Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-02-14

Issued at Sitka, Alaska

Effective Date: 31 July, 2014

Expiration Date: 30 June 2015

(unless superseded by subsequent emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the following portions of hunt area RG150; (1) that portion including Blue Lake, Glacier Lake drainages, (2) that portion including Medvejie Lake, Bear Lake, Indigo Lake drainages, and drainages into the east side of Silver Bay between Bear Cove and Manit point, and (3) that portion of the south Katlian River drainage including all drainages into the south side of Katlian Bay, including the drainage south of the south bank of the Katlian River, and that portion south of the south bank of the main stem stream draining into and out of Hogan Lake on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, July 31, 2014.

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Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units and Bag Limits</th>
<th>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</th>
<th>Nonresident Open Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>No open season (General hunt only)</td>
<td>No open season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td>No open season (General hunt only)</td>
<td>No open season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 4, that portion including Blue Lake and Glacier Lake drainages, (2) that portion including Medvejie Lake, Bear Lake, and Indigo Lake drainages, and drainages into the east side of Silver Bay between Bear Cove and Manit point, and (3) that portion of the south Katlian River drainage including</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
all drainages into the south side of Katlian Bay, including the drainage south of the south bank of the Katlian River; and that portion south of the south bank of the main stem stream draining into and out of Hogan Lake on Baranof Island.

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

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

__________________________
Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:
Philip W. Mooney
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Based on aerial survey data during 2006-2014, biologists have documented a continued mountain goat population decline in the geographical areas defined in this emergency order. A series of severe winters and high harvest of female goats by hunters have lowered the productivity of this goat population. Nearly 66% of the Unit 4 goat population occurs on the northern half of Baranof Island, and a core area within it (approximately 25% of that area) produces more than 60% of the goat harvest. Localized harvest intensity, especially on female goats, led to the biological concerns we now face.

Biologists have documented an increasing age structure of harvested female goats over time, which suggests that younger females are not as available as in the past. These concerns are further exacerbated with recent research data from collared goats near Sitka that reveals high fidelity by goats to small home ranges which can compromise a depleted mountain goat populations’ ability to rebound quickly. This series of factors has led biologists to believe closing the goat season in the area described above is necessary to prevent further harvest and to allow this goat population to recover.
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.

Lieutenant Governor’s Office
Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)
Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation
  Director
  Deputy Director
  Assistant Director
  Regional Supervisors
  Regulation Coordination Team
  Area Biologists (Statewide)
  Fairbanks public desk—Cathie Harms
  Anchorage information officer—Cynthia Gardner
  Douglas public desk—Timothy Miles
  Regulatory Coordinator, IM, Anchorage
  Deborah Spencer HQ, Juneau
  Webmaster HQ, Juneau
  Rhonda Coston, Yakutat
  Faith Lorentz, Haines
  Kim Fisher, Wrangell
Division of Boards
  Director
  Board of Game
Division of Subsistence
  Southeast Regional Supervisor
Fish and Game Advisory Committee Chairpersons
  Icy Straits
  Juneau-Douglas
  Upper Lynn Canal
  Sitka
Department of Public Safety, Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection
  Director
  A Detachment Commander, Juneau
  Hoonah Field Office
  Haines Field Office
  Sitka Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  Regional Director, Anchorage
Juneau Empire
Sitka Sentinel
Chilkat Valley News (Haines)
KCAW Radio, Sitka
KIFW Radio, Sitka
KTOO Radio, Juneau
KINY Radio, Juneau
KJNO Radio, Juneau
KHNS Radio, Haines
Air Excursion: Haines, Juneau
Wings of Alaska: Haines, Juneau, Skagway
Skagway Air: Haines, Juneau, Skagway
Air Sitka, Sitka
Harris Air: Sitka

Municipalities of:
Hoonah
Gustavus
Juneau
Skagway
Haines
Pelican
Elfin Cove
Tenakee Springs
Angoon
Sitka
Port Alexander
Kake
Petersburg
Wrangell
Craig
Ketchikan

USDA-FS Tongass NF –Ranger Districts:
Hoonah
Juneau
Sitka

Admiralty National Monument, Juneau
Sealaska Native Corporation
Huna Totem Indian Association
Sitka Tribe of Alaska