

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 04-05-11

Issued at Glennallen, Alaska
September 14, 2011

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m.
September 15, 2011

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unless superseded by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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order changes the bag limit for state subsistence Nelchina Caribou hunts from either sex to bull only for the remainder of the season. The two hunts affected are the Copper Basin Community Subsistence Harvest caribou hunt (CC001) and the Tier I (RC566) hunt. This emergency order does not affect any other caribou hunting regulations applicable to GMU 13.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5AAC 85.025 (a) (8), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(8)		
Unit 13		
1 bull per harvest report per regulatory year by community harvest permit only, up to 300 caribou may be taken; or	Sept. 16 - Sept. 20 (Subsistence hunt only) Oct. 21 - Mar. 31 (Subsistence hunt only)	No open season

1 **bull** every
regulator year
by Tier I subsistence
permit only; or

Sept. 16 - Sept. 20
(Subsistence hunt only)

No open season.

Oct. 21 - Mar. 31
(Subsistence hunt only)

...

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Rebecca Schwanke
Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The harvest objective for the Nelchina caribou herd for the 2011-2012 season is 1,850 bulls and 550 cows. Harvest reports received to date indicate that 932 bulls and 519 cows have been harvested during the state Tier I, Community Subsistence Harvest, drawing, and Federal Subsistence hunting seasons. Additional harvests of caribou during the remainder of the federal subsistence season and those not yet reported from state hunts are expected to raise the total harvest of cows to the cow harvest objective for the year. The health of Nelchina Herd appears to be good, with exceptional calf productivity and survival this spring (63 calves / 100 cows). The preliminary summer population estimate this year of 40,915 is down from the 44,330 estimated in 2010. If the total harvest quota for 2011 is met, the herd is expected to return to the management objective of 35,000–40,000.

DISTRIBUTION:

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Glennallen, Palmer, Delta Junction, Tok, Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks.

1. The Honorable Lieutenant Governor
2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison), Anchorage
3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation:
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - Assistant Director
 - Regulations Coordination Team
 - Regional Supervisors
 - Area Wildlife Biologists: Regions II, III, IV
 - State-Federal Regulations Coordinator
 - Webmaster