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: 12-MG-02-21
Issued at: Yakutat, Alaska, July 27, 2021

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 31, 2021
Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday, January 31, 2022 unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:
This Temporary Special Action closes the 2021 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 01/31/2022. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established a closure of the State season for the same area (Emergency Order 01-01-21).

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

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

Unit 5B—1 goat by Federal registration permit only

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to

Lee A. Benson
District Ranger
Yakutat Ranger District
July 27, 2021

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
area’s 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 and 2020/2021 seasons. Continued closure of this area to harvest is necessary for
conservation concerns.

A public hearing (teleconference) to discuss goat management in Unit 5 was held on July 8, 2021
in Yakutat, Alaska. There was no public participation in the hearing.
DISTRIBUTION:

RADIO
KYKT-FM 91.9 – Yakutat, KCAW – Sitka

NEWSPAPERS
Anchorage Daily News

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GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Lee Benson, USFS Yakutat District Ranger; Cynthia Petersen, Acting Executive Director, Yakutat Tlingit Tribe; Jon Erickson, City Manager, 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; Adam Dermish, National Park Service; Don Hernandez, Chair, Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council; Earl Stewart, Tongass Forest Supervisor, Ketchikan; Cathy Tighe, Planning Staff Officer, USFS, Sitka; Sue Detwiler, Robbin LaVine, Amee Howard, Theo Matuskowitz, Lisa Grediagin, George Pappas, Caron McKee, Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage; Greg Risdahl, R10 Subsistence Program Leader, USFS, Juneau; Gregg Dunn, Acting 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; James Capra, Police Chief, Alaska Department of Public Safety, Yakutat.