



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
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Forest Service

Federal Subsistence Board Meeting Announcement

For Immediate Release:
July 6, 2016

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Public Meetings Announced for Temporary Special Action Request from the State of Alaska in Unit 23 to Allow Caribou Hunting by All Users

Public meetings are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., July 19, 2016, at the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers in Kotzebue; 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm, July 20, 2016, at the Aurora Inn Conference Room in Nome, and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., July 25, 2016, at the Inupiat Heritage Center in Barrow to discuss a Temporary Special Action Request received by the Federal Subsistence Board (Board). Temporary Special Action Request WSA16-03, submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, seeks to open Federal public lands to all users in Unit 23 for caribou hunting.

The Western Arctic Caribou Herd, a vital subsistence resource, has declined over 50% since 2003. The Board closed the hunt of caribou in Unit 23 to non-Federally qualified hunters for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 to allow for the continuation of subsistence uses by Federally qualified subsistence users and for conservation of a healthy caribou population as mandated by Section 815 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

The public may attend the meeting in person or by teleconference. Public comments will be accepted by Federal staff, summarized, and provided to the Board for consideration. These meetings will provide the only opportunity for public comment on this special action.

Detailed public meeting information is provided below:

Kotzebue

3:00-6:00 p.m.; July 19, 2016
Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers
163 Lagoon Street, Kotzebue, Alaska
Teleconference: TOLL FREE (877) 638-8165
Passcode: 9060609

Nome

3:00-6:00 p.m.; July 20, 2016
Aurora Inn Conference Room
302 Front Street, Nome, Alaska
Teleconference: TOLL FREE (866) 820-9854
Passcode: 4801802

Barrow

7:00-9:00 p.m.; July 25, 2016
Inupiat Heritage Center
5421 North Star Street, Barrow, Alaska
Teleconference: TOLL FREE (866) 864-5314
Passcode: 3091862

The Federal Subsistence Board is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to the Office of Subsistence Management by calling (800) 478-1456, by emailing subsistence@fws.gov, or (800)-877-8339 (TTY), at least seven business days prior to the meeting.

Additional information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at www.doi.gov/subsistence or by visiting www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska.

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 fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov.

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