

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 01-01-18

Issued at Sitka, Alaska
20 July, 2018

Effective Date: 31 July, 2018

Expiration Date: 30 June 2019
(unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the following hunt zones of RG150; (1) Indian River, (2) Indigo Lake, (3) Lake Irina, (4) Lucky Chance, (5) Necker Bay, (6) North Kelp, (7) Rosenberg Lake, (8) Slaughter Ridge (Lisa Creek), (9) South Baranof and (10) The Pyramids, on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, July 31, 2018.

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Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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, Indian River - Drainages of Sitka Sound between Katlian River and Sawmill Creek, north of Sawmill Creek, south of south fork Katlian River and west of Clarence Creek, including Indian River, Granite Creek, Starrigavan Creek, and the Mt. Verstovia/Arrowhead ridge.	No open season (General hunt only)	No open season
Indigo Lake - Drainages north of Vodopad River and Green Lake downstream of the		

creek originating from Peak 4130, east of Silver Bay and southeast of Medvejie Creek/Lake to Baranof Pass, including Indigo Lake and Cupola (Cross) Peak.

Lake Irina – Drainages south of Redoubt Lake, north of West Crawfish Inlet and west of their respective inlet streams, but excluding the Kliuchef Peninsula.

Lucky Chance - Drainages east of the Redoubt Lake Trail, north of Redoubt Lake Creek; and south of Green Lake and the Vodopad River, including Lucky Chance Mountain.

Necker Bay – The peninsulas west of Small Arm Whale Bay/Creek, west of Benzeman Lake and southeast of Crawfish Inlet, but excluding Aspid Cape.

North Kelp Bay - Drainages east of Lake Eva Creek and north of Middle Arm Kelp Bay/Creek downstream of Lake Eva Creek pass.

Rosenberg Lake – North fork Nakwasina River drainages upstream of the Peak 3098 Creek confluence, south of the north fork Nakwasina River downstream of the Peak 3098 Creek confluence, and Rosenberg Lake/Creek drainages.

Slaughter Ridge (Lisa Creek) – Drainages north of Katlian Bay, west of Coxe River, east of Nakwasina Sound and south of Nakwasina River downstream of Cold Storage Lake pass, but excluding the Lisianski Peninsula.

South Baranof - Drainages south of Gut Bay and the east branch of Great Arm Whale Bay and their respective inlet streams; and north of the divide between Larch Bay and Port Conclusion.

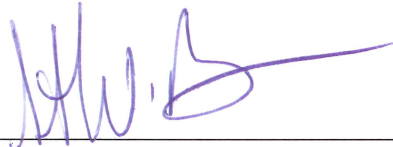
The Pyramids – Drainages north of Redoubt Lake, west of Redoubt Lake Trail and south of Silver Bay, including Deep Inlet and Eureka Mtn.

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.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner



By delegation to: _____

Stephen Bethune

Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Data from collared goats near Sitka documented that goats have high fidelity to small home ranges and are slow to recolonize vacant habitat. That finding combined with high localized harvest in more accessible areas lead managers to develop an updated management strategy for mountain goats on Baranof Island beginning with the 2017 season. Baranof Island was divided into 34 small hunt zones. Dividing Baranof Island into more zones allows biologists to manage at the subpopulation level, affording hunters more opportunities and reducing the possibility of localized overharvest. Under the previous management strategy, quotas were based on larger geographical areas, which sometimes included several subpopulations. The quota for a large zone could be reached after several goats were taken from a single access point. That resulted in the large area being closed while additional harvest opportunity remained in more remote portions of that larger zone. This new strategy of subdividing large zones is providing more opportunity for hunters by allowing more remote zones to stay open after zones with easier access close.

Based on aerial surveys during 2016 and 2017, biologists documented mountain goat population levels in each of the hunt zones and assigned corresponding quotas. Zones closed by this emergency order did not have high enough population levels for a sustainable harvest. Any harvest in these zones could have long term negative impacts on the health of these subpopulations. The department will attempt to survey these areas again in September to determine if goat populations have increased to harvestable levels and could be re-opened by emergency order in-season. Quotas in open zones could also be adjusted according to in-season surveys.

For more information on the Baranof Island mountain goat hunt strategy that began with the 2017 season, visit the Unit 4 FAQ's page at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/hunting/goathunting/pdfs/unit_4_rg150_mountain_goat_hunt_faqs.pdf

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.

1. Lieutenant Governor's Office
2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)
3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - Assistant Director
 - Regional Supervisors
 - Management Coordination Team
 - Area Biologists (Statewide)
 - Regulatory Coordinator
 - Webmaster HQ, Juneau
 - Region 1 Area Offices
5. Division of Boards
 - Executive Director
 - Board of Game members
6. Division of Subsistence
 - Director
7. Advisory Committee Chair (Sitka)
8. Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers
 - Director
 - Detachment Commander, Juneau
 - Field offices: Hoonah, Sitka
9. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Regional Director, Anchorage
10. Media Contacts: Juneau Empire, Capitol City Weekly, Sitka Sentinel, KCAW Radio, KIFW
11. Flight Service: Harris Air (Sitka)
12. Municipalities of: Angoon, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Hoonah, Pelican, Port Alexander, Sitka, Tenakee Springs
13. Other Agencies:
 - USDA-FS Tongass NF – Ranger Districts: Hoonah, Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka
 - Admiralty National Monument, Juneau
 - Huna Totem Indian Association
 - Sitka Tribe of Alaska
 - Sealaska Native Corporation