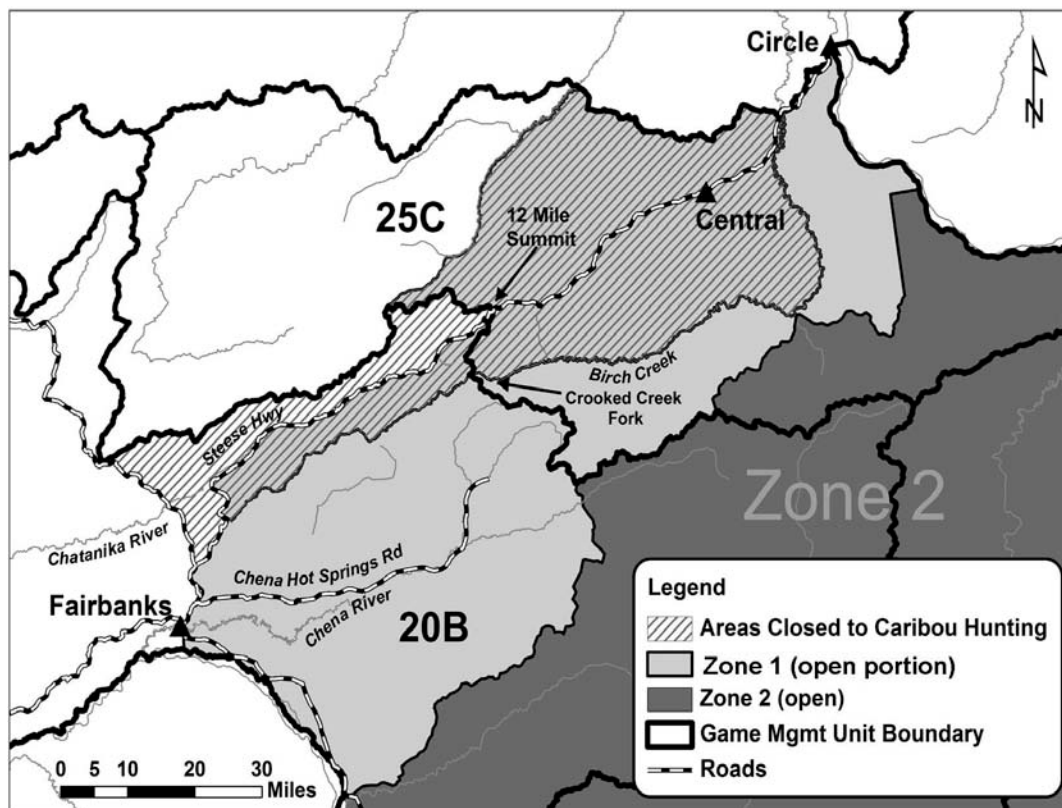
Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 03-12-11

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
November 25, 2011

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
December 1, 2011

Expiration Date: June 30, 2012
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order



EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes a portion of state caribou registration hunts RC867 (Fortymile Caribou Herd) and RC879 (White Mountains Caribou Herd). State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 3 zones. This emergency order closes the portion of zone 1 in Game Management Unit 20B within the Chatanika drainage and in Game Management Unit 25C those portions north and west of the mainstem of Birch Creek upstream to its confluence with Crooked Creek Fork, then north of the mainstem of Crooked

Creek Fork and the part of zone 3 in Unit 20E south of milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64° 00' 01'' N. lat.). This emergency order also closes the portion of hunt RC879 within the Chatanika River drainage north and east of the Steese and Elliott highways in Unit 20B. All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou:

Units and Bag Limits (15)	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
...		
Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, except the Middle Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and except the Salcha River and Chatanika River drainages	Aug. 29–Sept. 2 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only)	
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only, or 1 caribou by registration permit only		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
Unit 20(B), that portion within the Middle Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and the Salcha River drainage	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only)	
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only, or 1 caribou by registration permit only		

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20
Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway within the Chatanika River drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only	Aug. 29–Sept. 2 (General Hunt Only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
Unit 20(B), that portion north and west of the Steese Highway within the Chatanika River drainage		
1 bull	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
...		
Unit 20(B) and Unit 20(F) those portions north and west of the Steese Highway, north and east of the Elliot Highway to its intersection with the Dalton Highway, then east of the Dalton Highway and south of the Yukon River, excluding the Chatanika River drainage		
1 caribou per regulatory year, only as follows:		
1 bull; or	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
1 caribou by registration permit only	Dec. 1–Mar. 31 (General hunt only)	Dec. 1–Mar. 31

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
...		
Unit 20(E), that portion within the Charley River drainage, the Seventymile River drainage upstream from and including the Granite Creek drainage, the North Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from, but not including the Champion Creek drainage, the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, all drainages flowing into the Yukon River downstream from the confluence of the Seventymile River and Yukon River and that portion within the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Wolf Creek drainage	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only; or 1 caribou by registration permit only		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20
Unit 20(E), that portion south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64°00'01'' N. lat.), except the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Wolf Creek drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only	Aug. 29–Sept. 2	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Remainder of Unit 20(E)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only; or 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 29–Sept. 2 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
...		
(20)		
...		
Unit 25(C), those portions west of the east bank of the mainstem of Preacher Creek to its confluence with American Creek, then west of the east bank of American Creek		
1 caribou per regulatory year, only as follows:		
1 bull; or	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
1 caribou by registration permit only	Dec. 1–Mar. 31 (General hunt only)	Dec. 1–Mar. 31
Unit 25(C), that portion draining into the South Fork of Birch Creek and the portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only; or 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 25(C), those portions south and east of the mainstem of Birch Creek upstream to its confluence with Crooked Creek Fork, then south of the mainstem of Crooked Creek Fork, excluding that portion draining into the South Fork of Birch Creek and the portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve	Aug. 29–Sept. 2 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only; or 1 caribou by registration permit only		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
Remainder of Unit 25(C)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only	Aug. 29–Sept. 2	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
...		

All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.

JUSTIFICATION:


The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan as a means of guiding harvest of the herd from 2006 through 2012. The winter caribou season in a portion of zone 1 is being closed because a large number of Fortymile caribou are currently near the Steese Highway. Southern zone 3 is being closed because large numbers of Nelchina Herd caribou are present and are at risk of being harvested under registration permit RC867, which is intended for Fortymile Herd caribou. No harvest of Nelchina caribou is allocated to Unit 20E. Caribou hunt RC879 in the Chatanika River drainage of Unit 20B north of the Steese highway is being closed because large numbers

of Fortymile Herd caribou are present and are at risk of being harvested under registration hunt RC879, which is intended for White Mountains Herd caribou.

The annual harvest quota for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is allocated seasonally: 75% to the fall hunt and 25%, plus any surplus from the fall quota, to the winter hunt. This winter's harvest quota is 250 caribou. The winter quota is divided between the 2 road-accessible portions of the hunt area, the Steese Highway–Chena Hot Springs area in Units 20B and 25C (zone 1) and the Taylor Highway area in Unit 20E (zone 3). Sixty percent of the harvest quota is allocated to the road-accessible zone with the most caribou within reach of hunters immediately prior to the season opening. Zone 2, the roadless area between zones 1 and 3, is included with the quota for the hunt area with the most caribou. If the Fortymile caribou hunt in all of zone 1 was to open on December 1, the winter harvest quota of 150 caribou for zones 1 and 2 would likely be exceeded within one day. The department plans to reopen these hunt areas if the caribou have dispersed sufficiently for harvest to be managed without exceeding harvest quotas. Southern zone 3 in Unit 20E will be reopened if the Nelchina Caribou Herd leaves the area.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____


Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist

DISTRIBUTION:

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26. Central Advisory Committee
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28. Dot Lake Village Council
29. Northway Village Council
30. Tetlin IRA Council
31. Steese Roadhouse
32. Caribou Clatters
33. Eagle Trading Post
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