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Winter Fortymile Caribou Bag Limit and Harvest Quota Announced

(Fairbanks) – The State of Alaska Fortymile Registration Hunt (RC867) will open as scheduled this winter on October 27, 2021 in all hunt zones, with the following changes:

The resident bag limit has been increased to two caribou (either sex) in all Zones to provide additional harvest opportunity and help achieve the harvest objective for 2021. Hunters must obtain two RC867 Registration Permits in order to harvest two caribou. Permits are available tomorrow, October 7th at http://hunt.alaska.gov or in person in Tok, Delta Junction, Eagle, Fairbanks, Palmer, Anchorage and Central. Successful hunters must bring a 4-inch section of the lower jaw, with front teeth of harvested caribou to an ADF&G office in Tok, Delta Junction, or Fairbanks.

If a hunter already harvested one caribou in the fall Fortymile caribou hunt or another hunt area in Alaska, a second caribou can be harvested under the RC867 hunt (excluding hunters and their households who hold permits for or have harvested caribou in the Nelchina caribou hunts RC561, RC562, or CC001). Hunters with questions about harvesting multiple caribou in Alaska can refer to the 2021–2022 State of Alaska Hunting regulations or contact the department for further clarification before heading to the field.

"Caribou are currently accessible in the western and central portions of the range," said Fortymile caribou manager, Jeff Gross. "With the larger harvest quota and two caribou bag limit this year we anticipate the season will stay open for most or all of the winter season. This should provide hunters with excellent harvest opportunity throughout the winter." The season is scheduled to be open through March 31.

The winter harvest quota is further subdivided into zones within the RC867 registration hunt area, each with its own quota. The winter 2021 combined quota for Zones 1 through 4 is 2,500 caribou. This winter's harvest quota is in addition to the reported fall harvest of 2,500 for an overall annual herd harvest quota of 5,000.

Zones and seasons may be closed to keep the harvest within the harvest quota. Hunters are advised to call the Fortymile Caribou Hotline at 907-267-2310 before departing for the field to obtain the most current information on status of the hunt including zone closures.

Successful hunters must report within three days of the kill on the internet at http://hunt.alaska.gov, or in person or by phone to the ADF&G office in Tok (883-2971). Hunters who report by phone must also mail their permit reports or drop them off to the Tok ADF&G office. Unsuccessful hunters must return their reports to the Tok office or report online by April 15. Permit holders who fail to report will not be allowed to obtain registration, drawing, or tier I and II permits next year, and may be cited for a violation of the Alaska hunting regulations.

Hunters are urged to obtain a receipt when they turn in their hunt reports or to mail them by delivery confirmation receipt. Permit holders who fail to report will not be eligible to receive any permits (Draw,

Targeted, Tier II, or Registration, including Tier I Nelchina caribou) during the next regulatory year, and may be cited.

These seasons and bag limits only apply to state caribou hunts in these areas. Hunters with questions about federal subsistence regulations should call (800) 478-1456.

Hunters should be aware of local ordinances and restrictions aimed at preventing the spread of COVID-19. Please respect any local restrictions, wear face coverings and practice social distancing when in communities in or near the hunt area. Hunters may want to call ahead to find out if local communities have supplies available for sale.

