

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R1-21-23

Issued at Sitka, Alaska
20 December, 2023

Effective Date: 23 December, 2023

Expiration Date: 30 June, 2024
(unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the Upper Blue Lake hunt zone of RG150 on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, Saturday, December 23, 2023.

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Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

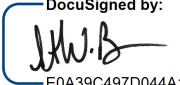
Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts	Nonresident Open Season
...		
Unit 4, Upper Blue Lake - Drainages of north fork Blue Lake Creek, east of the Glacier Lake outflow, east of south fork Blue Lake Creek and north of Baranof Pass (west side Mt. Bassie).	Aug 1 – Dec 23 (General hunt only)	Aug 1 – Dec 23

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

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

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:  12/20/2023
Stephen Bethune
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Hunt managers set a harvest quota of 3 males or 1 female for the Upper Blue Lake hunt zone of mountain goat hunt RG150 on Baranof Island. Quotas are based on the most recent aerial surveys. In 2011, hunt managers devised the strategy of closing hunt zones when one female goat was harvested. This “one and done” strategy has been very effective in reducing female harvest. Keeping hunters focused on avoiding female harvest maintains opportunities for more hunters to participate, especially in hunt zones that have good access.

To date, one male and one female goat have been harvested in the Upper Blue Lake hunt zone of RG150. The quota has been met and no further harvest is warranted. Therefore, this zone is being closed by emergency order.

For more information about mountain goat hunting opportunities on Baranof Island including, other emergency orders, maps, zone quotas, FAQ’s, and other information, contact the Sitka area office at (907) 747-5449.