



NEWS RELEASE



Forest Service

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Sam Cotten, Commissioner

Bruce Dale, Director, Wildlife Conservation

ADF&G; www.adfg.alaska.gov

Tongass National Forest

Earl Stewart, Forest Supervisor

Matt Anderson, Craig & Thorne Bay District Ranger

US Forest Service; www.fs.usda.gov/tongass/

For Immediate Release

December 12, 2017

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Under the Authority of:

36 CFR Part 242.10 and .19

50 CFR Part 100.10 and .19

Hunting, trapping season for wolves to close in Unit 2

CRAIG, Alaska— The Craig & Thorne Bay District Ranger Matt Anderson, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, will close the Federal public lands of Unit 2 to the harvest of wolf from 11:59 P.M., Saturday, December 16, 2017 until 11:59 P.M., March 31, 2018. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will close the state wolf hunting and trapping seasons in Unit 2 at 11:59 P.M. on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

ADF&G and the U.S. Forest Service jointly set the regulatory year 2017 (July 2017 – June 2018) Unit 2 wolf hunting and trapping harvest quota at 46 wolves. ADF&G currently manages Unit 2 wolves for an annual harvest that should not exceed 20 percent of the most recent unit-wide, fall population estimate. The RY 2017 harvest quota of forty six wolves is 20 % of the fall 2016 population estimate (231 wolves). Other forms of human-caused mortality including documented wounding loss and illegal harvest also count toward the harvest quota. As of Monday, December 11, 2017 a total of 34 wolves taken in Unit 2 had been sealed. Managers anticipate that by the closure date additional wolf harvest by hunters and

trappers with gear still in the field will reach or surpass the quota. Therefore, the wolf hunting and trapping seasons are being closed by emergency order.

Forest Service and ADF&G managers would like to extend their appreciation to the local Tribes and subsistence users, for their cooperation and involvement in managing this harvest quota. For additional information, please contact Ryan Scott at (907) 465-4359 (ADF&G) or Matt Anderson at (907) 826-3271, or Jeff Reeves at (907) 826-1649 (USFS). For interviews and information to be used for publication, contact the Tongass Public Affairs Officer, Paul Robbins Jr., at 907-228-6201 or paulrobbins@fs.fed.us. Maps of Unit 2 can be found on the ADF&G website at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=huntingmaps.gmuinfo>. Maps of Federal lands within Unit 2 and additional information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program are available at US Forest Service offices or on the web at <http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/index.cfm> .

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