



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

SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

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

Special Action No: 12-MG-01-19

Issued at: Yakutat, Alaska, July 24, 2019

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, January 31, 2020 unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:

This Special Action closes the 2019 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 01/31/2020. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established a closure of the State season for the same area (Emergency Order 01-01-19).

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 /s/Lee A. Benson
Lee A. Benson
District Ranger
Yakutat Ranger District
July 24, 2019

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 (minimum estimate, partial survey only); 2007, 66 goats; 2008, 57 goats; 2009, 48 goats; 2010, 12 goats; 2011, 38 goats; and 2016, 19 goats. The consistently low number of goats detected suggests the areas' goat population remains depressed. The federal subsistence season has remained open in recent years to allow continued 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.

A public hearing to discuss the goat management in Unit 5 was held on July 9, 2019 in Yakutat, Alaska. The one member of the public who attended was supportive of conserving mountain goats in the Yakutat area through closure of a portion of Unit 5.

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

KYKT radio -Yakutat

KCAW radio - Sitka

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; Troy Heithecker, Tongass Forest Supervisor, Ketchikan; Brie Darr, USFS Sitka; Theo Matuskowitz, Chris McKee, George Pappas, Caron McKee, Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage; Terry Suminski, Acting R10 Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Juneau; Justin Koller, Acting 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.