

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 01-6-18

Issued at Sitka, Alaska
17 September, 2018

Effective Date: 19 September, 2018

Expiration Date: 30 June 2018
(unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the Upper Benzeman Zone of RG150 on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, September 19, 2018.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

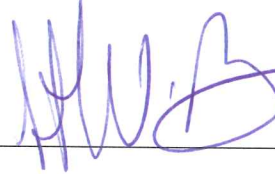
Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts	Nonresident Open Season
(1) ... Upper Benzeman – Upper Benzeman Creek drainages (excluding the ridge south of Ekaterina Creek) and drainages east of Cedar Pass, south of West Crawfish Inlet, Shamrock Bay and Ekaterina Lake/Creek; and drainages north of Crawfish Inlet.	Aug. 1 – Sept. 19 (General hunt only)	Aug. 1 – Sept. 19

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

...

All other mountain goat hunting regulations in Unit 4 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner



By delegation to: _____
Stephen Bethune
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Management biologists set a maximum harvest quota of four male goats or one female for the Upper Benzeman Zone of the Unit 4 registration mountain goat hunt on Baranof Island (RG150). Quotas were calculated from 2017 survey results. The limit of one female was set to encourage harvest of males and has been a successful strategy, allowing hunters more opportunity and lowering the risk of localized overharvest. As of Monday, September 17, 2018, four male goats have been reported harvested. Because the maximum harvest quota has been met in this zone, an emergency order is being issued to close this zone to mountain goat hunting at 11:59 PM, Wednesday, September 19, 2018.

This emergency order is necessary to restrict the harvest to the maximum sustainable level and prevent overharvest in this zone. Any additional harvest could have long-term negative effects on this goat population.

For more information on the Baranof Island mountain goat hunt strategy that began with the 2017 season, visit the Unit 4 FAQ's page at:
http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/hunting/goathunting/pdfs/unit_4_rg150_mountain_goat_hunt_faqs.pdf

DISTRIBUTION:

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1. Lieutenant Governor's Office
2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)
3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - Assistant Director
 - Regional Supervisors
 - Management Coordination Team

- Area Biologists (Statewide)
- Regulatory Coordinator
- Webmaster HQ, Juneau
- Region 1 Area Offices
- 5. Division of Boards
 - Executive Director
 - Board of Game members
- 6. Division of Subsistence
 - Director
- 7. Advisory Committee Chair (Sitka)
- 8. Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers
 - Director
 - Detachment Commander, Juneau
 - Field offices: Hoonah, Sitka
- 9. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Regional Director, Anchorage
- 10. Media Contacts: Juneau Empire, Capitol City Weekly, Sitka Sentinel, KCAW Radio, KIFW
- 11. Flight Service: Harris Air (Sitka)
- 12. Municipalities of: Angoon, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Hoonah, Pelican, Port Alexander, Sitka, Tenakee Springs
- 13. Other Agencies:
 - USDA-FS Tongass NF – Ranger Districts: Hoonah, Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka
 - Admiralty National Monument, Juneau
 - Huna Totem Indian Association
 - Sitka Tribe of Alaska
 - Sealaska Native Corporation