# Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order Alaska Depart

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 02-13-15

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. November 13, 2015 Issued at Kodiak, Alaska November 12, 2015

Expiration Date: June 30, 2016 unless superseded by subsequent emergency order

## **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order closes registration elk hunt RE755 in Game Management Unit 8 at 11:59 p.m., November 13, 2015. This emergency order does not affect elk drawing permit hunt regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 8 (Raspberry Island).

## **<u>REGULATION</u>**:

Therefore, the provisions of **5** AAC **85.035** (a) (2), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Elk, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

	Resident	
	<b>Open Season</b>	
	(Subsistence and	Nonresident
Units and Bag Limits	<b>General Hunts</b>	<b>Open Season</b>

(2)

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Unit 8, Southwest Afognak, that portion of Afognak Island and adjacent islands south and west of a line from the head of Back Bay (58° 05.3' N. lat., 152° 45.7' W. long.) to Hatchery Peak (58° 07.2' N. lat., 152° 47.5' W. long.), to the head of Malina Bay (58° 09.3' N. lat., 152° 51.0' W. long.)

1 elk by drawing permit only; up to 500 permits may be issued	Sept. 25—Oct. 22 (General Hunt Only)	Sept. 25—Oct. 22
1 elk by registration permit only	Oct. 23—Nov. 13 (General Hunt Only)	Oct. 23—Nov. 13
Unit 8, Eastern Afognak, that portion of Afognak Island east of the main north-south logging road (1100 road) from the Danger Bay logging camp at 58° 08.2' N. lat.,152° 32.9' W. long., north to its terminus at Discoverer Bay at 58° 19.6' N. lat., 152° 21.8' W. long., and adjacent islands west of Marmot Strait.		
1 elk by drawing permit only; up to 500		
permits may be issued	Sept. 25—Oct. 22 (General Hunt Only)	Sept. 25—Oct. 22
1 elk by registration permit only	Oct. 23—Nov. 13 (General Hunt Only)	Oct. 23—Nov. 13
Remainder of Unit 8		
1 elk by drawing permit only; up to 500		
permits may be issued	Sept. 25—Oct. 22 (General Hunt Only)	Sept. 25—Oct. 22
1 elk by registration permit only	Oct. 23—Nov. 13 (General Hunt Only)	Oct. 23—Nov. 13

Sam Cotten Commissioner

by delegation to:

Nathan Svoboda Kodiak Area Biologist

#### **JUSTIFICATION:**

This emergency order closes elk hunting season for registration permit hunt RE755 on Afognak Island. Afognak Island elk are managed using established harvest guidelines for individual herds and a 10 percent harvest objective for the overall elk population. As of November 12, 2015, hunters had reported taking 76 animals in the registration hunt area. With hunters currently in the field and elk increasingly vulnerable due to recent snowfall, biologists anticipate the harvest target will be reached prior to this closure taking effect; additional harvest would be excessive and could impede herd productivity and growth. Only the Seal Bay herd had not reached its harvest objective of 12 animals; however, leaving this area open after the rest of the registration hunt area is closed increases the likelihood that this herd, limited in range and size, would be subject to overharvest. The estimated total population size for the island is 972 elk.

#### **DISTRIBUTION**:

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish and Game offices in Anchorage, Juneau, Homer, Soldotna, Fairbanks and Kodiak.

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- 3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
- 4. Division of Wildlife Conservation:

Director Deputy Director Assistant Director Regional Supervisors Regulation Coordination Team Area Biologists (statewide) Regulatory Coordinator, Information Management Information Centers, Fairbanks and Anchorage Web Master, Juneau

5. Division of Boards:

Director Board of Game

- 6. Division of Subsistence, Anchorage Regional Supervisor
- 7. Public Communications Section, Juneau

- 8. Department of Public Safety, Fish and Wildlife Protection, Detachment Commander, Kodiak
- 10. Magistrate's Office, Kodiak
- 11. Department of Law, District Attorney, Kodiak
- 12. Superintendent, Alaska State Parks, Kodiak
- 13. Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Chairman
- 14. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge Manager, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage Law Enforcement Division
- 16. Koniag Inc., Kodiak
- 17. Afognak Native Corporation
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