



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Headquarters

1255 West 8th Street
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526
Main: 907.465.4190
Fax: 907.465.6142

November 9, 2023

An Agenda Change Request (ACR 8) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 85.040 hunting seasons and bag limits for goat, and 5 AAC 92.050, required permit hunt conditions and procedures. The department submitted the ACR and is asking the board to change the hunt boundary of RG002 to align with RG001 to ease hunter confusion and regulatory complexity.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- A. The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
- B. The regulatory complexity caused by adoption of the proposal that only addressed a portion of an existing hunt area is causing confusion for hunters and is unnecessarily complex.
- C. The department is unaware of any biological concerns.
- D. The department is unaware of any unforeseen or unexpected events that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses as defined in AS 16.05.258(f).
- E. The department is unaware of any unexpected resource situation that would cause a biologically allowable resource harvest to be precluded by delayed regulatory action.

At the Southeast Board of Game meeting in 2023, the board adopted a proposal that allowed for a second goat to be harvested by resident hunters in a portion of Unit 1A. The proponent intended for the proposal to apply to the entire RG001 hunt area, however as written the proposal only applied to Unit 1A. The board did not amend the proposal, and the new hunt opportunity was implemented in a way that has caused confusion. Changing the boundary of the new two-goat bag limit hunt, RG002, to align with the existing RG001 hunt area will reduce hunter confusion and regulatory complexity.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting for Southeast regulations is in winter/spring of 2025/2026. If the board accepts this ACR, the department recommends the proposal come before the board at its March 2024 meeting in Fairbanks to allow for more public input.

Sincerely,

Ryan Scott

Ryan Scott
Acting Director
Division of Wildlife Conservation