

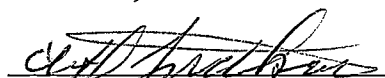
**Findings for the Alaska Board of Game  
2008-175-BOG**

**Unit 9D (Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd)  
Intensive Management Supplemental Findings  
March 6, 2008**

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by Department staff, Alaska residents and users of caribou in Unit 9D. These findings are supplemental to the findings set forth in 5AAC 92.108.

1. The caribou population size, currently estimated to be 600 caribou, is less than the population objective of 4,000 – 5,000. The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last five years.
2. The Unit 9D caribou harvestable surplus, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), is currently estimated at zero, which is less than the harvest objective of 200 – 500. The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 7 years.
3. The Unit 9D caribou population is depleted due to poor recruitment, and has already resulted in a complete hunting closure so that there is no human harvest of the population.
4. Increases in abundance and productivity are achievable utilizing the recognized and prudent active management technique of predator control.
5. The bull ratio of 15 bulls per hundred cows and the increasing age of the cows in the herd cause concern that the herd may no longer be viable in another year or two, and recovery will be difficult unless immediate action is taken. Collared cow caribou have shown a 79% to 85% pregnancy rate. However, calf survival during the first four weeks after birth has resulted in a survival rate between 0.5 to 1 calf per 100 cows by October.
6. The population and harvest objectives have not been achieved, at least in part, because wolf and brown bear predation have been important causes of mortality in the population, to the extent that the population is unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.
7. Reducing predation can reasonably be expected to aid in achieving the population and harvest objectives.

Vote: 6-0-1  
March 8, 2008  
Fairbanks, Alaska

  
Cliff Judkins, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Game