



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 MOUNTAIN 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-01-23
Issued at: Yakutat, Alaska, July 20, 2023

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, January 31, 2024, unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:

This Temporary Special Action closes the 2023 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 January 31, 2024. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established a closure of the State season for the same area (Emergency Order R1-2-23).

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*

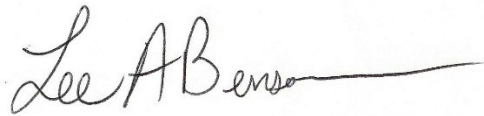
Unit 5A, remainder—1 goat by Federal registration permit. The harvest quota will be announced prior to the season. A minimum of four goats in the harvest quota will be reserved for federally qualified subsistence users

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 20, 2023

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 2019-2022 seasons. Continued closure of this area to harvest is necessary for conservation concerns.

A public hearing (in-person with call-in option) to discuss goat management in Unit 5 was held on July 18, 2023, in Yakutat, Alaska. There was no public participation.

DISTRIBUTION:

RADIO

KYKT-FM 91.9 – Yakutat, KCAW – Sitka

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