

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 02-01-20

Issued at: Anchorage, Alaska
July 16, 2020

Effective Date: 12:01 AM
July 1, 2020

Expiration Date: June 30, 2021
at 11:59 p.m. unless superseded
by subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

In spring 1992, the Alaska Board of Game adopted a lynx harvest 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, but not bag limits, would be included as part of the lynx tracking harvest strategy. In March 2009, the board eliminated the tracking strategy in Unit 6 and established a permanent hunting and trapping season of November 10 through the last day of February.

This emergency order meets the lynx management needs for 2020–2021 by adjusting lynx hunting and trapping seasons for the Region 2 units managed under the lynx tracking harvest strategy.

Based on information collected during the past season, the lynx trapping season will open January 1 through February 15 in Units 7, 14C, and 15 with no limit. The lynx hunting season will be open from January 1 through February 15 in Units 7 and 15, and November 10 through February 28 in Unit 14C, with a hunting bag limit of 2 lynx.

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping**, and **5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for lynx hunting and trapping:

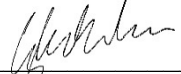
Unit	Open Season	Bag limit
5AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping		
(5) Lynx		
Units 7 and 15	Jan. 1 – Feb. 15	No limit.
Unit 14C	Jan. 1 – Feb. 15	No limit.
5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals		

(4) Lynx

Units 7 and 15	Jan. 1– Feb. 15	2 lynx
Unit 14C	Nov. 10 – Feb. 28	2 lynx

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

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Cynthia Wardlow
Regional Supervisor

JUSTIFICATION:

Units 7 and 15: Kenai Peninsula

Observations and track counts indicate snowshoe hare and lynx populations have increased on the Kenai Peninsula to a level that justifies opening a lynx trapping season this year in Units 7 and 15 and to open lynx hunting and trapping seasons. Kitten production and survival is expected to continue to increase during RY20 as the hare population increases..

Units 14C Anchorage and Chugach State Park

Snowshoe hare populations peaked throughout most of Unit 14C around 2000 to 2001, again in 2011–2012, and are currently at or approaching another peak. Lynx populations have followed similar patterns. Lynx season was closed to both hunting and trapping from RY14–RY19 due to low population estimates. Observations indicate that both snowshoe hare and lynx populations have increased to a level that will support hunting and trapping seasons for lynx during RY20.

DISTRIBUTION:

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