

# Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

**Emergency Order No.** R3-7-26

**Issued at:** Fairbanks, Alaska  
May 05, 2026

**Effective Date:** 12:00 AM  
July 01, 2026

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2027  
unless superseded by subsequent  
emergency order

## EXPLANATION:

This emergency order changes the caribou bag limit for resident hunters in 26B Remainder from 5 caribou to 5 bulls.


## REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(a)(21), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are in effect for hunting caribou in Unit 26B Remainder:

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(21)		
...		
Unit 26(B), Remainder RESIDENT HUNTERS: 5 Bulls	July 1–Apr. 30	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 2 Bulls		Aug. 1–Sept. 15

All other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 26B remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:   
Jordan Pruzenski  
Wildlife Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Central Arctic caribou are managed with a population objective of 28,000 to 32,000 caribou. The 2025 population estimate was 26,600 caribou, a decline from the 2022 population estimate of 35,000 caribou. Eliminating cow caribou from the bag limit is necessary for conservation of the herd and to promote growth until the herd reaches population objectives. High bull:cow ratios support liberalized opportunity to harvest bull caribou.