

Proposal 31

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

Align the caribou hunting seasons in Unit 22 by extending the “May Be Announced” bag limit in Unit 22 as follows:

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

The new bag limit for RC800 “May Be Announced” seasons would reflect the current open season for caribou under RC800.

15 caribou total, by registration permit only, only one of which may be a cow; cow caribou may not be taken April 1 – June 30.

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

In consultation with Unit 22 ADFG biologists, the Reindeer Herders Association offers this administrative improvement to existing “May Be Announced” (MBA) season bag limits (22E Remainder, 22D Remainder, 22C, 22D, 22B West, and 22A Remainder). While the MBA regions currently exist to reflect the absence of caribou, the ongoing presence of privately-owned reindeer herds, and the prevention of reindeer theft, aligning the caribou open seasons in Unit 22 with the MBA seasons will improve ease of regulatory understanding for caribou hunters. It will also improve collaboration between ADFG, caribou hunters and reindeer herders, as prospective emergency orders requested by reindeer herders to open MBA seasons were caribou to enter the MBA regions will be most effective when unified with other caribou seasons.

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

Yes, the RHA Program Director worked with ADF&G Unit 22 Management Staff to develop this proposal. Discussions between ADF&G and RHA occurred at the 2025 Annual Meeting in Nome with the herders from across the Seward Peninsula, where this proposal was supported by members.

PROPOSED BY: Kawerak Reindeer Herders Association

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