



## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
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

#### TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

Under authority of: 36 CFR §242.10 and .19  
50 CFR §100.10 and .19

---

Temporary Special Action No: 13-MG-03-20  
Issued at: Yakutat, Alaska, July 28, 2020

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, January 31, 2021 unless superseded by subsequent special action

#### EXPLANATION:

This Temporary Special Action closes the 2020 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 01/31/2021. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established a closure of the State season for the same area (Emergency Order 01-01-20).

**REGULATION:** 36 CFR §242.26(n)(5) and 50 CFR §100.26(n)(5) are amended to read:

#### **Unit 5A – Mountain Goat**

*Unit 5A—that area between the Hubbard Glacier and the West Nunatak  
Glacier on the north and east sides of Nunatak Fjord*

*No open season*

*Unit 5A - the area beginning 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. 1 goat by Federal registration permit. The harvest quota will be announced prior to the season. A minimum of four goats in the harvest quota will be reserved for federally qualified subsistence users*

~~Aug. 1 - Jan. 31~~  
Closed

*Unit 5A, remainder —1 goat by Federal registration permit. The harvest quota will be announced prior to the season. A minimum of four goats in the harvest quota will be reserved for federally qualified subsistence users*

Aug. 1 - Jan. 31

*Unit 5B—1 goat by Federal registration permit only*

Aug. 1 - Jan. 31



Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to

---

Lee A. Benson  
District Ranger  
Yakutat Ranger District  
July 28, 2020

## **JUSTIFICATION:**

Aerial surveys conducted between 2006 and 2019 in this area indicate a significant decline in goat numbers. The following are survey results by year: 2006, 122 goats (minimum estimate, partial survey only); 2007, 66 goats; 2008, 57 goats; 2009, 48 goats; 2010, 12 goats; 2011, 38 goats; 2016, 19 goats; and 2019, 46 goats. The consistently low number of goats detected suggests the areas' goat population remains depressed. The most recent survey results are higher than the past few surveys, however numbers remain relatively low.

The area has been closed to mountain goat hunting under state regulations since 2008. The federal subsistence season had remained open to allow continued subsistence harvest opportunities. Harvest effort and rates by subsistence users has been low; 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. The Federal subsistence season was closed for a portion of the 2018/2019 season and the entirety of the 2019/2020 season. Continued closure of this area to harvest is necessary for conservation concerns.

A public hearing to discuss the goat management in Unit 5 was held on July 21, 2020 in Yakutat, Alaska. Two members of the public participated in the meeting, one of which was a hunting guide familiar with the area who shared his observations of goats in the area.

## **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; Mark Burch, Special Projects Coordinator, and Ben Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, 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; Tom Doolittle, Theo Matuskowitz, Lisa Maas, George Pappas, Caron McKee, Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage; Deyna Kuntzsch, Acting R10 Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Juneau; Terry Suminski, Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Sitka; DeAnna Perry, Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinator, USFS, Juneau; Michael Mills, USFS Law Enforcement Officers, Juneau; Paul Robbins Jr., Partnership and Public Affairs Staff Officer, USFS, Ketchikan; Alaska Department of Public Safety, Yakutat.