Emergency Order No. 01-03-14

Effective Date: August 1, 2014

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, July 31, 2014.

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Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR GOAT, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting mountain goats in Unit 5(A):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units and Bag Limits</th>
<th>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</th>
<th>Nonresident Open Season</th>
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<td>Unit 5(A), that portion 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)</td>
<td>No Open Season (General hunt only)</td>
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<td>1 goat by registration permit only, the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited</td>
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The remainder of Unit 5(A) mountain goat seasons, other than those previously closed by emergency order, are not affected by this emergency order.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: 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. An aerial survey was not flown in 2013 due to aircraft availability and weather constraints. Through 2009-2013 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 2014 prior to any harvest. Any harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative impacts on the health 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. The portion of the Brabazon Range east of Harlequin Lake remains open to mountain goat hunting.

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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