Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-07-18

Issued at: Palmer, Alaska September 27, 2018

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday, September 27, 2018

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2019 unless superseded by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the winter seasons for Tier I registration (RC561 and RC562) and drawing (DC485) Nelchina caribou state hunts within Game Management Unit 13. This emergency order does not affect any other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 13.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5AAC 85.025** (a) (8), **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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 bull every regulatory year by Tier I subsistence permit only; or	Aug. 10–Aug. 18 (Subsistence Hunt only)	No open season
1 bull every regulatory year by Tier I subsistence permit only; or	Sept. 1–Sept. 20 (Subsistence Hunt only)	No open season

. . .

1 bull every regulatory year by draw permit only; or

Aug. 20–Aug. 26

No open season

. . . .

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

Sam Cotten Commissioner

By delegation to:



JUSTIFICATION:

To maintain the population objective of 35,000–40,000 Nelchina caribou, harvest quotas are modified annually. The harvest quota for the Nelchina caribou herd for the 2018–2019 season is 1,400 bull caribou. The department believes that harvest of approximately 1,400 bull caribou from the state season and additional federal harvest can be taken sustainably while allowing for modest growth and providing for subsistence opportunity. The 2018–2019 quotas for RC561 (500 bulls), RC562 (500 bulls), and DC485 (250 bulls) were met during the fall hunting seasons. No additional harvest opportunity is available for these hunts during the winter season dates.

DISTRIBUTION:

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Regional Supervisors

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