

## **PROPOSAL 156**

### **5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limit for caribou.**

Change the nonresident caribou hunt in Unit 26B Remainder to a drawing hunt or registration hunt with a limited number of permits available as follows:

Change the nonresident caribou hunt in Unit 26B Remainder to draw only or registration with a limit to the amount of tags given out.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** While caribou hunting the Dalton Highway in Unit 26B the past few years, there has been a huge increase in the amount of hunters (primarily nonresident) being transported via airboat on the Sag and Echooka Rivers. It has gotten to the point where there is a camp placed every mile or so in some areas over vast stretches of river. While I have never used these services, I have routinely hiked out past the five mile corridor and have noticed the massive amount of boat and hunter traffic. I do believe that this sort of access to this area is having a negative impact on the caribou herd and the amazing remoteness of this area. While I believe that nonresident hunters should have an opportunity to hunt this area, I do believe that there should be a limit on the amount. If this is left unchecked, I am afraid this will lead to another ruined wilderness area and a dwindling caribou herd. While I understand limiting the amount of transporters transporting hunters will be difficult, I believe that limiting the amount of hunters in the area would help immensely.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kenneth Bowman

(EG-F23-188)

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