

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Eddie Grasser, Director

Region III Headquarters, Fairbanks
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, July 12, 2022

CONTACT: Jeff Gross, Area Biologist,
907-883-2971, jeff.gross@alaska.gov

Fall Fortymile Caribou Bag Limit Changed to 1 Bull for Residents

(Tok, Alaska) – The bag limit for resident hunters hunting in the State of Alaska fall registration hunt (RC860) for Fortymile caribou, has been changed to 1 bull in all Zones (1–4). The hunt will open in all Zones (1-4) on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 12:01 a.m., as specified in 2022-2023 Alaska Hunting Regulations. Permits will be available beginning July 14 at 8 a.m. online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> and in person in Tok, Delta Junction, Eagle, Fairbanks, Central, Douglas, Anchorage, and Palmer. The nonresident bag limit remains one bull caribou.

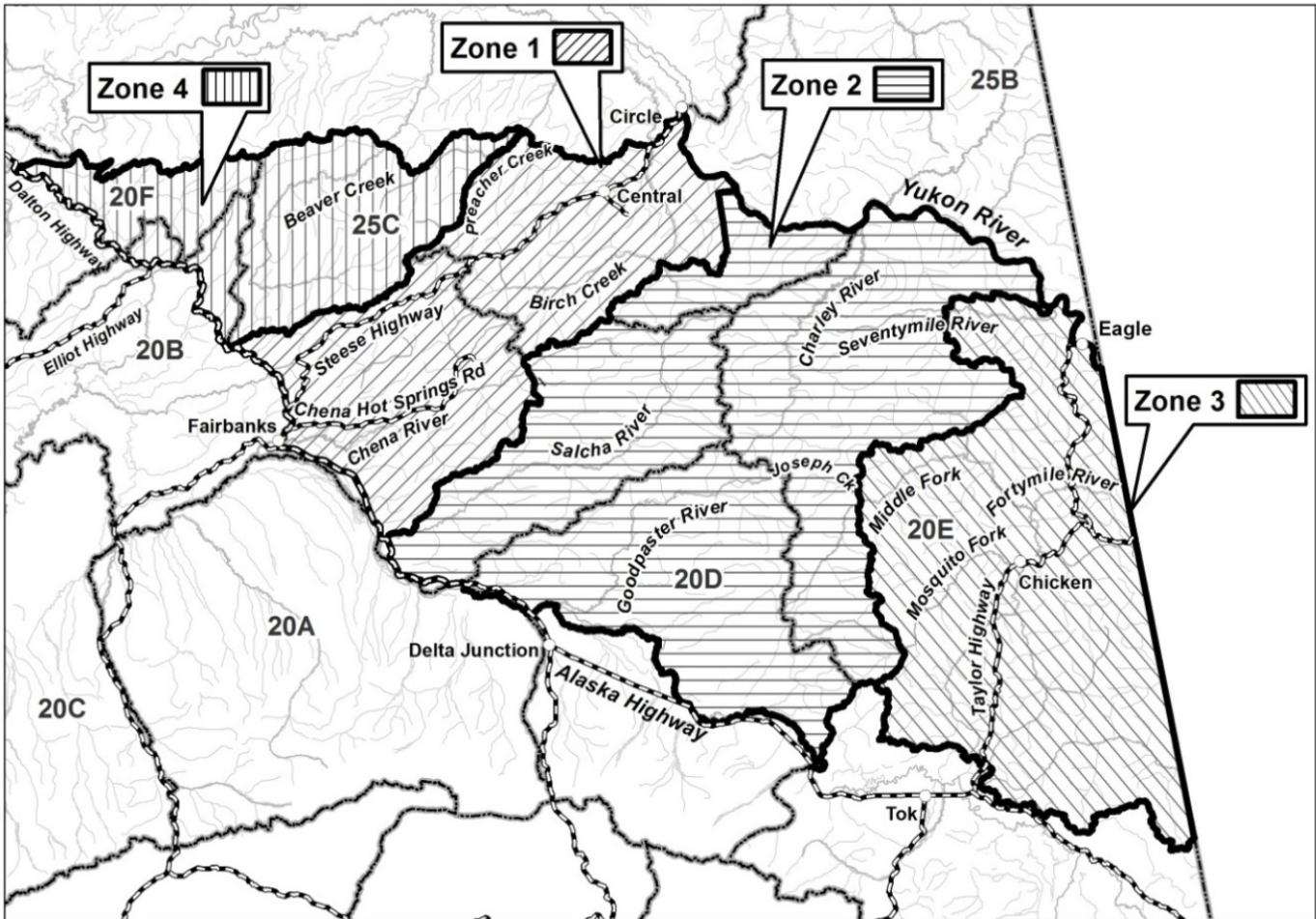
Department staff continue to observe poor nutritional condition in the herd. Productivity continues to remain low and population models indicate that the Fortymile caribou herd is in a decline due to reduced nutritional status caused by overgrazing of its range. Increased quotas have been used during 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 successful photocensus of the herd was completed in late-June and photos are currently being counted. Results of this photocensus will be used to set the final 2022-2023 Fortymile caribou hunt quota.

Hunters are reminded to call the Fortymile Caribou Herd Hotline (907) 267-2310 for updates about the hunt quota and bag limit before departing for the field to learn of zone closures.

These seasons and bag limits only apply to state caribou hunts in these areas. Hunters with questions about federal subsistence regulations should call (800) 478-1456.

Successful hunters must report within three days of the kill online at (<http://hunt.alaska.gov>), by phone (907-883-2971), or in person at the ADF&G office in Tok. Hunters who report by phone must also mail their permit reports or drop them off to the Tok ADF&G office. Unsuccessful hunters must return their reports to the Tok office or report online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> by October 15.

Hunters are urged to obtain a receipt when they turn in their hunt reports or to mail them by delivery confirmation receipt. Permit holders who fail to report will not be eligible to receive any permits (Draw, Targeted, Tier II, or Registration, including Tier I Nelchina caribou) during the next regulatory year, and may be cited.



###