

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

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

Due For Immediate Release: April 15, 2021 **Contact:** Robbin La Vine Acting Policy Coordinator (907) 786-3353 or (800) 478-1456 robbin_lavine@fws.gov

Public comment opportunity announced for Temporary Wildlife Special Action Request WSA21-01 (Units 23 and 26A caribou and moose)

Due to a high level of public interest in a temporary special action request submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board, there will be an opportunity to submit written comments on this request during a five-day comment period (April 16-20, 2021), in addition to an already-scheduled public hearing.

Temporary Special Action Request WSA21-01, submitted by the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, asks to close Federal public lands in Units 23 and 26A to harvest of caribou and moose by non-Federally qualified users from August 1 through September 30, 2021. This request, if approved by the Board, would add the following language to the current Federal regulations for caribou and moose in Units 23 and 26A:

"Federal public lands are closed to the harvest of caribou and moose from August 1 through September 30, 2021, except by Federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations."

Written public comments may be submitted between April 16 and April 20, 2021, on this temporary special action request. Comments may be sent to: <u>subsistence@fws.gov</u>. Written comments emailed to this address will be provided to the Board for consideration.

In addition to this five-day public comment period, public comments will be taken at a public hearing (previously announced) on April 23. Information on the hearing is as follows:

Public Hearing Information:

Friday, April 23, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (or until the end of public participation) Teleconference: Toll Free: (877) 918-3011 Passcode: 8147177

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>.

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