

Proposal 138

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Amend the seasons dates of AC999 targeted to October 1- March 31 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

Amend the seasons dates of the AC999 targeted. The regulation would read “1 caribou by targeted permit only, during a season that may be announced by emergency order within a portion of the area during October 1 – March 31 (Season to be announced by emergency order).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Under current regulation, the Fortymile caribou targeted permit hunt, AC999 may only be implemented by emergency order between December 1 - March 31. This hunt is intended to provide Alaska resident opportunity if the use of the Fortymile caribou winter registration hunt, RC867, presents a risk of exceeding the quota. The AC999 hunt is an important management tool used to alleviate overharvest risk when large numbers of caribou are near roadways or when other management concerns arise, while still allowing hunting opportunities for residents in specific zones. Those conditions are not date-related and could occur at any time during the winter season. Aligning the allowable use period for AC999 with the beginning date of the RC867 winter hunt, October 27, would enable managers to authorize limited hunting opportunities during a larger time frame in the winter instead of issuing full closures.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?

This proposal was developed by the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Coalition, which includes representatives from Advisory Committees (Fortymile-Upper Tanana, Central, Fairbanks, Eagle, Delta, Anchorage, and Matanuska Valley) who represent hunters who have traditionally hunted the FCH. Development of the proposal also included consultation with state and federal agencies and other resource agencies. This proposal is part of an updated Fortymile Caribou Harvest Plan, which will be submitted to the Board.

PROPOSED BY: Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Management Coalition (OI-F26-197)
