

**PROPOSAL 35**

**5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.**

Change the hunt structure for Revillagigedo Island mountain goat in Unit 1A as follows:

For Unit 1A, eliminate the mountain goat drawing hunt DG007 and add that hunt area to the RG001 hunt area, Remainder of Revillagigedo Island, and increase the allowable number of drawing permits that may be issued on Revillagigedo Island from 25 to 50 permits.

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(1)  Unit 1(A), Revillagigedo Island, except that portion [WEST OF CARROLL INLET AND CREEK, WEST OF THE DIVIDE BETWEEN CARROLL CREEK AND THE SOUTH FORK OF ORCHARD CREEK, SOUTH OF ORCHARD CREEK, ORCHARD LAKE, SHRIMP BAY, AND GEDNEY PASS] <u>south and west from Donnelly Point to Naha Bay, Roosevelt Lagoon, Naha River, and Heckman Lake, the divide between Heckman Lake and the head of Salt Lagoon and the western shores of Salt Lagoon and George Inlet to Mountain Point</u>	Aug. 1—Dec. 31 (General hunt only)	Aug. 1—Dec. 31
1 goat by registration permit only; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited		
Unit 1(A), remainder of Revillagigedo Island	Aug. 1—Dec. 31	Aug. 1—Dec. 31
1 goat by draw permit only; up to [25] <u>50</u> permits will be issued; the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited		

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Despite the Department of Fish and Game (department) steadily increasing the number of drawing permits available, the mountain goat population on northern Revillagigedo Island continues to increase. Mild winters, limited predation, and good habitat conditions likely account for this growth. However, additional growth of this population could risk damage to fragile alpine habitat. The department believes this portion of Revillagigedo Island can support more goat hunting and harvest than allowed under the current maximum number of draw permits (25) that may be issued. To better manage this population and provide additional hunting opportunity, we propose eliminating draw hunt DG007, adding the DG007 hunt area to the RG001 hunt area, and increasing the maximum number of drawing permits that may be issued from 25 to 50 permits. These changes will enable the department to conserve goat habitat and provide additional hunting opportunity when goat numbers are high, while still controlling goat hunting effort in more easily accessed areas near Ketchikan through drawing permits.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F18-068)

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