HUNTING-TRAPPING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. R1-18-25

Issued at Juneau, Alaska

Effective Date: 31 October 2025

Expiration Date: 30 June 2026
(unless superseded by a subsequent emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the state resident and nonresident wolf trapping and hunting seasons in Game Management Unit (GMU) 2. This order is effective at 11:59 PM, 15 December 2025.

REGULATORY TEXT:

Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 84.270 (13), TRAPPING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR WOLF and of 5 AAC 85.045, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR WOLF, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for trapping and hunting wolves in Unit 2:

Unit and Bag Limit	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 2		
No limit wolves per regulatory year by trapping only:	Nov. 15-Dec. 15	Nov. 15-Dec. 15
5 wolves per regulatory year by hunting only; ……	Sept. 1-Dec. 15	Sept. 1-Dec. 15

All other hunting and trapping regulations in Unit 2 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Anthony Crupi
Regional Supervisor

JUSTIFICATION:

2024 Unit 2 Wolf Estimate

For fall 2024, ADF&G estimated the preharvest GMU 2 population to be 245 wolves with high confidence the true population size was within the range of 194 to 309 wolves (95% confidence interval). Over the past 5 years, population estimates for GMU 2 wolves averaged 279 (range= 238–386). The 2024 estimate is similar to the 5-year average. Creating an estimate takes about 10 months, so the previous year's estimate is used for harvest management. For example, the fall 2024 estimate is the most recent and informs GMU 2 wolf harvest management for this season.

Fall 2025 Harvest Management

In GMU 2 most wolves are harvested by trapping, so managers regulate harvest by annually varying trapping opportunity. Determining an amount of trapping opportunity that will result in sustainable harvest involves considering recent population estimates, trends in trapper participation, documented harvest rates, public observations, and regulatory guidance. The season-length based management strategy was implemented in 2019. Since then, harvest averaged 30% of the preharvest fall population from the most recent estimate. Season lengths since 2019 were 21–62 days with a harvest of 62–164 wolves. From 2021–2024, a 31-day season resulted in harvest of 62–74 wolves, while the population estimate ranged from 238–268. The consistency in harvest and abundance point to a stable wolf population and sustainable harvest management.