EXPLANATION:
State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 4 zones. This emergency order closes Zone 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Therefore, the following regulations in 5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units and Bag Limits</th>
<th>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</th>
<th>Nonresident Open Season</th>
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Unit 20(B), that portion within the Chatanika River drainage north and west of the Steese Highway, and that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, 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 bull, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or  Aug. 1—Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only, or  Aug. 12—Aug. 14
1 caribou by registration permit only; or  Oct. 21—Oct. 22

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or  Aug. 1—Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only  Aug. 12—Aug. 14

Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway within the Middle (East) Fork of the Chena River drainage upstream from and including the Teuchet Creek drainage and the Salcha River drainage.

RESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only, or  Aug. 12—August 31
1 caribou by registration permit only, or  Sept. 1—Sept. 30
1 caribou by registration permit only  Oct. 21—Mar. 31
Units and Bag Limits

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only

Units 20(B) and 20(F), those portions north and west of the Steese Highway, north and east of the Elliott 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.

RESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only, or 1 caribou by registration permit only

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only

…

(20)

…

Unit 25(C), that portion east of the east bank of the mainstem of Preacher Creek to its confluence with American Creek, then east of the east bank of American Creek, 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 bull, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or
1 bull by registration permit only, or 1 caribou by registration permit only; or

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or
Units and Bag Limits

1 bull by registration permit only

Unit 25(C), that portion 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.

RESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only, or Aug. 12–Aug. 31
1 caribou by registration permit only; Oct. 1–Nov. 2
or

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:
1 bull by registration permit only Aug. 12–Aug. 31

... 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 2012 through 2018. 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 among Zones 1 and 3, within the RC867 registration hunt area.

Harvest in Zone 4 is applied to the Zone 1 winter quota. Although the winter 2018 quota for Zone 1 was reached during the October 21–22 season, Zone 4 remained open to allow for additional opportunity for Fortymile and White Mountains caribou. However, harvest in this relatively remote zone continued at a higher-than-expected rate. To ensure harvest opportunity remains for Zone 3 (Taylor Highway area), no further winter harvest of caribou under the State of Alaska season is warranted in Zone 4 of the RC867 hunt area.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to: Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist
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