

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Land Management National Park Service Bureau of Indian Affairs

**For Immediate Release** July 29, 2020

## Federal Subsistence Board News Release



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Under the authority of:

36 CFR §242.10 and .19 50 CFR §100.10 and .19

## Federal subsistence goat hunting season to close in a portion of Unit 5A

**YAKUTAT, Alaska** - USDA Forest Service Yakutat District Ranger Lee Benson, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is closing the 2020 Federal subsistence mountain goat hunting season for a portion of Unit 5A. The closure will be effective Friday, July 31, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., and will remain in effect until January 31, 2021.

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 Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has issued a closure to the State season for the same area (Emergency Order 01-01-20). Hunters are reminded that the Nunatak Bench area remains closed to mountain goat hunting.

Aerial surveys indicate a decline in the mountain goat population starting in 2006. Additional harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative effects on the health and recovery of this population.

For additional information, contact Yakutat District Ranger Lee Benson at (907) 784-3018 or email wildlife biologist Susan Oehlers at <u>susan.oehlers@usda.gov.</u>

Information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found at <u>https://www.doi.gov/subsistence</u>

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