

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 03-13-11

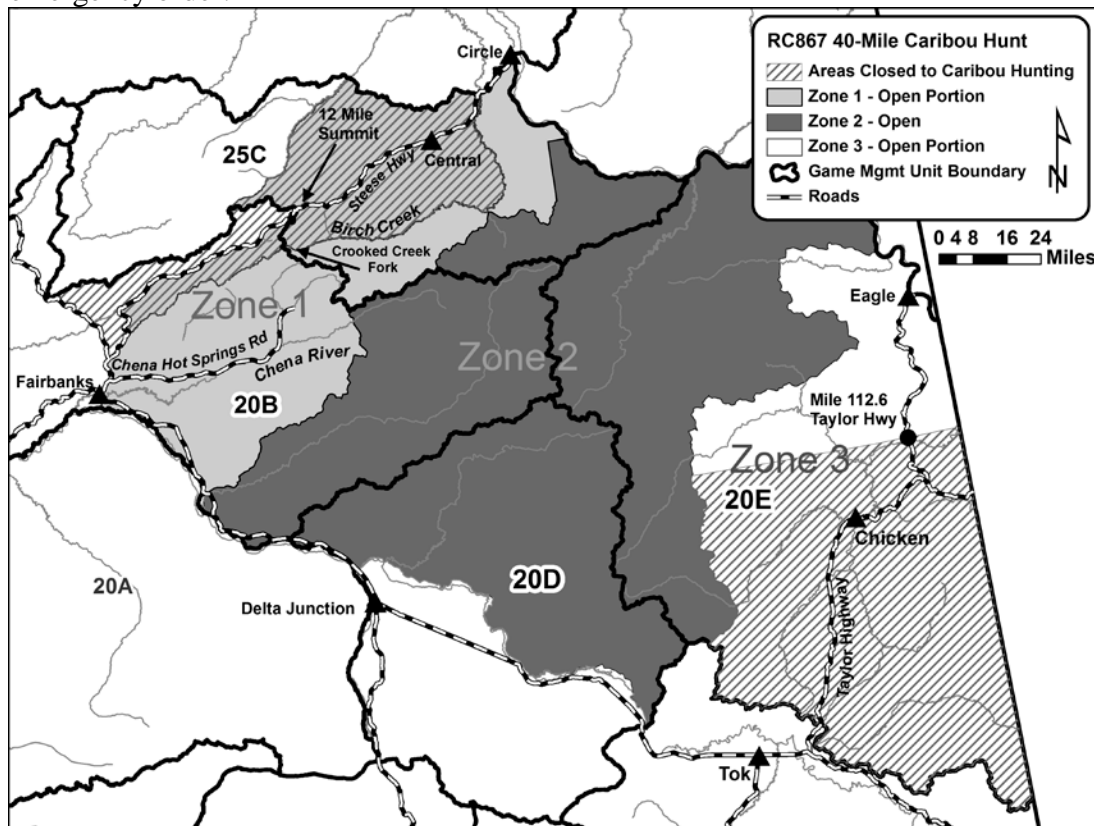
Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
November 29, 2011

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
December 1, 2011

Expiration Date: June 30, 2012
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes a portion of state caribou registration hunt RC867 (Fortymile Caribou Herd) in zone 3. State registration permit hunt RC867 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is divided into 3 zones. This emergency order closes the portion of zone 3 in Unit 20E south of the Fortymile River bridge at milepost 112.6 of the Taylor Highway ($64^{\circ} 18.535' \text{ N. lat.}$). All other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 20 are not affected by this emergency order.



REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(15), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou: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)		
...		
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 of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from, but not including the Champion Creek drainage, the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, all drainages flowing into the Yukon River downstream from the confluence of the Seventymile River and Yukon River and that portion within the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Wolf Creek drainage	Aug. 10–Sept. 30 Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only; 1 caribou by registration permit only		
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 10–Sept. 20
Unit 20(E), that portion south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 112.6 of the Taylor Highway (64° 18.535' N. latitude), except the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, and except the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Wolf Creek drainage		

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only	Aug. 29–Sept. 2	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
Remainder of Unit 20(E)		
RESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only; or	Aug. 29–Sept. 2	
1 caribou by registration permit only	Dec. 1–Feb. 28	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:		
1 bull by registration permit only		Aug. 29–Sept. 2
...		

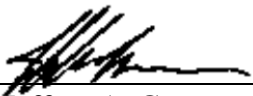
All other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 20 are not affected by this emergency order.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game endorsed the Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan as a means of guiding harvest of the herd from 2006 through 2012. The annual harvest quota for the Fortymile Caribou Herd is allocated seasonally: 75% to the fall hunt and 25%, plus any surplus from the fall quota, to the winter hunt. This winter's harvest quota is 250 caribou. The winter quota is divided between the 2 road-accessible portions of the hunt area, the Steese Highway–Chena Hot Springs area in Units 20B and 25C (zone 1) and the Taylor Highway area in Unit 20E (zone 3). Sixty percent of the harvest quota is allocated to the road-accessible zone with the most caribou within reach of hunters immediately prior to the season opening. Zone 2, the roadless area between zones 1 and 3, is included with the quota for the hunt area with the most caribou.

The portion of Zone 3 south of the Fortymile River bridge at milepost 112.6 (64° 18.535' N. latitude) is being closed because large numbers of Nelchina Herd caribou have moved into this area and are at risk of being harvested under registration permit RC867, which is intended for Fortymile Herd caribou. No harvest of Nelchina caribou is allocated to Unit 20E. Previously, emergency order 03-12-11 closed the area south of 60° N. lat., but the Nelchina Caribou continued to move north, necessitating the closure of areas south of the Fortymile River bridge. Southern zone 3 in Unit 20E will be reopened if the Nelchina Caribou Herd leaves the area.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Jeffrey A. Gross
Area Biologist

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