

# Emergency Order

## Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 04-02-20

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska  
January 28, 2020

**Effective Date:** 11:59 pm.  
January 31, 2020

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2020  
unless superseded by subsequent  
emergency order

### EXPLANATION:

Caribou registration permit hunt RC503 for the Mulchatna caribou herd in portions of Game Management Units 9A, 9B, 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A and 19B will close at 11:59 pm, January 31, 2020. Federal hunting opportunity on federal lands under this same permit (RC503) was closed on December 31, 2019.

All other caribou hunting regulations for Units 9, 17, 18 and 19 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

### REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025, Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
...		
(3)		

Unit 9(A) and that portion of  
Unit 9(C) within the Alagnak  
River drainage

RESIDENT HUNTERS:  
1 caribou by registration permit  
only

Aug. 1–Jan. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season.

Unit 9(B)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

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1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season.

Unit 9(C), that portion north of  
the north bank of the Naknek  
River and south of the Alagnak  
River drainage

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

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1 caribou by registration permit  
only;

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season.

(12)

...

Remainder of Unit 17(A)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

Unit 17(B), that portion in the Unit  
17(B) Nonresident Closed Area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

Remainder of Unit 17(B), and that  
portion of 17(C) east of the east banks  
of the Wood River, Lake Aleknagik,  
Agulowak River, Lake Nerka, and the

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Agulupak River

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RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

...

(13)

Unit 18

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

(14)

Unit 19(A), that portion with the  
Lime Village Management Area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

Units 19(A) and 19(B) within the  
Nonresident Closed Area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

Remainder of Unit 19(A) and 19(B)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit  
only

**Aug. 1–Jan. 31**

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

No open season

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All other caribou hunting regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



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Lauren Watine  
Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The RC503 permit area covers the range the Mulchatna caribou herd in portions of Units 9, 17, 18 and 19. The population of Mulchatna caribou herd has been estimated between 20,000–30,000 animals for the past several years. However recent survey information indicates that the herd is now further below the population objective of 30,000–80,000 caribou and management action must take place for the conservation of the herd. In August 2019, the bag limit under state permit RC503 was changed from two caribou to one caribou as a first conservation step. After receiving reviewing all biological information and consulting with residents, stakeholders and the Board of Game, it was decided that the most prudent action would be to close the hunt for the remainder of the regulatory year. Hunt permit reports are due within 15 days of hunt closure and are now due. The department will continue to collect information on the status of the herd and will be conducting another population survey in June/July 2020. Additional state caribou hunting opportunities remain on the Nushagak Peninsula (RC501) and under general harvest in Unit 19C and 19D.

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- Regulatory Coordinator, Information Management
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