

Proposal 65 – Close fall hunting of Fortymile caribou within ¹/₄ mile of highways in Unit 20E and limit permits. <u>Submitted by:</u> Public

Effect of Proposal: Caribou hunting within ¼ mile of the Taylor Highway and Boundary Cutoff in Unit 20E would not be allowed during the fall (RC⁸⁶) and permits limited to address safety an forcement concerns.

ADF&G Recommendation: Neutral

FCH Harvest Management

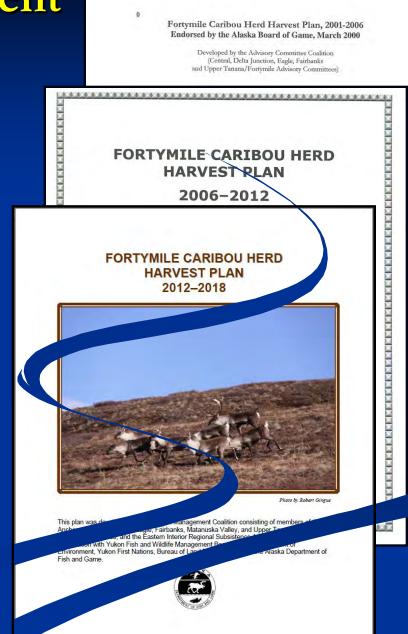
Public Harvest
 Management Planning
 Team (est. - 2001)
 International Membership
 (Harvest Management)

Coalition – HMC)

> Harvest Plans

» Recommendations Guide Fortymile Caribou Harvest Management

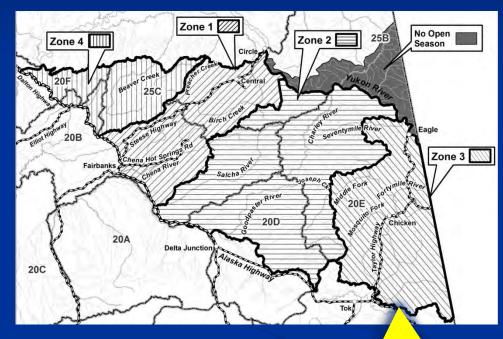
> BOG & FSB Endorsed



FCH Harvest Management

> Recommendations:

- > Harvest Rate (2-3%)
 - > Allow for Growth
- > Annual Quota (1,000 in 2016)
- > Allocated Spatially and Temporally
 - Fall and Winter Hunts
 - ≻4 Zones
- > Taylor Highway and Boundary Cutoff -Zone 3



Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Management

> Recommendations for road crossings

- > Delayed hunt openings
- > Targeted hunts
- > Temporary openings/closures in:
 - » "specific drainages" or "clearly defined areas"
- Department has used these crategic achieve desired harvest numbers

2012–2018 FCH Harvest Management Plan

Harvest Management Coalition recognized: "when large numbers of caribou are crossing major

roads, such as the Taylor or Steese Highways, special hunt management provisions are needed" ..."to minimize public safety concerns"

> However...no specific recommendations

Proposal 65: Slide 6

Issues identified by Proposal



Proposal 65: Slide 7

Issues identified by Proposal



Issues identified by Proposal



Corridor Options

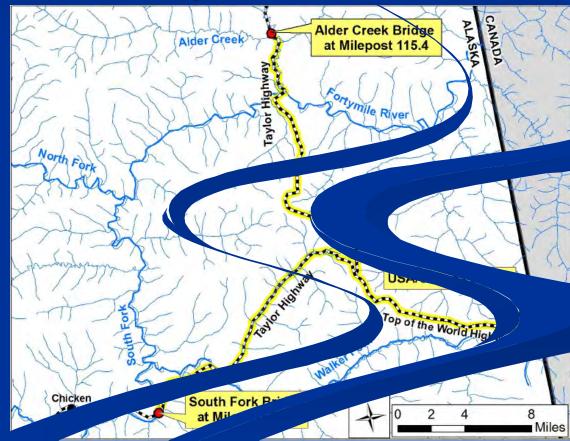
1. Along entire Taylor Highway and Boundary Cutoff Road



Corridor Options

2. From the South Fork Bridge (MP 75.5) to the Alder **Creek Bridge** (MP 115.4) and along the **Boundary Cutoff** (Top of the World Hwy)

Primary Area of Concern



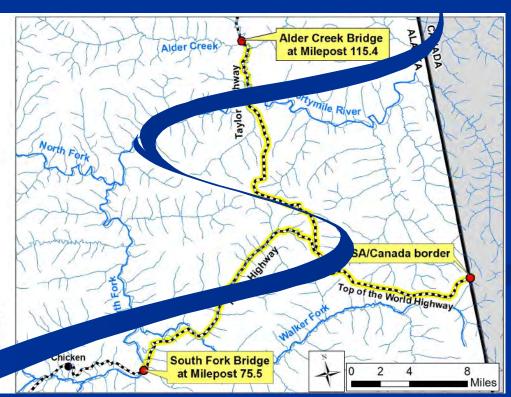
Fall 2017 Corridor

Discretionary Permit Authority

- 100 feet from road (30 steps)
 - **MP 75.5 to MP 115.4**
 - Boundary Cutoff (Top of World Hwy)

Taylor Highway/Top of the World Highway No-Hunt Corridor:

That portion of Unit 20E within a corridor extending 100 feet from each side of the road, including the drivable surface of the road, between mileposts 75.5 and 115.4 of the Taylor Highway, and along the entire length of the Top of the World Highway. This area is closed to the taking of caribou during the fall RC860 state Fortymile caribou season. This corridor applies to caribou hunting only and will be in effect during the state portion of the season.



Additional Issue from Proponent

- Issuing over 3,000 permits for this hunt is not manageable or sustainable
- Permits should be limited so managers and law enforcement can manage the hunt in a "safe and sustainable manner"
- No specific number of permits recommended

Fortymile Caribou Harvest Planning

- Current harvest plan expires June 2019
- > HMC met fall 2017 to begin developing revised harvest plan
- New plan in place for fall 2019 hunting season
- These issues have been shared with HMC as they develop the revised harvest management plan

Additional Board Considerations

Clarify that the area is only closed to the take of caribou, not all species

Consider whether implementing the restrictions in this proposal would to provide a reasonable opportunit,



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ADF&G Recommendation: Neutral

Update the Board of Game's policy for accepting Agenda Change Requests to make it more consistent with the Joint Board Petition Policy.

• Department: Neutral

• Department proposal

- Update the Board of Game's policy for accepting 5 AAC 92.005. Policy for changing board agenda.
- (a) The Board of Game (board) may change the board's schedule for considering proposed regulatory changes in response to an agenda change request, submitted on a form provided by the board, in accordance with the following guidelines:
- (1) an agenda change request must be to consider a proposed regulatory change outside the board's published schedule and must specify the change proposed and the reason the proposed change should be considered out of sequence. An agenda change request is not intended to address proposals that could have been submitted by the deadline scheduled for submitting proposals;

(2) the board will accept an ACR only

(A) [FOR A CONSERVATION PURPOSE OR REASON;] **repealed**;

(B) to correct an error in a regulation; [OR]

(C) to correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted; <u>or</u>

...

(2) the board will accept an ACR only

(D) if the request identifies a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population;

(E) if the request identifies an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional fish and wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f):or

(F) if the request identifies an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome to the petitioners because the resource would be unavailable in the future;

- (3) the board will not accept an agenda change request that is predominantly allocative in nature in the absence of new information that is found by the board to be compelling;
- (4) a request must be received by the executive director of the boards support section [AT LEAST 60 DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING] by November 1st of that year;
- (5) if one or more agenda change requests have been timely submitted, the board shall meet to review the requests within 30 days following the submittal deadline in subsection (4), and may meet telephonically for this purpose

(6) when considering an agenda change request, the board should take into consideration 5 AAC 96.625(d) and 5 AAC 96.625(e);

(7) if the board accepts an agenda change request, the board will develop and consider proposals for all agenda change requests for those specified regulations.

(b) The board may change the board's schedule for consideration of proposed regulatory changes as reasonably necessary for coordination of state regulatory actions with federal agencies, programs, or laws.

Update the Board of Game's policy for accepting Agenda Change Requests to make it more consistent with the Joint Board Petition Policy.

• Department: Neutral

• Department proposal

Review and update regulations to comply with statutory changes – HB137 in 2017

• Department: Support with Amendments

• Department proposal

5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education part 1 (a) Beginning August 1, 2002, a person born after January 1, 1986 that is

(1) required to have a hunting license must have successfully completed a certified hunter education course in order to hunt in Units 7, 13, 14, 15, and 20;

(2) not required to have a hunting license, and who has not successfully completed a certified hunter education course, must, in order to hunt in Units 7, 13, 14, 15, and 20, be under the direct immediate supervision of a licensed hunter who

(A) is <u>18</u> [16] years of age or older and has successfully completed a certified hunter education course; or
(B) was born on or before January 1, 1986

5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education part 2

(b) not withstanding (a) of this section, A resident hunter who is 10 through 17 years of age at the start of the hunt, and has successfully completed a certified hunter education course, is allowed to hunt on behalf of a permit holder who is at least **18** [16] years of age, under the direct immediate supervision of that permit holder, who is responsible for ensuring that all legal requirements are met.

5 AAC 92.012. Licenses and tags

(a) No hunting or trapping license is required of a resident under the age of <u>18</u> [16]. An appropriate license and big game tag are required of nonresidents, regardless of age, for hunting and trapping. No person <u>18</u> [16] years of age or older may take waterfowl unless that person has a current, validated, federal migratory bird hunting stamp or "duck stamp" in possession.

...

5 AAC 92.039. Permit for SDA wolves

(d) The department may apply any of the following conditions to a permit issued under this section:

(7) the department may require an applicant for a permit to possess minimum qualifications, including

(E) that the applicant is at least **<u>18</u>** [16] years old;

. . .

5 AAC 92.044. Bear baiting

(b) In addition to any condition that the department may require under 5 AAC 92.052, a permit issued under this section is subject to the following provisions:

(3) a person must be at least <u>**18**</u> [16] years of age to be issued a permit;

5 AAC 92.052. Discretionary authority

The department may apply any or all of the following additional conditions to a permit hunt, when necessary for management of the species hunted:

•••

(15) the permit applicant must hold a valid Alaska hunting license; however, this does not apply to a resident under the age of <u>18</u> [16]; an applicant's hunting license number must be entered on the permit application; a resident under the age of <u>18</u> [16] shall enter his or her age instead of a license number; . . .

5 AAC 92.072. CSH permit conditions

The group coordinator must...

(A) provide to the department the names of residents or members subscribing to the community harvest permit and the residents' or members' hunting license numbers, permanent hunting identification card numbers, or customer service identification numbers, or for those residents or members under <u>18</u> [16] years of age, the resident or member's birth date;

5 AAC 92.122. Unit 16 IM Plan

(vii) taking of bears by foot snaring by permit only from April 15 through October 15; permittees must be accompanied by another person, age **18** [16] or older, when conducting foot snaring activities in the field; foot snaring permits will be issued at the discretion of the department based on previous trapping experience, ability to help train other participants, and length of time available for participation in a snaring program; a selected foot snaring permittee must successfully complete a department-approved training program, must be a resident 18 [16] years of age or older, and report all animals taken by the permittee to the department within 48 hours of taking;

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit

(e) A hunter who is under 10 years of age may take big game only under the direct, immediate supervision of a licensed hunter who is at least **18** [16] years of age. The supervising hunter is responsible for ensuring that all legal requirements are met. The big game animal taken will count against the supervising hunter's bag limit. This section does not relieve an individual from complying with big game tag requirements, but does require a supervising hunter to validate the hunter's harvest ticket, or permit, in accordance with 5 AAC 92.010, immediately following the taking of big game under this section.

5 AAC 92.530(6). Skilak Loop Wildlife MA

(b) standard .22 caliber rimfire firearm and shotgun only, in that portion of the area west of ... during each Saturday and Sunday from November 1 through December 31 and the Friday following Thanksgiving day, by youth hunters 18 [16] years old or younger accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years old or older who has successfully completed a certified hunter education course if the youth has not successfully completed a certified hunter education course;

5 AAC 92.530(30). Hatcher Pass Youth Hunt MA

(B) from August 10 to August 25, the area is closed to small game hunting except that small game may be taken by a youth hunter <u>18</u> [16] years old or younger accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years old or older who has successfully completed a certified hunter education course if the youth hunter has not successfully completed a certified hunter education course.

5 AAC 92.011. Proxy hunting

(a) A resident hunter (the proxy) holding a valid resident hunting license may take specified game for another resident (the beneficiary) who is blind, physically <u>or developmentally</u> disabled, or 65 years of age or older, as authorized by AS 16.05.405 and this section.

Review and update regulations to comply with statutory changes – HB137 in 2017

• Department: Support with Amendments

• Department proposal

Allow the department to open seasons by emergency order when opportunities exist

• Department: Neutral

• Public proposal

Background

- Currently department opens hunts by emergency order (EO) under board approved management strategies (mountain goat, seasons TBA, etc.)
- No statute or regulation prohibiting this
- Careful not to allocate (board responsibility)
- If necessary review with board using ACR process or emergency regulation petitions

Allow the department to open seasons by emergency order when opportunities exist

• Department: Neutral

• Public proposal

Require all moose hunters participating in antler restricted hunts view educational video prior to hunting

• Department: Neutral

• Submitted by: Homer AC

Background

- Antler restrictions under selective harvest system began in 1970s on Alaska peninsula
- Expanded on Kenai Peninsula in 1987 (SF-50)
- Now occurs across many GMUs across all regions

Background

- Department supports additional education for all hunters
- Statewide application is difficult to deliver
- First year for mandatory education program on Kenai had limited success (Not significant)
- Proposal recommends hunters "watch a video on judging moose antlers" department recommends consistent regulatory language if adopted

Require all moose hunters participating in antler restricted hunts view educational video prior to hunting

• Department: Neutral

• Submitted by: Homer AC