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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Wednesday, October 31, 2018**

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### **Fortymile Caribou Season in Zone 4 (White Mountains) to Close**

Zone 4 of the State of Alaska's RC867 winter registration hunt for Fortymile caribou in the White Mountains area, north of the Steese Highway will close on Friday, November 2, 2018 at 11:59 pm and will not reopen this winter. Closure of Zone 4 is part of harvest management for Fortymile caribou and also limits harvest of the much smaller White Mountains caribou herd.

Zone 1 of this hunt closed on October 22 for the remainder of the winter season.

With over 700 caribou harvested in Zones 1 and 4 combined to date, no further harvest is warranted in these zones. The Fortymile Harvest Management Plan allows for a winter harvest of up to 850 caribou, and the remainder of the allowable winter harvest is assigned to Zones 2 and 3.

This year's annual (fall and winter hunts) Fortymile Herd harvest quota was set at 2,030 caribou. Fall harvest was 1,485 caribou in all zones combined.

The state hunting season is scheduled to remain open until March 31 in Zone 2 (a remote area) and Zone 3 (Taylor Highway area), unless closed by emergency order. The remaining quota for Zones 2 and 3 combined is 150 caribou.

Caribou are abundant in Zone 2 and widely scattered at low densities in portions of Zone 3.

Caribou movements are largely unpredictable, and seasons may be closed in other zones to keep the harvest within the harvest quota. Hunters are advised to phone the Fortymile Caribou Hotline at 907-267-2310 before departing for the field to obtain the most current information on status of the hunt.

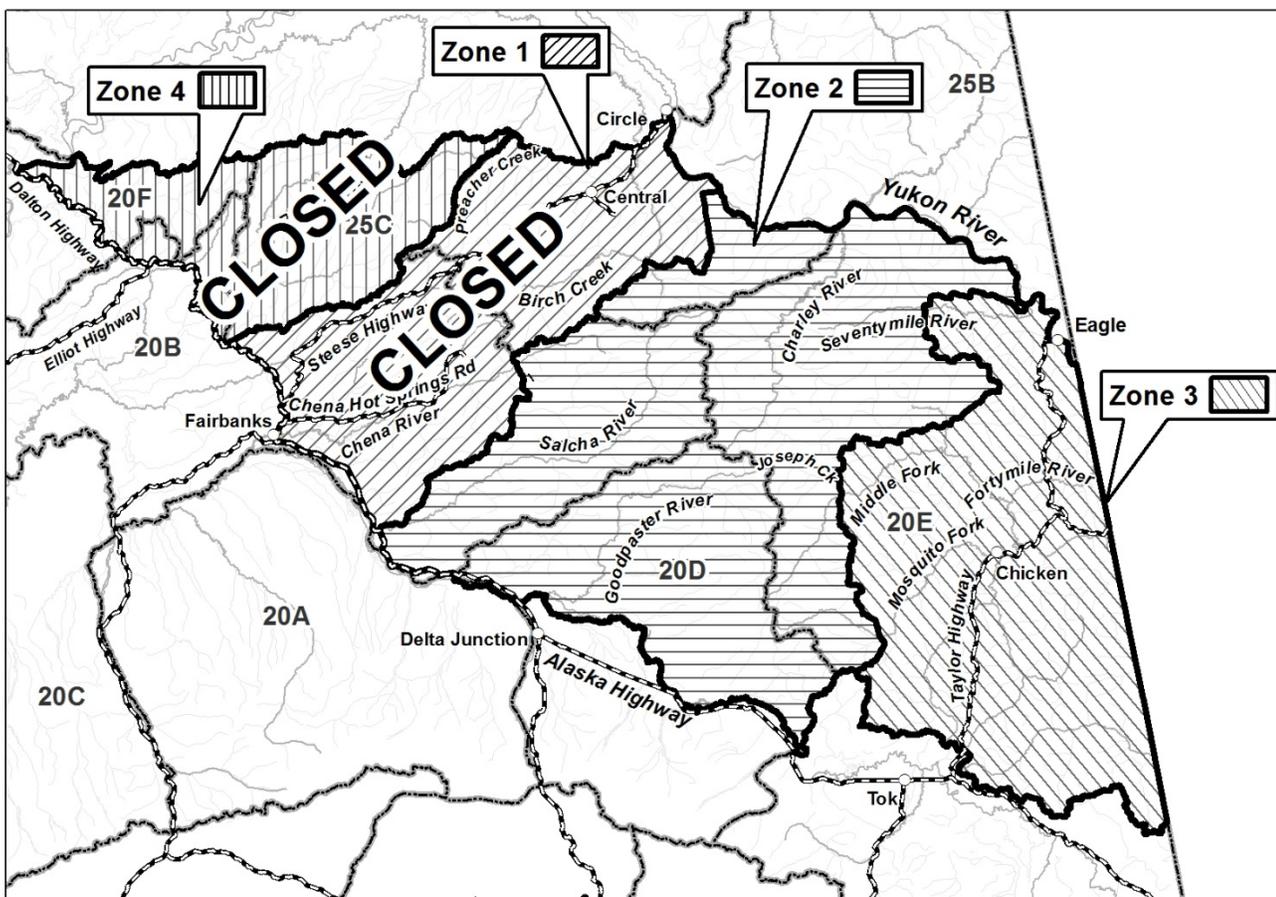
These changes only apply to state caribou hunts in these areas. The federal caribou hunt on federal lands is not affected by these changes. Hunters with questions about federal subsistence regulations should call (800) 478-1456.

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 at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> by October 15. The bag limit for this hunt is 1 caribou for all resident hunters. Nonresidents are not allowed to hunt during the winter Fortymile season.

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 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.

The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan (harvest plan) as a means of guiding harvest of the herd from 2012 through 2018. The harvest plan allocates all available Fortymile Herd harvest to a hunt area, divided into 4 Zones, south of the Yukon River in portions of Units 20B, 20D, 20F and all of Units 20E and 25C. Management is designed to allow the Fortymile Herd to continue to grow and expand within habitat limitations into its former range in Alaska and Yukon. At about 78,000 animals, the Fortymile Herd is the largest caribou herd in Interior Alaska.



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