

Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R3-6-24

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska
June 28, 2024

Effective Date: 11:59 P.M.
August 9, 2024

Expiration Date: June 30, 2025
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Order closes all sheep seasons in the Glacier Mountain Controlled Use Area (GMCUA) in Game Management Unit 20E.

No other sheep hunting regulations in Unit 20E are affected by this emergency order.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.055(a)(8), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR DALL SHEEP**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting sheep:

| Units and Bag Limits (8) | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts) | Nonresident Open Season |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| ... | | |
| Unit 20(E), that portion within the Glacier Mountain Controlled Use Area | No open season. | No open season. |
| ... | | |

JUSTIFICATION:

The GMCUA was created in 1971 to afford greater protection for sheep that used the Glacier Mountain area. Sheep within the GMCUA are part of the larger Tanana Hills sheep population, which exists in marginal non-contiguous sheep habitat over an expansive area of eastern interior Alaska.

The GMCUA contains a small segment of the Upper Tanana Dall sheep population. Nearby federal lands within the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve are also closed to sheep hunting by federal Wildlife Temporary Special Action WSA24-01. During the two most recent surveys of the GMCUA, few sheep and no legal rams have been observed in the area. Although the full curl harvest strategy is an extremely conservative approach to hunt management, there are times when more conservative strategies are warranted to address public concerns. This closure is intended to address public concerns for sheep in this area and only impacts the 2024 hunting season. We anticipate an Agenda Change Request from the public or advisory committee to prompt any longer-term closures.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: *Ryan Scott*

Ryan Scott
Division Director