

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-04-11

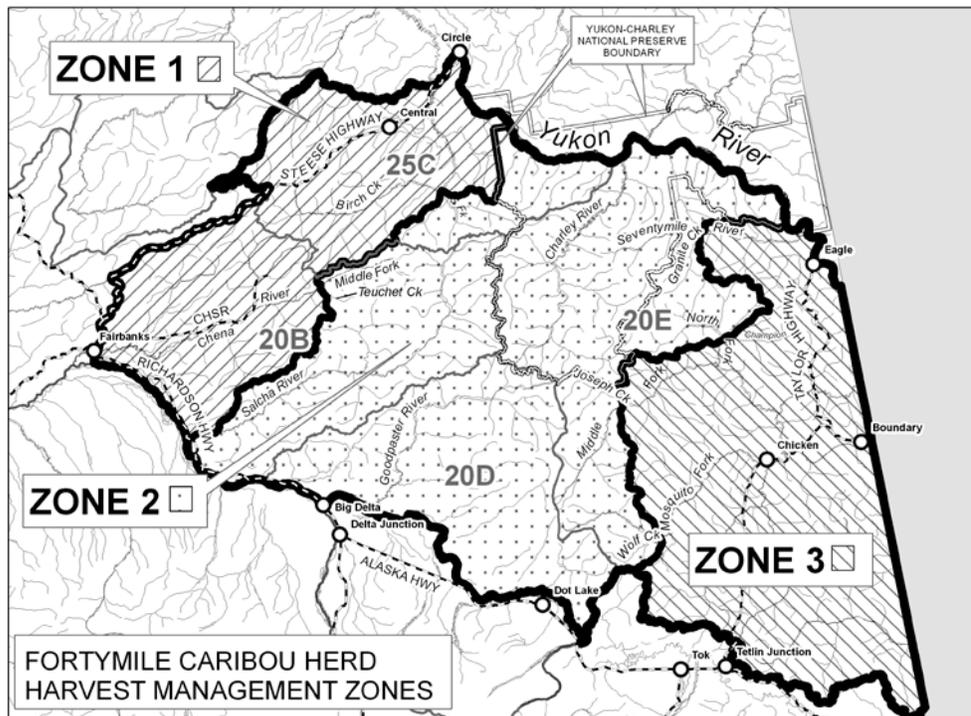
Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
February 8, 2011

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
February 10, 2011

Expiration Date: June 30, 2011
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens currently closed portions of state caribou registration hunts RC867 (Fortymile Caribou Herd) and RC879 (White Mountains Caribou Herd). State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 3 zones. This emergency order opens all of zone 1 in Game Management Units 20B and 25C during February 10-11. This order also opens that portion of the RC879 in the Chatanika drainage north of the Steese highway in Unit 20B during February 10-11. All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.



REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(15)		
...		
Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, except the Chatanika River drainage, the Middle Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and except the Salcha River drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Jan. 5–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29 Sept. 4– Sept. 20
Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway within the Chatanika River drainage,		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Feb. 10–Feb. 11 (General Hunt Only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 20
Unit 20(B), that portion within the Middle Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and the Salcha River drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 (General Hunt Only)	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20
Unit 20(B), that portion north and west of the Steese Highway within the Chatanika River drainage		
1 bull	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 Feb. 10–Feb. 11 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
...		
Unit 20(B) and Unit 20(F) those portions north and west of the Steese Highway, north and east of the Elliot Highway to its intersection with the Dalton Highway, then east of the Dalton Highway and south of the Yukon River, excluding the Chatanika River drainage		
1 caribou per regulatory year, only as follows:		

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull; or	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
1 caribou by registration permit only; up to 100 caribou may be taken	Dec. 1–Mar. 31 (General hunt only)	Dec. 1–Mar. 31
...		
(20)		
...		
Unit 25(C), those portions west of the east bank of the mainstem of Preacher Creek to its confluence with American Creek, then west of the east bank of American Creek		
1 caribou per regulatory year, only as follows:		
1 bull; or	Aug. 10–Sept. 20 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10–Sept. 20
1 caribou by registration permit only; up to 100 caribou may be taken	Dec. 1–Mar. 31 (General hunt only)	Dec. 1–Mar. 31
Unit 25(C), that portion draining into the South Fork of Birch Creek and the portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 25(C), those portions south and east of the mainstem of Birch Creek upstream to its confluence with Crooked Creek Fork, then south of the mainstem of Crooked Creek Fork, excluding that portion draining into the South Fork of Birch Creek and the portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve	Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Jan. 5–Feb. 11	Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		
Remainder of Unit 25(C)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou by registration permit only	Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 30 Feb. 10–Feb 11	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29 Sept. 4–Sept. 20
...		

All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan as a means of guiding harvest of the herd from 2006 through 2012. The annual harvest quota for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is allocated seasonally: 75% to the fall hunt and 25%, plus any surplus from the fall quota, to the winter hunt. This winter's harvest quota is 340 caribou. The winter quota is divided between the 2 road-accessible portions of the hunt area, the Steese Highway–Chena Hot Springs area in Units 20B and 25C (Zone 1) and the Taylor Highway area in Unit 20E (Zone 3). Sixty percent of the harvest quota is allocated to the road-accessible zone with the most caribou within reach of hunters immediately prior to the season opening. Zone 2, the roadless area between Zones 1 and 3, is included with the quota for the hunt area with the most caribou. The winter caribou season in Zone 1 did not open on December 1 as scheduled because large numbers of caribou were close to the Steese Highway, and the harvest quota of 205 would have been exceeded in a few hours. Caribou have now substantially dispersed away from the highway, but many still remain in the area. The purpose of this opening is to allow harvest while caribou are still available, but to have a short opening so the quota will likely not be exceeded. The department will consider another open hunting period in Zone 1 if the quota is not reached.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____


Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist