

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 04-04-16

Issued at Palmer, Alaska
July 5, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 AM July 6, 2016

Expiration Date: June 30, 2017
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

In spring 1992, the Alaska Board of Game adopted a lynx tracking strategy in Southcentral game management units with framework trapping seasons of November 10 through the last day of February. The board delegated authority to the department to adjust season dates within this framework to track population cycles. In March 2005, the board determined lynx hunting seasons, not bag limits, would be included as part of the lynx tracking harvest strategy.

This emergency order meets the lynx management needs for 2016-2017 by reducing the length of the lynx hunting and trapping season in Game Management Unit 14A, 14B and 16 under the lynx tracking harvest strategy. The adjusted season dates are published in the 2016-17 Hunting Regulations and in the 2016-17 Trapping Regulations.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.060(4)** and **5AAC 84.270(5)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Lynx and Furbearer Trapping**, are superseded by this emergency order and the following provisions are in effect for the 2016-17 regulatory year:

Unit	Open Season	Bag Limit
5AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and Bag limits for fur animals		
(4) Lynx		
Units 14(A), 14(B), and 16	Dec. 1 – Jan. 31	2 Lynx
5AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping		

Units 14(A), 14(B), and 16

Dec. 15 – Jan. 31

No Limit

All other lynx hunting and trapping regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to: Todd A. Rinaldi
Palmer Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Lynx are considered scarce in many portions of Units 14A, 14B, and 16, and the population size has not changed substantially during the last 20 years. During regulatory years 2006-2015 the Department shortened the lynx trapping season due to concerns that the lynx population could be adversely affected by overharvest if trapping and hunting seasons were not reduced. Currently lynx populations are in a low cycle in Southcentral Alaska. As a result the trapping and hunting seasons are warranted to minimize the possibility of overharvest.

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