Hunting and Trapping
Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R3-16-26

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
October 28, 2026

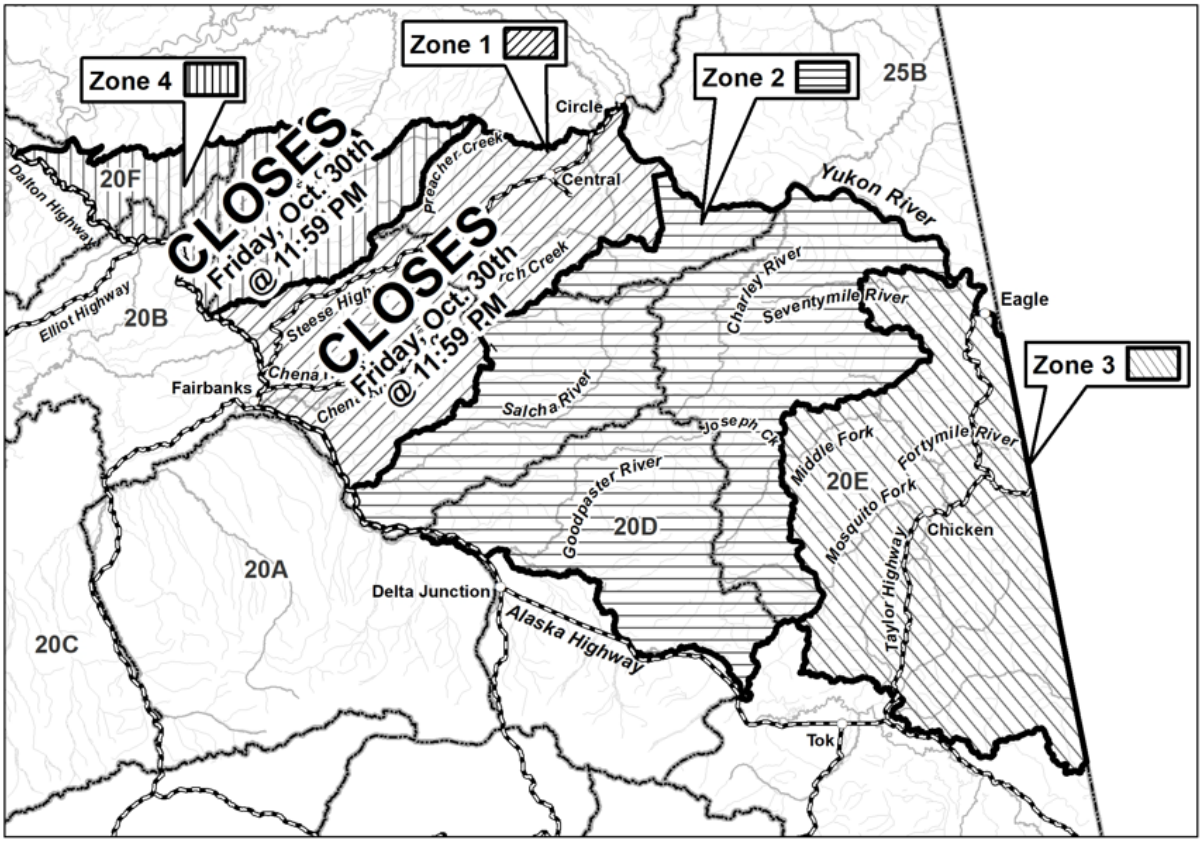
Effective Date: 11:59 P.M.
October 30, 2026

Expiration Date: June 30, 2027
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 4 zones. This emergency order closes the hunt in Zones 1 and 4 of the Fortymile Caribou hunt area, located in portions of Game Management Units 20B, 20F, and 25C.

No other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are 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the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou: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)		
…		
Units 20(B) and 20(F), those portions south of the Yukon River, and north and east of a line formed by the Richardson Highway from the Unit 20(D) boundary to its intersection with the Steese Highway, north along the Steese Highway to its intersection with the Elliot Highway, then northwest along the Elliot Highway to its intersection with the Dalton Highway, then north along the Dalton Highway to the Yukon River, except the Middle (East) Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and except the Salcha River drainage.		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 permits may be issued; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only; or	Aug. 20–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only; or	Oct. 27–Oct. 30	
…		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 20–Aug. 21
…		
(20)		
…		
Unit 25(C), excluding that portion within the drainage of the south fork of Birch Creek and excluding that portion within the Yukon–Charley Rivers National Preserve.		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only, or	Aug. 20–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only; or	Oct. 27–Oct. 30	
…		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 20–Aug. 21
...		

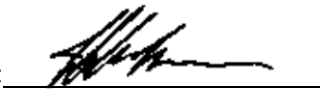
All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan as a means of guiding harvest of the herd. The annual harvest quota is allocated seasonally: 75% to the fall hunt and 25% to the winter hunt. The winter harvest quota is further subdivided into zones within the RC867 registration hunt area, each with its own quota. The winter 2026 combined quota for Zones 1 and 4 is 40 caribou.

Harvest success of Fortymile caribou in Zones 1 and 4, near the Steese Highway, has been steady during the first 2 days of the hunt. We expect the harvest quota to be met within the first 4-days of the hunt opening on October 27, 2026. As a conservation measure to avoid overharvest, the RC867 hunt in Zones 1 and 4 will close on October 30, 2026 at 11:59 PM. Zones 2 and 3 are unaffected but this Emergency Order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist