

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 01-04-11

Issued at Sitka, Alaska
18 August, 2011

Effective Date: 14 September, 2011

Expiration Date: 30 June 2012
(unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the State of Alaska resident and non-resident deer hunting season for does (female deer) in the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area on Chichagof Island. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, September 14, 2011. This hunt area is located within Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order does not affect the deer hunting regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 4.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.030, Hunting seasons and bag limits for deer**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective: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
(3) Unit 4, that portion of Chichagof Island east of Port Frederick and north of Tenakee Inlet, including all drainages into Tenakee Inlet		
3 deer, however, only bucks may be taken	Sept. 14 – Dec. 31	Sept. 14-Dec. 31

Unit 4, that portion of Chichagof Island north of Tenakee Inlet and east of the drainage divide from the northwest point of Gull Cove to Port Frederick Portage, and west of Port Frederick including all drainages into the west side Port Frederick, Mud Bay and Icy Strait.

4 deer; however, only bucks may be taken

Sept. 14 – Dec. 31

Sept. 14 – Dec. 31

All other deer hunting regulations in Game Management Unit 4 are not affected by this emergency order.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____
Philip W. Mooney
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

This emergency order closes doe hunting on a portion of northern Chichagof Island defined as the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area (NECCUA). Record snowfall during the winter of 2006-07 that persisted into late spring, resulted in substantial winter kill of deer. Similar winter weather occurred again in 2007-08 and 2008-09, delaying a substantive recovery. Staff from the Department of Fish and Game’s Division of Wildlife Conservation conducted deer mortality and condition surveys throughout the region in the late winters and springs of 2007-2011. These surveys indicate locations in northern Southeast Alaska, including NECCUA and adjacent islands, are experiencing continued cumulative effects from the three consecutive hard winters and winter-related deer mortality. A net gain in over-winter deer survival and fawn recruitment was not recorded until spring, 2010. Field work in 2011 on Northeast Chichagof indicate a recovering population, but remains at a significantly reduced level from what existed in 2006. On NECCUA, roads allow vehicle access into all major watersheds, resulting in a popular deer hunting area for local and non-local hunters. Additional doe harvest jeopardizes the future recovery of the population.



DISTRIBUTION:

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Sitka Sentinel

Chilkat Valley News (Haines)
KCAW Radio, Sitka
KIFW Radio, Sitka
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KHNS Radio, Haines
Air Excursion: Haines, Juneau
Wings of Alaska: Haines, Juneau, Skagway
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