# **HUNTING-TRAPPING**

## **Emergency Order**

### **ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

#### Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-06-15

Issued at Douglas, Alaska September 28, 2015

Effective Date: September 29, 2015

Expiration Date: 30 June 2016 (unless superseded by a subsequent emergency order)

#### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the state of Alaska resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season for that portion of unit 5(A) bounded on the east by the west shore of Harlequin Lake and the Yakutat Glacier, on the west by Russell Fjord, and on the north by Nunatak Fjord (including the East Nunatak Glacier). This order takes effect at 11:59 pm, Tuesday, September 29, 2015.

#### **REGULATORY TEXT:**

Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR GOAT, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting mountain goats in Unit 5(A):

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
No Open Season (General hunt only	No Open Season
other than those previously clos	ed by emergency

Commissioner

By delegation to:

Septrami K Sell

Stephanie Sell Area Management Biologist

#### JUSTIFICATION:

Aerial surveys conducted during 2006-2011 in this area indicate a significant decline in goat numbers. The following are survey results by year: 2006 (122 goats), 2007 (66 goats), 2008 (57 goats), 2009 (48 goats), 2010 (6 & 12 goats, respectively), and 2011 a total of 58 goats observed (50 adults and 8 kids) between Harlequin Lake and the Hubbard Glacier. The consistently low number of goats detected suggests the areas' goat population remains depressed. Through 2009-2014 the department closed this area by EO prior to the season due to conservation concerns, and believes it is necessary to again close the season in 2015 prior to any harvest. Any harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative impacts on the health and hinder recovery of this population. The department will attempt to survey this area every other year to determine when the goat population has increased to a harvestable level.

#### **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.

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