

## Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Land Management National Park Service Bureau of Indian Affairs

**For Immediate Release:** May 11, 2020 **Contact:** Chris McKee (907) 786-3572 or (800) 478-1456 paul\_mckee@fws.gov

## Public hearing announced for Temporary Wildlife Special Action Request WSA20-04 regarding the Mulchatna Caribou Herd

A telephonic public hearing is scheduled for 6:00–8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, to receive public testimony on a temporary special action request submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board (Board).

Temporary Special Action Request WSA20-04, submitted by Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, requests that the Board delegate authority to the Federal in-season manager to open and close seasons, announce harvest limits, and set sex restrictions for caribou in all or portions of Units 9A, 9B, 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, and 19B for the 2020-2022 regulatory cycle.

The summer 2019 population estimate of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd (MCH) was approximately 13,500, which is half of the estimated herd size from the previous five years and well below the State's minimum population objective of 30,000 caribou. Federal and State caribou seasons within the range of MCH closed early on December 31, 2019 and January 31, 2020, respectively because of conservation concerns.

The public is encouraged to participate in this hearing by calling the telephone number below. When prompted, enter the passcode. Comments will be forwarded to the Board for consideration on this temporary special action request.

Public hearing information:

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. Teleconference: Toll Free: (888) 566-1030 Passcode: 3344290

The Board is committed to providing access to this public meeting for all participants. Please direct requests for accommodation needs to the Office of Subsistence Management at (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888 or by e-mail <u>subsistence@fws.gov</u> at least seven business days prior to the meeting.

Information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence</u> or by visiting <u>www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska</u>.

**Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues?** If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing <u>fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov</u>.

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