# **HUNTING-TRAPPING**

### **Emergency Order**

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**Under Authority of AS 16.05.060** 

Emergency Order No. 01-07-17 Issued at Douglas, Alaska

September 22, 2017

Effective Date: September 30, 2017 Expiration Date: 30 June 2018

(unless superseded by a subsequent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 1C between Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek. This order takes effect at 11:59 pm, Saturday, September 30, 2017.

#### **REGULATORY TEXT:**

Units and Bag Limits

Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR GOAT, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting mountain goats in Unit 1(C):

Resident
Open Season
(Subsistence and Nonresident
General Hunts)
Open Season

(1)

. . .

Unit 1(C), that portion draining into Lynn Canal and Stephens Passage Between Eagle River and Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek No open season (General hunt only)

No open season

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

. . . .

The remainder of Unit 1(C) mountain goat seasons, other than those previously closed by emergency order, are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten Commissioner

By delegation to: \_

Stephanie Sell

Area Management Biologist

#### JUSTIFICATION:

An aerial survey conducted on September 11, 2016 in the area between Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek resulted in low goat counts; a total of 38 goats (12% kids) were observed. Surveys in the same area in 2015 found 64 goats (42% kids), and in 2014 found 49 goats (31% kids). Goat numbers began declining in the area after the severe winter of 2006/2007 and despite recent mild winters the population has been slow to recover. While goats are not isolated in these areas, historical survey data and recent GPS radio collar information suggest little movement between drainages. Because goats demonstrate high site fidelity, areas with low densities may require longer periods to recover if additional harvest were allowed prematurely. Because few goats were observed on previous surveys and because weather has not allowed a survey during fall 2017, area managers consider it prudent to close the season in this area.

#### 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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Area Biologists (Statewide)

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Anchorage information officer

Douglas public desk—Paul Converse

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