

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R2-2-26

Issued at: Soldotna, Alaska
July 29, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
July 29, 2026

Expiration Date: June 30, 2027
at 11:59 p.m. unless superseded
by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

In spring 1992, the Alaska Board of Game adopted a lynx harvest tracking strategy in Southcentral game management units with framework trapping seasons of November 10 through the last day of February. The board delegated authority to the department to adjust season dates within this framework to track population cycles. In March 2005, the board determined lynx hunting seasons, but not bag limits, would be included as part of the lynx tracking harvest strategy.

This emergency order meets the lynx management needs for 2026–2027 by adjusting lynx hunting and trapping seasons for the Units 7 & 15, managed under the lynx tracking harvest strategy.

Based on information collected during the past season, the lynx trapping season will open December 15 through the last day of February in Units 7 and 15 with no bag limit. The lynx hunting season will be open from December 15 through the last day of February in Units 7 and 15 with a bag limit of two lynx.

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping**, and **5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for lynx hunting and trapping:

Unit	Open Season	Bag limit
5AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping		
(5) Lynx		
Units 7 and 15	Dec. 15 – Feb. 28	No limit.

5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals

(4) Lynx		
Units 7 and 15	Dec. 15 – Feb. 28	2 lynx

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

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: 
Christopher Bottom
Wildlife Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Units 7 and 15: Kenai Peninsula

Observations and sealing records indicate lynx populations on the Kenai Peninsula remain at a level that justifies continued opening of lynx trapping and hunting season this year in Units 7 and 15. Based on harvest patterns and sealing data observed over the last 6 years, there is an increased likelihood of trapping season closure next year in RY27 as lynx populations approach the low point of their cycle.

DISTRIBUTION:

This emergency order is distributed to the recipients listed below. Copies are available from Department of Fish & Game offices in Anchorage, Palmer, Soldotna, Homer, and Fairbanks.

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 - Deputy Director
 - Regional Supervisors
 - Region II Area Biologists
 - State-Federal Regulations Coordinator
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5. Division of Boards Executive Director
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 - Director
7. Public Communications Nancy Long, ADF&G, Juneau
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