

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Ryan Scott, Director

Region III Headquarters, Fairbanks
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 15th, 2025

Fall Fortymile Caribou Season in Zones 1 and 4 Delayed

(Tok) – The State of Alaska fall registration hunt (RC860) for Fortymile caribou in Zone 1, accessible from the Steese Highway and Chena Hot Springs Road, and in Zone 4 (White Mountains) will not open as scheduled on August 20, 2025. A season opening may be announced at a later date in these zones.

Caribou are abundant near the Steese highway in Zones 1 and 4, and we expect the harvest quota to be exceeded in less than a day if opened as scheduled on August 20, 2025. As a conservation measure, the RC860 hunt in Zones 1 and 4 will only open if caribou numbers near the Steese highway decrease enough to avoid overharvest of the herd. The state caribou hunting season (RC860) opened on August 10, in Zone 2 and will open in Zone 3 on August 20, 2025 as scheduled.

The fall harvest quota is subdivided between 4 zones within the RC860 registration hunt area, each with its own quota. The 2025 overall fall quota is 395 bulls, with 175 allocated to Zones 1 and 4 combined, 100 for zone 2, and 120 for Zone 3.

Hunters are reminded to call the Fortymile Caribou Herd Hotline (907) 267-2310 for updates about the hunt quota and bag limit before departing for the field to learn of zone closures.

These seasons and bag limits only apply to state caribou hunts in these areas. Hunters with questions about federal subsistence regulations should call (800) 474-2200.

Successful hunters must report within three days of the kill online at (<http://hunt.alaska.gov>), by phone (907-883-2971), or in person at the ADF&G office in Tok. 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.

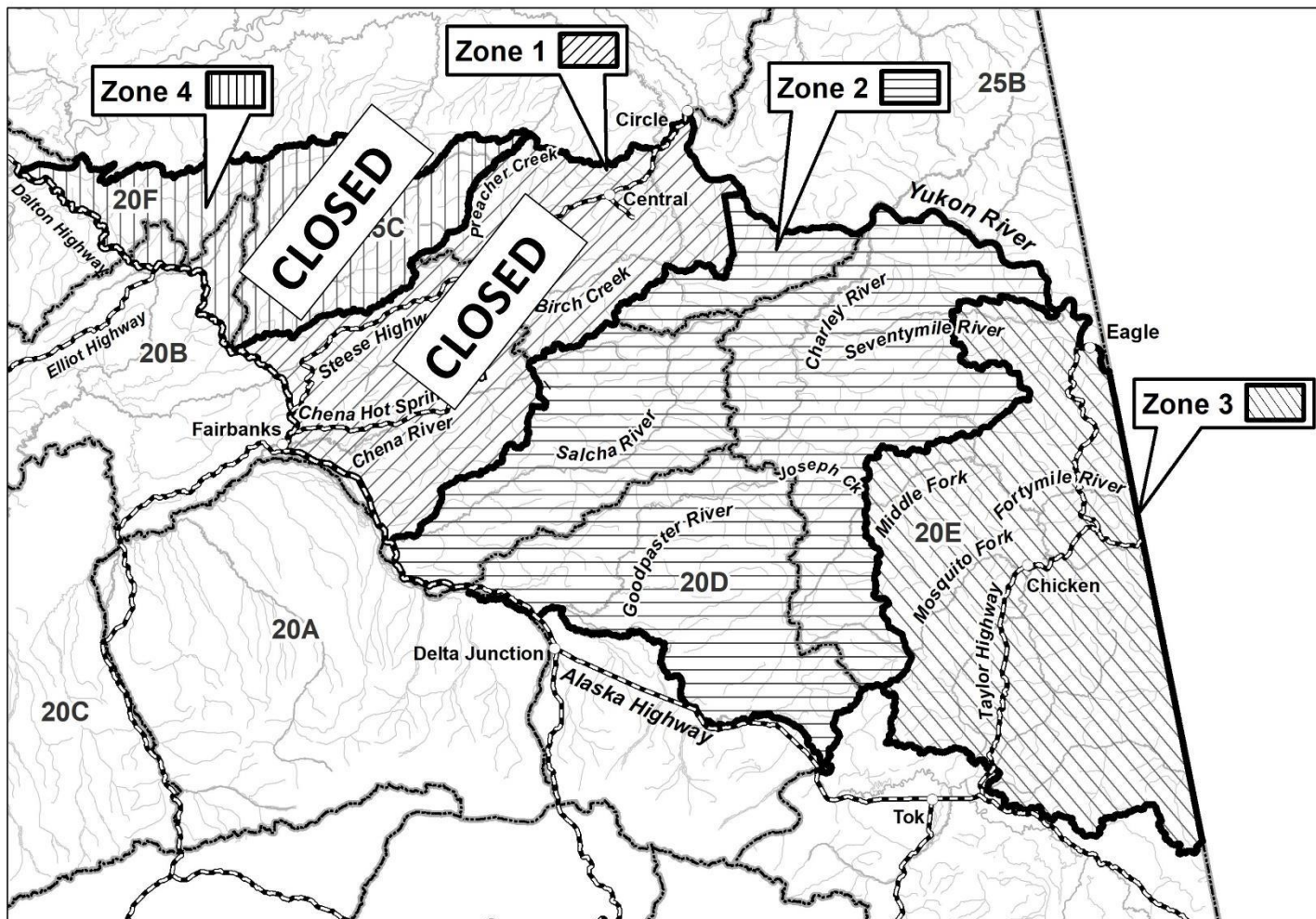
Hunters are urged to obtain a receipt when they turn in their hunt reports or to mail them by delivery confirmation receipt. Permit holders who fail to report will not be eligible to receive any permits (Draw, Targeted, Tier II, or Registration, including Tier I Nelchina caribou) during the next regulatory year, and may be cited.

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