

PROPOSAL 38

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23 as follows:

5 AAC 85.025

Unit 23 caribou.

For all of Unit 23, close all caribou hunts to nonresidents, no open seasons are permitted.

Unit 23, that portion north of and including the Singoalik River:

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: No Open Season [1 BULL; AUG. 1-SEPT. 30]

Remainder of Unit 23:

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: No Open Season [1 BULL; AUG. 1-SEPT. 30]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Western Arctic caribou herd (WACH) population has been in decline for years and the low population level in 2022 is cause for concern. This proposal would close hunting of caribou in Unit 23 year-round to nonresident hunters to help with conservation and recovery of the herd, although still providing some opportunity for resident hunters.

The Northwest Arctic Council also submitted a proposal to reduce harvest limits for resident hunters.

PROPOSED BY: Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council (NWARAC) (HQ-F23-010)
