

PC 027

I, Lance Kramer, on behalf of the NANA Regional Corporation and its 7,000+ shareholders, support Proposal 202 with these amendments:

| Open to: | Unit | Bag Limit and Special Instructions | | | Permit/Hunt # | Open Season |
|----------|------|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| R | 23 | 3 caribou per day | Bulls | | HT | April 1---May 14 |
| R | 23 | 2 caribou per day | Cows | | HT | April 1---May 14 |
| R | 23 | 5 caribou per day | Bulls | | HT | May 15---June 30 |
| R | 23 | | Cows | | | No open season |
| R | 23 | 5 caribou per day | Bulls | | HT | July 1---Oct. 14 |
| R | 23 | | Cows | Cows with calves may NOT be taken | HT | July 1---Oct. 14 |
| R | 23 | 2 caribou per day | Bulls | | HT | Oct. 15---Jan. 31 |
| R | 23 | 3 caribou per day | Cows | Cows with calves may NOT be taken | HT | Oct. 15---Jan. 31 |
| R | 23 | 5 caribou per day | Bulls | | HT | Feb. 1---March 31 |
| R | 23 | | Cows | Cows with calves may NOT be taken | HT | Feb. 1---March 31 |
| N | 23 | | | | | No open season |

*Calves may NOT be taken

*NO same-day-airborne caribou hunting allowed in Unit 22

***Note: if the BOG chooses to have a NR caribou hunt in Unit 23 in the Fall of 2015, I would suggest the take be only 1 bull and 0 cows.

Reasons for the amendments:

1. **April 1---May 14** Notice the mixed bag limits. The Advisory Councils and ADF&G in our Region may propose to you a complete closed season for all cows during this time. However, I beg to differ. I don't want to make any of our residents "criminals" if all they see is cows on their hunt(s). The price of snowmachines, gas, and ammunition are sky-high in the NW Arctic these days and I don't want people going home "empty-handed" if all they see is cows on their hunting trip(s). They should be allowed to at least take *something* home to feed their families without the risk of getting cited, showing up to court, paying big fines, or disturbing their reputation by them being defined as a criminal, law-breaker, or poacher.

Right now there is no limit on cows during this time frame. A person can take 5 a day if they want; however, by doing this, we'll still decrease the take of cows as well as provide SOME opportunity for residents to take home much-needed meat. Plus, this amendment will allow for accidental takes of cows as well. A complete closed season for cows won't do that.

2. **Notice that from July 1st to March 31st**, I have that we should NOT take cows accompanied by a calf. The chances of a calf surviving after being separated from its mom is pretty slim. We want to see these calves grow up with their moms until they can survive on their own. If we can improve cow and calf survival, this herd should begin to grow again.

3. **Oct. 15-Jan 31st** Notice again, the mixed bag limit. The Advisory Councils and ADF&G in our Region may propose to you a complete closed season for bulls at this time, citing that "People don't take bulls during this time because they're rutting and stinky." And that's true, for the mature, big bulls. However, young 1 and 2 year old bulls aren't rutting.

Some hunters might want to take a young bull or two during this time frame. Or they may mistake a real young bull for a cow by accident. We shouldn't hinder them from taking food for their families and we shouldn't put people at risk of becoming criminals. Food security is very important to our People, especially with the economy the way it is up north right now.

By allowing this mixed bag limit, we're still helping the bull/cow ratio increase, and still allowing for People to put food on their table.

4. **Notice I'm proposing to have a closed season for non-residents.** The bull to cow ratio is at a critical threshold right now (a little less than 40 bulls/100 cows). Non-residents take almost 600 bulls every fall in our GMU. If we close the NR season now, we'll at least be ahead of the curve, because most likely, the bull/cow ratio and harvestable surplus will be so low as to close the NR season by law the next time anyway. Might as well close it now to save 600 bulls to breed this coming fall.