

# Re: The Neolithic/Mesolithic Boundary(4) Climatic Instability Gives way to Stability

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  - *Date:* Wed, 06 Sep 2006 17:49:56 -0800
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"Peter Alaca" <P.Alaca@xxxxxx> wrote:

prd wrote:

This means that they are not concentrated in one single site suitable for year round hunting.

Do you know anything about Reindeer/Caribou and their hunters?

I know alot about reindeer. Did you know what the major difference between Reindeer and Caribou is?

Yes.

From reading through this thread, I got the opinion that neither of you probably do actually know what the difference is...

I was in a small aircraft (a Cessna 207) about 50 miles southeast of Nome some 20 years ago when the pilot explained to me the *\*exact\** difference between a reindeer and a caribou. That is an important point to know in that area because there is the Western Arctic Caribou here, with more than 400,000 animals, and then there are several privately owned reindeer herds too.

Hence if you are flying along like that and spot a few animals, you have to look around them to determine which it is.

If there are no people within sight (camps, snowmachine, whatever) and if there is a place to land the airplane (snow if it has skis, water if has floats, gravel bar if it has wheels, etc. etc)... then the animals are *\*clearly\** caribou.

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If you can't land or if somebody is watching, they are reindeer.

That of course is not true here on the North Slope of Alaska.  
(They are \*all\* caribou!!!)

Whatever, it would be entertaining no doubt to hear what either  
or both of you think the difference between reindeer and caribou  
are.

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