

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-05-11

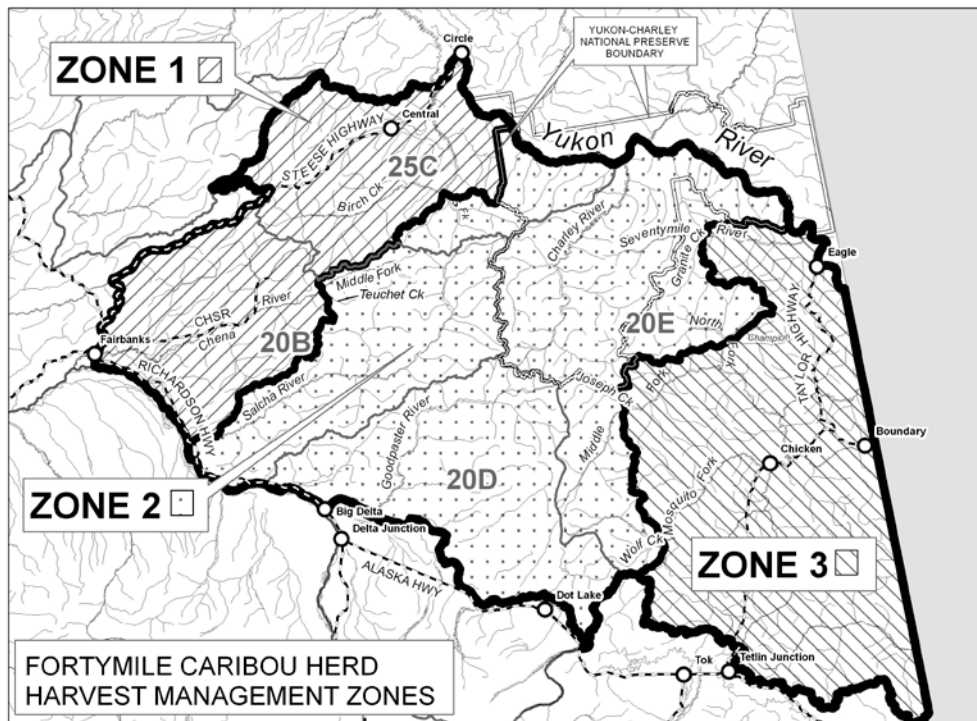
Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
February 17, 2011

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
February 19, 2011

Expiration Date: June 30, 2011
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens currently closed portions 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 opens all of zone 1 in Game Management Units 20B and 25C during February 19–28. This order also opens that portion of RC879 in the Chatanika River drainage north of the Steese highway in Unit 20B during February 19–March 31. 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the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou: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 | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts) | Nonresident Open Season |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| (15) | | |
| ... | | |
| Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, except the Chatanika River drainage, the Middle Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and except the Salcha River drainage | | |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only | Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Jan. 5–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only) | |
| NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only | | Aug. 29 Sept. 4– Sept. 20 |
| Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway within the Chatanika River drainage, | | |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only | Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Feb. 10–Feb. 11 Feb. 19–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only) | |

| Units and Bag Limits | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts) | Nonresident Open Season |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only | | Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 20 |
| 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 | | |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only | Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only) | |
| NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only | | Aug. 10–Sept. 20 |
| Unit 20(B), that portion north and west of the Steese Highway within 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; up to 100 caribou may be taken | Feb. 10–Feb. 11 Feb. 19–Mar. 31 (General hunt only) | Feb. 19–Mar. 31 |
| ... | | |

| Units and Bag Limits | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts) | Nonresident Open Season |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| 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; up to 100 caribou may be taken | Dec. 1–Mar. 31 (General hunt only) | Dec. 1–Mar. 31 |
| ... | | |
| (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; up to 100 caribou may be taken | 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 25(C), that portion draining into the South Fork of Birch Creek and the portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve | Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 | Aug. 10–Sept. 20 |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only | | |
| NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only | | |
| 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. 4–Sept. 30 Jan. 5–Feb. 11 Feb. 19–Feb. 28 | Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only | | |
| NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only | | |
| Remainder of Unit 25(C) | Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Feb. 10–Feb 11 Feb. 19–Feb. 28 | |
| RESIDENT HUNTERS: 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. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 20 |
| ... | | |


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 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 340 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). The winter Fortymile caribou season in Zone 1 did not open on December 1 as scheduled because large numbers of caribou were close to the Steese Highway and the harvest quota would have been exceeded in a few hours. The portion of White Mountains Caribou Herd hunt in the Chatanika River Drainage north of the Steese Highway also did not open on December 1 as scheduled because large numbers of Fortymile caribou were also in that area. Hunting has been allowed south of Birch Creek for several weeks, and throughout Zone 1 for two days, but harvest has been low. Portions or all of these areas were variously opened to allow some hunting opportunity without exceeding the harvest quota. Caribou have now substantially dispersed but remain in the area. Therefore, all areas are being opened for hunting with a remaining quota of 165 caribou in Zone 1. The hunts are likely to remain open to the end of the scheduled seasons.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____


Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist