

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-03-22

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
July 12, 2022

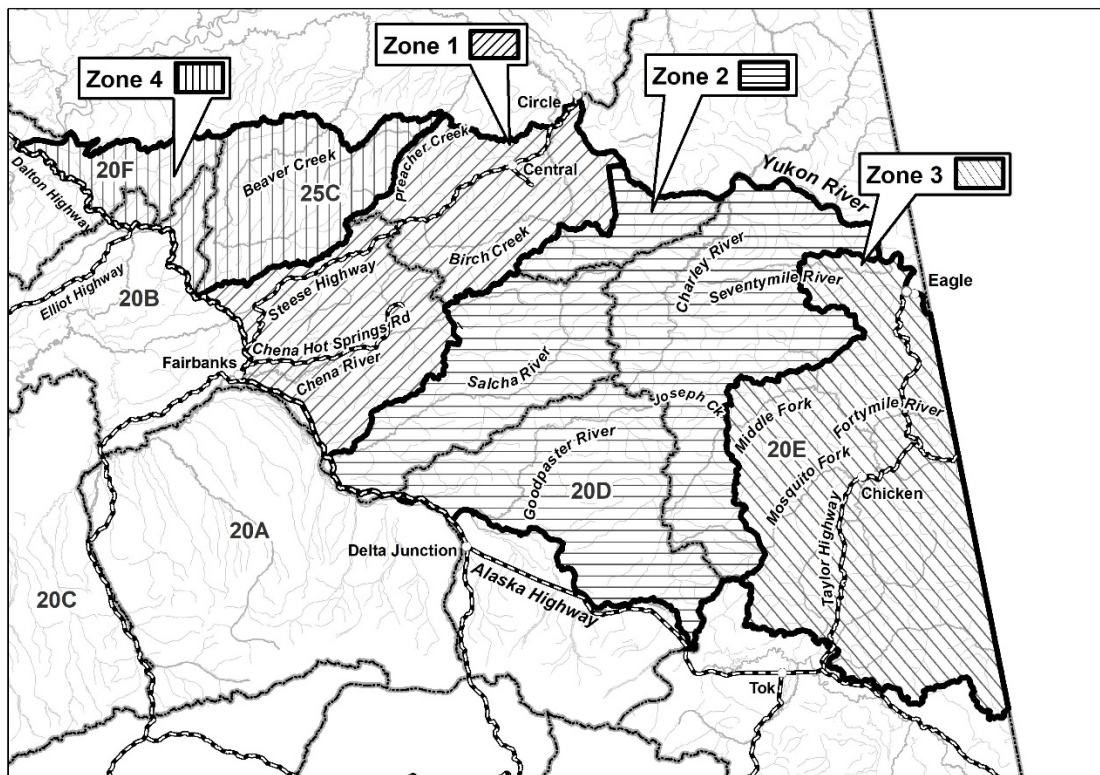
Effective Date: 11:59 P.M.
July 12, 2022

Expiration Date: June 30, 2023
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

For state registration permit hunt RC860 (fall Fortymile caribou herd hunt), this emergency order changes the bag limit for Alaska residents from 1 caribou to 1 bull in all 4 Zones of the RC860 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the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15) and (20), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou: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, and 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; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only,	Aug. 10–Sept. 30	
...		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 30
...		

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 20(E)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only,	Aug. 10–Sept. 30	
...		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or		Aug. 1–Aug. 21
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 30
...		
(20)		
...		
Unit 25(C)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; or	Aug. 1–Aug. 21	
1 bull by registration permit only,	Aug. 10–Sept. 30	
...		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 caribou, per lifetime of a hunter, by youth hunt drawing permit only; up to 30 total permits may be issued; 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:

Department staff continue to observe poor nutritional condition in the herd. Productivity continues to remain low and population models indicate that the Fortymile caribou herd is in a decline due to reduced nutritional status caused by overgrazing of its range. Increased quotas have been used during the previous 2 years to quickly reduce the Fortymile herd size to decrease the potential for additional long-term impacts to the habitat and to reduce the herd to a size that will allow the nutritional condition of individual animals to improve. While the herd appears to be approaching a more sustainable size, caribou are still exhibiting signs of nutritional stress. To ensure continued harvest opportunity a more conservative approach requires the department to change the 2022 fall harvest bag limit from one caribou to one bull, by emergency order. A fall quota will be established based on incoming information on herd abundance and will likely be smaller than those used in recent years.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist

DISTRIBUTION:

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- viii. Minto-Nenana
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- x. Upper Tanana-Fortymile
- xi. Yukon Flats
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14. Federal Office of Subsistence Management
15. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
16. Yukon-Charley National Preserve
17. Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
18. US Bureau of Land Management

- a. Anchorage
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- 19. Tanana Chiefs Conference
- 20. Ahtna
- 21. Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
- 22. Dot Lake Village Council
- 23. Northway Village Council
- 24. Tetlin IRA Council
- 25. Gold Country Services (Central)
- 26. Eagle Trading Post