

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-02-21

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
February 24, 2021

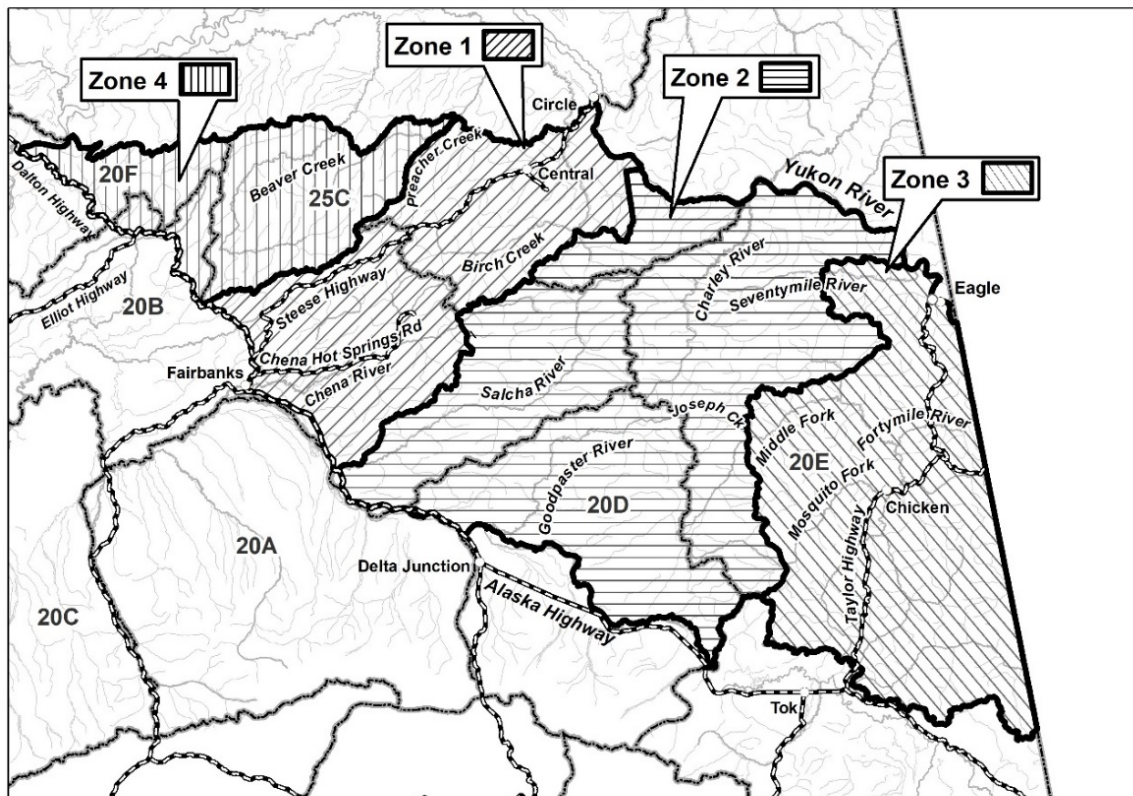
Effective Date: 12:01 A.M.
February 27, 2021

Expiration Date: June 30, 2021
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 4 zones. This emergency order increases the bag limit for the winter RC867 Registration Hunt from 2 to 3 caribou in all Zones of the Fortymile Caribou hunt area, located in portions of Game Management Units 20B, 20D, 20E, 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the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(15)		
...		
Units 20(B) and 20(F), those portions south of the Yukon River, and north and east of a line formed by the Richardson Highway from the Unit 20(D) boundary to its intersection with the Steese Highway, north along the Steese Highway to its intersection with the Elliot Highway, then northwest along the Elliot Highway to its intersection with the Dalton Highway, then north along the Dalton Highway to the Yukon River, 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 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or	Aug. 10–Aug. 28	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or;	Oct. 27–Feb. 26	
3 caribou by registration permit only;	Feb. 27–Mar. 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Aug. 28

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 20(B), that portion including 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 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or 2 caribou by registration permit only, or; 3 caribou by registration permit only;	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Oct. 27–Feb. 26 Feb. 27–Mar. 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 30
...		
Unit 20D that portion north of the south bank of the Tanana River		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or 2 caribou by registration permit only, or; 3 caribou by registration permit only;	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Oct. 27–Feb. 26 Feb. 27–Mar 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 30

Units and Bag Limits

Unit 20(E), that portion within the Charley River drainage, the Seventymile River drainage upstream from and including the Granite Creek drainage, the North Fork Fortymile River drainage upstream from, but not including the Champion Creek drainage, the Middle Fork Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Wolf Creek drainage, and the drainages flowing into the Yukon River downstream from the confluence of the Seventymile and Yukon Rivers.

**Resident
Open Season
(Subsistence and
General Hunts)**

**Nonresident
Open Season**

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or Aug. 1–Aug. 21

2 caribou by registration permit only, or Aug. 10–Sept. 30
2 caribou by registration permit only, or; Oct. 27–Feb. 26
3 caribou by registration permit only; Feb. 27–Mar. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or Aug. 1–Aug. 21

1 bull by registration permit only Aug. 10–Sept. 30

Remainder of Unit 20(E)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or Aug. 1–Aug. 21

2 caribou by registration permit only, or Aug. 10–Sept. 11
2 caribou by registration permit only, or; Oct. 27–Feb. 26
3 caribou by registration permit only; Feb. 27–Mar. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or Aug. 1–Aug. 21

1 bull by registration permit only Aug. 10–Sept. 11

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
...		
(20)		
...		
Unit 25(C), 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 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or 2 caribou by registration permit only, or; 3 caribou by registration permit only;	Aug. 10–Aug. 28 Oct. 27–Feb. 26 Feb. 27–Mar. 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Aug. 28
Unit 25(C), Remainder		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
2 caribou by registration permit only, or 2 caribou by registration permit only, or; 3 caribou by registration permit only;	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Oct. 27–Feb. 26 Feb. 27–Mar. 31	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 30
...		

All other caribou hunting regulations in Units 20 and 25 are not affected by this emergency order.

JUSTIFICATION:

Based on recent indices of poor nutritional condition and population modeling, the Fortymile caribou herd is continuing a rapid decline caused by overgrazing. This action will provide additional late-season hunter opportunity and puts more caribou in Alaskan's freezers. It will also help make further progress toward meeting the 2020–2021 harvest objective, decreasing the potential for additional long-term impacts to the habitat, this harvest strategy could help quickly reduce the herd to a size that will allow the nutritional condition of individual animals to improve.

The Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan guides harvest of the herd. 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 into zones within the RC867 registration hunt area, each with its own quota. The winter 2020 combined quota for Zones 1 through 4 is 5,000 caribou. Fortymile caribou are currently accessible in all Zones, and we expect adequate opportunity for hunters to harvest caribou in the RC867 hunt area.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution of this Emergency Order is to the following list. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game office in Fairbanks.

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 17. Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
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 19. Tanana Chiefs Conference
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