Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order Alaska Depart

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. R1-19-24

Effective Date: 1 November, 2024

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Issued at Sitka, Alaska 29 October, 2024

Expiration Date: 30 June 2025 (unless superseded by subsequent emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the Whale Bay and Necker Bay hunt zones in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, November 1, 2024.

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Therefore, the provisions of **5** AAC **85.040**, **Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts	Nonresident Open Season
 Unit 4, Whale Bay – Drainages east of Small Arm Whale Bay/Creek, east of Benzeman Lake, west of Great Arm Whale Bay/Creek to the pass at Peak 2907 and drainages of Politofski Lake.	Aug 1 – Nov 1 (General hunt only)	Aug 1 – Nov 1
Necker Bay – The peninsulas west of Small Arm Whale Bay/Creek, west of Benzeman excluding Aspid Cape.	Aug 1 – Nov 1 (General hunt only)	Aug 1 – Nov 1
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.

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

DocuSigned by:

By delegation to: <u>ECA39C 197</u> Stephen Bethune Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Hunt managers set a combined harvest quota for the Whale Bay and Necker Bay hunt zones of mountain goat hunt RG150 on Baranof Island at three males or 1 female goat. Quotas are based on the most recent aerial surveys. The strategy of closing hunt zones when one female has been harvested has been very effective in reducing female harvest and has helped maintain high harvest opportunities for male goats. Keeping hunters focused on avoiding female harvest maintains opportunities for more hunters to participate, especially in hunt zones that have good access.

To date, one male and two female goats have been harvested in the Whale Bay/Necker Bay zones. The management objective has been exceeded and no further harvest is warranted.

Therefore, these zones are being closed by emergency order.

For more information about mountain goat hunting opportunities on Baranof Island including maps, zone quotas, FAQ's and other information, contact the Sitka area office at (907) 747-5449.