

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R1-22-23

Issued at Sitka, Alaska
22 December, 2023

Effective Date: 25 December, 2023

Expiration Date: 30 June, 2024
(unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order)

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident mountain goat hunting season in the Upper Benzeman hunt zone of RG150 on Baranof Island in Game Management Unit 4. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, Monday, December 25, 2023.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.040, Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

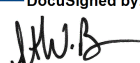
| Units and Bag Limits | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts | Nonresident Open Season |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| ... | | |
| Unit 4, Upper Benzeman – Upper Benzeman Creek drainages (excluding the ridge south of Ekaterina Creek) and drainages east of Cedar Pass, south of West Crawfish Inlet, Shamrock Bay and Ekaterina Lake/Creek; and drainages north of Crawfish Inlet. | Aug 1 – Dec 25 (General hunt only) | Aug 1 – Dec 25 |

1 goat by registration permit only, the taking
of nannies with kids is prohibited.

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All other mountain goat hunting regulations in Unit 4 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

DocuSigned by:

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By delegation to: _____ 12/22/2023
Stephen Bethune
Sitka Area Wildlife Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Hunt managers set a harvest quota of 4 males or 1 female for the Upper Benzeman hunt zone of mountain goat hunt RG150 on Baranof Island. Quotas are based on the most recent aerial surveys. In 2011, hunt managers devised the strategy of closing hunt zones when one female goat was harvested. This “one and done” strategy has been very effective in reducing female harvest. Keeping hunters focused on avoiding female harvest maintains opportunities for more hunters to participate, especially in hunt zones that have good access.

To date, one female goat has been harvested in the Upper Benzeman hunt zone of RG150. The quota has been met and no further harvest is warranted. Therefore, this zone is being closed by emergency order.

For more information about mountain goat hunting opportunities on Baranof Island including, other emergency orders, maps, zone quotas, FAQ’s, and other information, contact the Sitka area office at (907) 747-5449.