

**Division of Wildlife Conservation**  
**Bruce Dale, Director**  
Region IV, Dillingham Area Office  
PO Box 1030  
Dillingham, AK 99576



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Sam Cotten, Commissioner**  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release: March 2, 2016*

### **CONTACT:**

**Neil Barten**  
**Dillingham Area Biologist**  
**Phone: (907) 842-1599**  
[neil.barten@alaska.gov](mailto:neil.barten@alaska.gov)



### **Registration Permit Caribou Hunt RC501 to Open in Portions of Units 17A and 17C**

(DILLINGHAM) – Registration hunt RC501 targeting caribou migrating off the Nushagak Peninsula will open in portions of Game Management Units 17A and 17C by emergency order on March 4, 2016.

The announcement today by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, provides hunting opportunity for the area north of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd's (NPCH) traditional range. Surveys indicate the herd has outgrown population objectives and is beginning to disperse out of the federal hunt area (FC1702).

A June 2015 photo census estimated the NPCH numbered about 1,400 caribou, far exceeding the optimal population size of 750. The RC501 hunt will offer hunters a chance to harvest caribou at a time when poor snow conditions prevent travel to the herd's traditional range.

The following regulations apply to this hunt:

- Hunters can harvest two caribou of any sex
- Hunters must have a separate permit for each caribou
- The season will close at midnight on March 31
- Hunters must abide by all conditions listed on the permit, including reporting their hunting effort and harvest

To participate, hunters must possess a valid Alaska state hunting license for the 2016 calendar year. Hunters are reminded that under a state permit they can only take two caribou per regulatory year in Unit 17 and between state and federal permits they may not exceed three caribou per regulatory year.

Open areas under the RC501 permit include:

- 17A, all drainages that terminate east of Right Hand Point.
- 17C, west of the east banks of the Wood River, Lake Aleknagik, Agulowak River, Lake Nerka, and the Agulupak River.

**Note:** This permit does not apply to that portion of 17A and 17C consisting of the Nushagak Peninsula south of the Igushik River, Tuklung River and Tuklung Hills west to Tvativak Bay (known locally as the federal caribou permit FC1702 hunt area).

Permits will be available online after 12:01 a.m. on March 3 at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> or in person at department offices in Anchorage, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Homer, King Salmon, Palmer, and Soldotna.

For specific information on lands open to caribou harvest in the RC501 hunt, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham at (907) 842-2334, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, at (907) 842-1063.

####