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NEWS RELEASE

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Fortymile Caribou Season to Close on Steese Highway

The State of Alaska fall hunting season for Fortymile caribou in areas accessible from the Steese Highway in Zone 1 will close after 2 days of hunting at 11:59 p.m. Thursday night, September 4, 2014.

Caribou are abundant in Zone 1 and harvest during the first 2 days of the season will likely reach the quota of 225 bulls in that zone. Caribou are also abundant in Zone 2 (located in parts of Unit 20B, 20D north of the Tanana River, and western 20E) and widely scattered in Zones 3 (Taylor Highway area) and 4 (White Mountains).

State hunting seasons for Fortymile caribou opened on August 10 in Zones 2 and 4, and on September 3 in Zone 3. ADF&G staff will be monitoring the hunt carefully to minimize chances that the quota is exceeded in these zones.

Caribou movements during fall are largely unpredictable, and seasons may be closed in other zones to keep the harvest within the quota. Hunters are advised to phone the Fortymile Caribou Hotline at 907-267-2310 before departing for the field to obtain the most current information on status of the hunt.

The annual Fortymile quota is 1000, with 750 allocated to the fall hunt and 250 to the winter hunt. The fall quota of 750 is divided as follows: Zones 1 and 4 combined is 225, Zone 2 is 185 and Zone 3 is 340. The fall bag limit is 1 bull.

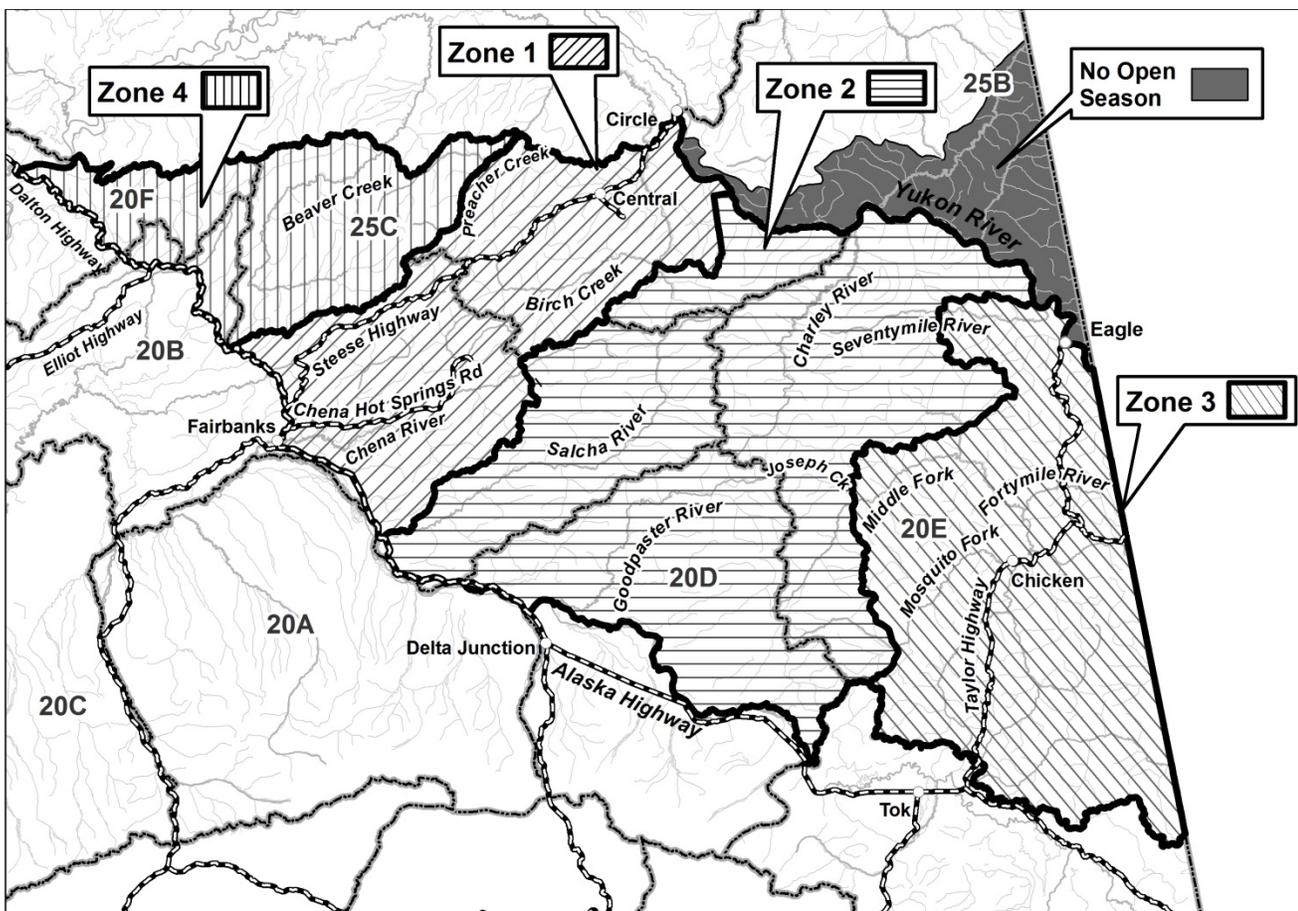
These changes only apply to state caribou hunts in these areas. The federal caribou hunt on federal lands is not affected by these changes. Hunters with questions about federal subsistence regulations should call (800) 478-1456.

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

registration, drawing, or tier I and II permits next year, and may be cited for a violation of the Alaska hunting regulations.

The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan (harvest plan) as a means of guiding harvest of the herd from 2012 through 2018. The harvest plan allocates all available Fortymile Herd harvest to a hunt area, divided into 4 Zones, south of the Yukon River in portions of Units 20B, 20D, 20F and 25C and all of Unit 20E. Management is designed to allow the Fortymile Herd to continue to grow and expand within habitat limitations into its former range in Alaska and Yukon. At about 50,000 animals, the Fortymile Herd is the largest caribou herd in Interior Alaska.



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