Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order Alaska Depart

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R1-25-24

Effective Date: 20 December 2024

Issued at Sitka, Alaska 17 December 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Expiration Date: 30 June 2025 (unless superseded by subsequent emergency order)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 Bear Mountain hunt zone of RG150 on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, Friday, December 20, 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Therefore, the provisions of **5** AAC **85.040**, **Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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, Bear Mountain Zone – Silver Bay drainages between Sawmill and Medvejie Creeks, south of Blue Lake, west of the south fork Blue Lake Creek and northwest of Medvejie Creek to Baranof Pass. | Aug 1 – Dec 20 (General hunt only) | Aug 1 – Dec 20 |
| 1 goat by registration permit only, the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited. | | |

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

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to: <u>12/17/2024</u> Stephen Bethune Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Hunt managers set a harvest quota of three males or one female for the Bear Mountain hunt zone of mountain goat hunt RG150 on Baranof Island. 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, three male goats have been harvested in the Bear Mountain hunt zone of RG150. The management objective for this zone has been met and no further harvest is warranted. Therefore, this zone is 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.