



Federal Subsistence Board



1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOREST
SERVICE

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE SEASON FOR GOATS CLOSED IN A PORTION OF UNIT 5A

SPECIAL ACTION

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

**Under Authority of: 50 CFR Part 100.10 and 19
36 CFR Part 242.10 and 19**

Special Action No: WSA WSA-12-MG-04-18 Issued at: Yakutat, Alaska, November 2,
2018

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m., November 3, 2018

EXPLANATION: This Special Action closes the 2018 Federal subsistence mountain goat season in a portion of Unit 5A. The closed area begins on the west shore of Harlequin Lake and the western edge of Yakutat Glacier; then west of Harlequin Lake and Yakutat Glacier to Yakutat Bay and Disenchantment Bay; and south of Russell and Nunatak Fjords. The closure is effective through 12/31/2018. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has previously established a closure for the same area (Emergency Order 01-02-18).

Authority has been delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board to the Yakutat District Ranger to close the season for goats in Unit 5A.

Federal Subsistence Board

by delegation to

/s/ Lee A. Benson

Lee A. Benson
District Ranger
Yakutat Ranger District

JUSTIFICATION:

Aerial surveys conducted between 2006 and 2016 in this area indicate a significant decline in goat numbers. The following are survey results by year: 2006-122 goats, 2007-66 goats, 2008-57 goats, 2009-48 goats, 2010-6 and 12 goats, respectively, 2011-58 goats, and 2016-19. The consistently low number of goats detected suggests the areas' goat population remains depressed. The federal subsistence season has remained open in recent years in order to allow to continue subsistence harvest opportunities. No goats had been harvested in this area in recent years; however, in October 2018, one female was harvested by a subsistence user. Any additional harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative effects on the health and recovery of this population. State and federal managers intend to survey the population in fall of 2019 in order to obtain updated information; however, given the best available data and the recent harvest of a female, managers consider it necessary to close the season for conservation concerns.

DISTRIBUTION:

RADIO

KCAW radio - Sitka

KYKT radio- Yakutat

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Lee Benson, USFS Yakutat District Ranger; Yakutat Tlingit Tribe; City and Borough of Yakutat; Ryan Scott, Roy Churchwell, Tom Schumacher, and Paul Converse, ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation, Douglas; Jill Klein, Federal Subsistence Liaison Team Leader, ADF&G; James Capra, National Park Service; Don Hernandez, Chair, Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council; Earl Stewart, Tongass Forest Supervisor, Ketchikan; Brie Darr, USFS Sitka; Theo Matuskowitz, Chris McKee, George Pappas, Caron McKee, Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage; Thomas Whitford, Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Juneau; Terry Suminski, Tongass Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Sitka; DeAnna Perry, Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinator, USFS, Juneau; David Zuniga and Michael Mills, USFS Law Enforcement Officers, Juneau; Paul Robbins, Partnership and Public Affairs Staff Officer, USFS, Ketchikan; Carol Lagodich, Public Affairs Specialist, USFS, Ketchikan; Alaska Department of Public Safety, Yakutat.