

CALVING IN RECENTLY BURNED HABITAT BY CARIBOU DISPLACED FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL CALVING AREA

James L Davis and Patrick Valkenburg  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks, Alaska

During the calving period in 1982, the Delta Caribou Herd's traditional calving area was 100% snow-covered. Calving occurred in an adjacent snow-free area that had been burned by wildfire in 1979. Adjacent treeless, snow-free, and unburned areas were available but not utilized. Calving success was good and was apparently unaffected by displacement from the traditional calving area. We infer from this and other observations that the Delta Caribou Herd is reasonably plastic in adapting to a wide range of "significant disturbances".



**34th Alaska  
Science  
Conference**

**ABSTRACTS**