Emergency Order No. 01-01-19

Effective Date: July 31, 2019

EXPLANATION:
This emergency order closes the state of Alaska resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season for that portion of Unit 5 on the west shore of Harlequin Lake and the western edge of the Yakutat Glacier; then west of Harlequin Lake and Yakutat Glacier to Yakutat Bay and Disenchantment Bay; and south of Russell and Nunatak Fjords. Hunters are reminded that the Nunatak Bench north of the RG170 boundary remains closed to mountain goat hunting as well. This order takes effect at 11:59 pm, Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

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Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR GOAT, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting mountain goats in Unit 5(A):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</th>
<th>Nonresident Open Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subsistence and General Hunts</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(1) …

Unit 5(A), that portion bounded on the west shore of Harlequin Lake and the western edge of the Yakutat Glacier; then west of Harlequin Lake and Yakutat Glacier to Yakutat Bay and Disenchantment Bay; and south of Russell and Nunatak Fjords

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

…. The remainder of Unit 5(A) mountain goat seasons, other than those previously closed by emergency order, are not affected by this emergency order.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner
By delegation to:
Roy Churchwell
Area Management
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 (12 goats), and 2011 (38 goats) observed between Harlequin Lake and the Hubbard Glacier. The department and the US Forest Service conducted a survey September 2016 and observed 19 total goats (16 adults, 3 kids). The consistently low number of goats detected suggests the areas’ goat population remains depressed. Any harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative effects on the health and hinder recovery of this population. Due to the vulnerability of goat in the area, it necessary to close this season before it opens. The US Forest Service has planned surveys in September of this year. If counts come back favorable, we will reconsider this closure.

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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Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
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   Deputy Director
   Assistant Director
   Regional Supervisors
   Regulation Coordination Team
   Area Biologists (Statewide)
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   Anchorage information officer – Wade Schock
   Douglas Public Desk – Paul Converse
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U.S. Forest Service
   Yakutat Ranger District
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
   Regional Director, Anchorage
Yakutat Coastal Airlines, Yakutat
Various lodges, grocery stores, hardware store, harbor and post office, Yakutat