

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R4-3-26

Issued at: King Salmon, Alaska
September 4, 2026

Effective Date: 12:00 a.m.
December 1, 2026

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unless superseded by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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens the State of Alaska caribou hunting season for residents for the Northern Alaska Peninsula (NAP) caribou herd by registration permit (RC504) within that portion of Unit 9C within the Alagnak River drainage and that portion of Unit 9B south of the south shore of the Kvichak River, Iliamna Lake, Kakhonak River, Kakhonak Lake, Moose Lake, and south of the south bank of the inlet stream to Moose Lake to its source at the subunit boundary (Fig. 1).

The hunting season will open on December 1, 2026. The season will close on March 15, 2027 for that area in Unit 9C and on March 31, 2027 for that area within Unit 9B at 11:59 pm, or until closed by emergency order when the harvest quota is met. To participate, hunters must be Alaska residents, possess a valid Alaska state hunting license, and a state registration permit (RC504) available in person at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) office in King Salmon. Hunters must report harvest within 48 hours of killing a caribou. The bag limit is two caribou; hunters must obtain two RC504 permits in order to harvest two caribou. This emergency order does not affect any other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 9. The TC505 permit IS NOT VALID for this hunt area.

Federal lands restrictions are in place for Katmai National Park and Preserve. Visit <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/osm> for more information.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the regulations of **5AAC 85.025(a)(3), Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

**Resident
Open Season
(Subsistence**

Nonresident

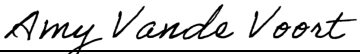
Units and Bag Limits	General Hunts)	Open Season
(3) ...		
Unit 9(A)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 caribou by registration permit	No open season.	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		No open season.
Unit 9(C) within the Alagnak River drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 caribou by registration permit	Dec. 1 – Mar. 15	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS		No open season.
Unit 9(B), south of the south shore of the Kvichak River, Iliamna Lake, Kakhonak River, Kakhonak Lake, Moose Lake, and south of the south bank of the inlet stream to Moose Lake to its source at the subunit boundary		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 caribou by registration permit	Dec. 1 – Mar. 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		No open season.
Unit 9(B), remainder		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 caribou by registration permit	No open season.	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		No open season.

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All other caribou regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Amy M. Vande Voort
King Salmon Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The RC504 registration caribou hunt in Game Management Units 9B and 9C will open on December 1, 2026. Historically, the NAP caribou herd wintered in this area. When the NAP retracted in population, this group of caribou remained in the area. Recent radio collar data has shown no interactions between these caribou and the East Mulchatna caribou herd that winters west and north of Iliamna Lake. Winter count and fall composition data from the previous three years has shown this group to be increasing with high bull-to-cow and calf-to-cow ratios. Limited harvest is recommended to reduce the likelihood of habitat degradation and subsequent population decline. Harvest quotas are set to prevent overharvest if there is high demand for the permits and will be set after the fall composition survey and announced by advisory announcement prior to the start of the season.

Registration permits will be available in person at the King Salmon ADF&G office starting November 17 and in person in Igiugig, Kokhanok, and Levelock on designated days. Successful hunters are required to report to King Salmon ADF&G office (907-246-3340) by phone, in person, or online (<http://hunt.alaska.gov>) **within 48 hours of killing a caribou**. All permit reports must be returned to ADF&G, regardless of success, within 15 days of the close of the season.

For questions or more information about caribou hunting opportunities in Unit 9, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in King Salmon at (907) 246-3340.

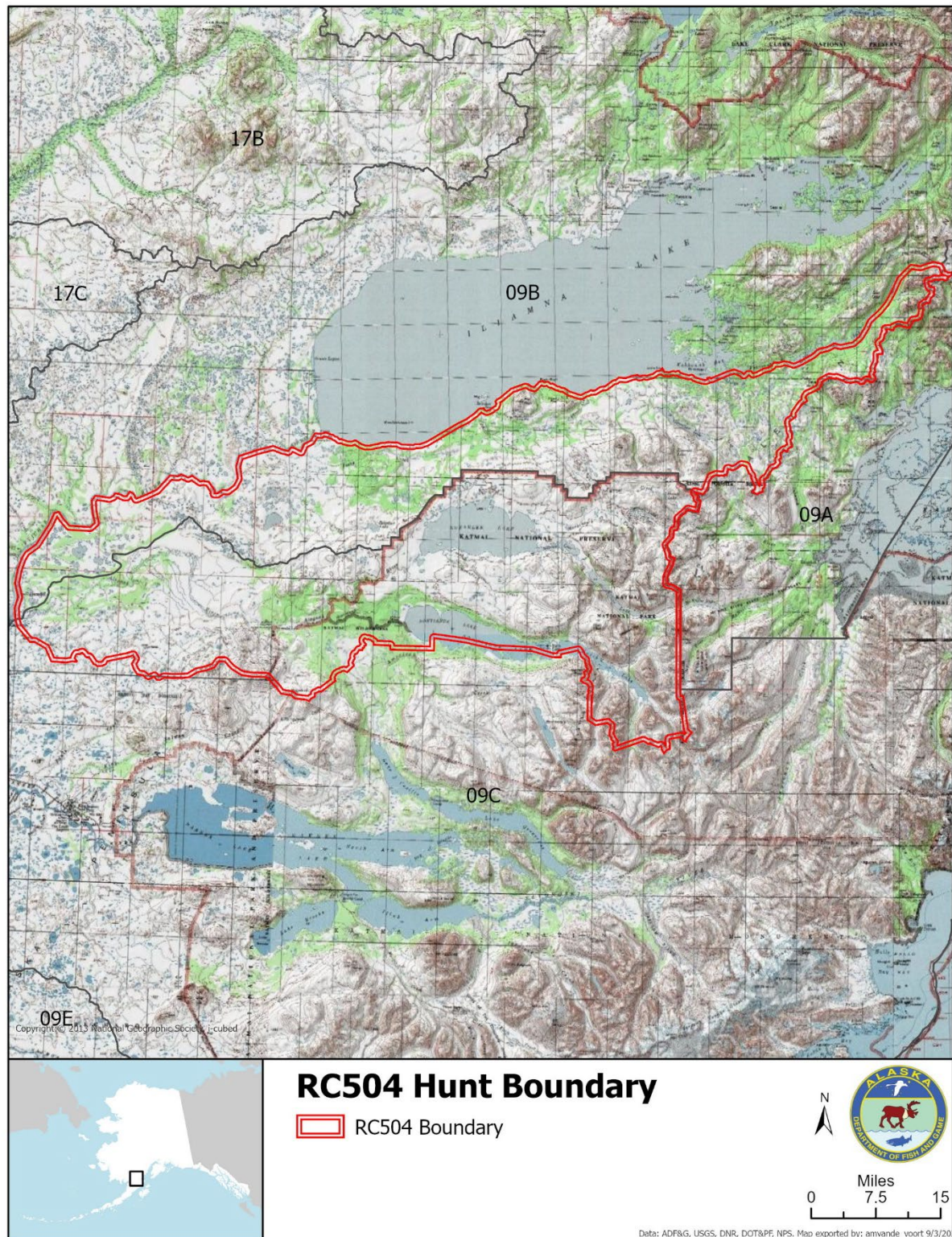


Figure 1. RC504 hunt boundary, that portion of Unit 9C within the Alagnak River drainage and that portion of Unit 9B south of the south shore of the Kvichak River, Iliamna Lake, Kakhonak River, Kakhonak Lake, Moose Lake and south of the south bank of the inlet stream to Moose Lake to its source at the subunit boundary.