

CARIBOU!

Caribou are crossing the Slana-Tok Highway between Chistochina and Slana, reports the Department of Fish and Game.

The heaviest crossings are six to ten miles north of Chistochina, according to reconnaissance flights.

The caribou have remained inaccessible to the road hunter throughout the winter, and only 5,500 animals have been taken from the herd. This is only one-third that desired to maintain a healthy and productive herd, the Department reports.

The present crossing represents the beginning of spring migration, which should pick up in intensity during the remainder of this month and the next as the animals move west to calving areas in the Talkeetna Mountains.

The caribou season will close at midnight on March 31.