

# Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 01-02-15

Issued at Sitka, Alaska  
29 July, 2015

**Effective Date:** 31 July, 2015

**Expiration Date:** 30 June 2016  
(unless superseded by subsequent  
emergency order)

**EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the following portions of hunt area RG150; (1) that portion including Blue Lake, Glacier Lake drainages, (2) that portion including Medvejie Lake, Bear Lake, Indigo Lake drainages, and drainages into the east side of Silver Bay between Bear Cove and Mani point, and (3) that portion of the south Katlian River drainage including all drainages into the south side of Katlian Bay, including the drainage south of the south bank of the Katlian River, and that portion south of the south bank of the main stem stream draining into and out of Hogan Lake on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, July 31, 2015.

**REGULATION:**

Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

| Units and Bag Limits | Resident<br>Open Season<br>(Subsistence and<br>General Hunts | Nonresident<br>Open Season |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|

(1)

...

Unit 4, that portion including Blue Lake and Glacier Lake drainages, (2) that portion including Medvejie Lake, Bear Lake, and Indigo Lake drainages, and drainages into the east side of Silver Bay between Bear Cove and Mani point, and (3) that portion of the south Katlian River drainage including

No open season  
(General hunt only)

No open season

all drainages into the south side of Katlian Bay, including the drainage south of the south bank of the Katlian River; and that portion south of the south bank of the main stem stream draining into and out of Hogan Lake on Baranof Island.

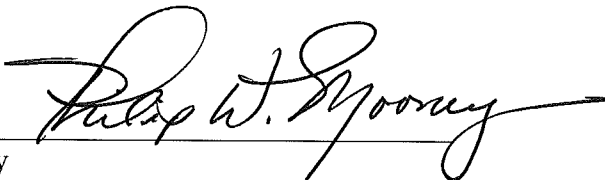
1 goat by registration permit only; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited.

...

All other mountain goat hunting regulations in Unit 4 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

---

Sam Cotten  
Commissioner

By delegation to:   
Philip W. Mooney  
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Based on aerial survey data during 2006-2015, biologists have documented a continued mountain goat population decline in the geographical areas defined in this emergency order. A series of severe winters and high harvest of female goats by hunters have lowered the productivity of this goat population. Nearly 66% of the Unit 4 goat population occurs on the northern half of Baranof Island, and a core area within it (approximately 25% of that area) historically produced more than 60% of the goat harvest. Localized harvest intensity, especially on female goats, led to the biological concerns being considered.

Biologists have documented an increasing age structure of harvested female goats over time, which suggests that younger females are not as available as in the past. These concerns are further exacerbated with recent research data from collared goats near Sitka that reveals high fidelity by goats to small home ranges. This can compromise a depleted mountain goat populations' ability to rebound quickly. A combination of factors has led biologists to believe closing the goat season in the area described above is necessary to prevent further harvest and to allow this goat population to recover.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution of this emergency order is to the attached listing. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game offices in Juneau, Douglas, Petersburg, Ketchikan, Wrangell, Sitka, Yakutat, Haines, Anchorage, Nome and Fairbanks.

Lieutenant Governor's Office  
Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)  
Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game  
Division of Wildlife Conservation  
    Director  
    Deputy Director  
    Assistant Director  
    Regional Supervisors  
    Regulation Coordination Team  
    Area Biologists (Statewide)  
    Fairbanks public desk—Cathie Harms  
    Anchorage information officer—Cynthia Gardner  
    Douglas public desk—Timothy Miles  
    Regulatory Coordinator, IM, Anchorage  
    Deborah Spencer HQ, Juneau  
    Webmaster HQ, Juneau  
    Stephanie Latzel, Yakutat  
    Faith Lorentz, Haines  
    Kim Fisher, Wrangell  
Division of Boards  
    Director  
    Board of Game  
Division of Subsistence  
    Southeast Regional Supervisor  
Fish and Game Advisory Committee Chairpersons  
    Icy Straits  
    Juneau-Douglas  
    Upper Lynn Canal  
    Sitka  
Department of Public Safety, Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection  
    Director  
    A Detachment Commander, Juneau  
    Hoonah Field Office  
    Haines Field Office  
    Sitka Field Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
    Regional Director, Anchorage  
Juneau Empire  
Sitka Sentinel  
Chilkat Valley News (Haines)

KCAW Radio, Sitka  
KTOO Radio, Juneau  
KINY Radio, Juneau  
KJNO Radio, Juneau  
KHNS Radio, Haines  
Air Excursion: Haines, Juneau  
Wings of Alaska: Haines, Juneau, Skagway  
Skagway Air: Haines, Juneau, Skagway  
Air Sitka, Sitka  
Harris Air: Sitka  
Municipalities of:     Hoonah  
                              Gustavus  
                              Juneau  
                              Skagway  
                              Haines  
                              Pelican  
                              Elfin Cove  
                              Tenakee Springs  
                              Angoon  
                              Sitka  
                              Port Alexander  
                              Kake  
                              Petersburg  
                              Wrangell  
                              Craig  
                              Ketchikan  
USDA-FS Tongass NF –Ranger Districts:  
                              Hoonah  
                              Juneau  
                              Sitka  
Admiralty National Monument, Juneau  
Sealaska Native Corporation  
Huna Totem Indian Association  
Sitka Tribe of Alaska