

HUNTING-TRAPPING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. R1-9-26

Issued at Douglas, Alaska
October 3, 2026

Effective Date: October 4, 2026

Expiration Date: 30 June 2027 (unless
superseded by a subsequent emergency
order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order (R1-9-26) closes the state of Alaska resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season for that portion of Unit 1C between Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek. This order takes effect at 11:59 pm, Sunday, October 4, 2026.

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Therefore, the provisions of 5 AAC 85.040, HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR GOAT, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting mountain goats in Unit 1(C):

Units and Bag Limits	Resident	Nonresident
	Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Open Season

(1)

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Unit 1(C), that portion draining into
Lynn Canal and Stephens Passage
Between Eagle River and
Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek

1 Oct. – 4 Oct.

1 Oct. – 4 Oct.

(General hunt only)

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

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The remainder of Unit 1(C) 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:

Carl H. Koch

Area Management Biologist



JUSTIFICATION:

An aerial survey conducted on October 3, 2019, in the area between Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek resulted in low goat counts. A total of 42 goats (26% kids) were observed. Previous surveys recorded 35 goats (26% kids) in 2018, 38 goats (12% kids) in 2018, and 64 goats (42% kids) in 2015. Goat numbers began declining in the area after the severe winter of 2006/2007 and the population had not yet fully recovered before the severe winter of 2025/2026 likely further reduced mountain goat survival. In 2026 the numbers of goats observed were again low.

Although goats are not isolated in these areas, historical survey data and GPS radio collar information suggest little movement between drainages. Because goats exhibit high site fidelity, areas with low densities may require longer periods to recover. Allowing additional harvest before the population rebounds could delay recovery further. Given the low number of goats observed during recent surveys and the potential impacts of the 2025/2026 winter, area managers consider it prudent to close the season in this area until survey numbers indicate the population has rebounded.

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