

# Hunting and Trapping

## Emergency Order

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 04-08-16

Issued at Glennallen, Alaska  
September 15, 2016

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m.  
Wednesday  
September 21, 2016

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m.  
June 30, 2017, unless  
superseded by subsequent  
emergency order

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the season for Nelchina Basin caribou hunts (CC001, RC566, DC485) from September 21 through September 30, 2016.

### REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5AAC 85.025 (8), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

#### **Units and Bag Limits**

#### **Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)**

#### **Nonresident Open Season**

(8)

Unit 13

1 caribou per regulatory  
year, only as follows:

#### **RESIDENT HUNTERS:**

1 caribou per regulatory  
year by community  
harvest household permit  
only; up to 300 caribou  
may be taken; or

Aug. 10 – Sept. 30  
(Subsistence hunt only)  
Oct. 21 – March 31  
(Subsistence hunt only)

No open season

1 caribou every regulatory  
Year by Tier I subsistence  
household permit only; or

Aug. 10 – Sept. 30  
(Subsistence hunt only)  
Oct. 21 – March 31  
(Subsistence hunt only)

No open season

1 caribou every regulatory year by drawing permit; up to 5,000 permits may be issued

Aug. 20 – Sept. 30  
Oct. 21 – March 31

No open season

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Sam Cotten  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



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Frank Robbins  
Area Wildlife Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

A series of mild winters and relatively low predation have combined to raise Nelchina caribou herd numbers above the fall management objective of 35,000 to 40,000 animals. Recent analysis of data from a photo survey conducted in July places the 2016 population near last year's estimate of 48,700. As of Thursday, September 15, the reported harvest was 1,385 bulls and 1,269 cows, well below harvest objectives.

Early fall caribou harvests in Unit 13 remain below objectives and hunting pressure in areas with road and trail access has pushed caribou into the unit's more remote central portion. The early fall hunting season extension aims to increase hunters' odds of encountering Nelchina caribou which typically migrate out of Unit 13 following the rut in late September and early October.

This emergency order changes only the season dates in Unit 13 for caribou. All other state hunting regulations apply, including the closure of the take of all big game in the Paxson Closed Area, and other restricted areas.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

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