

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



For Immediate Release July 24, 2023 **Media Contact:**

Paul Robbins Jr.
Public Affairs Officer
Tongass National Forest
907-228-6201
paul.robbins@usda.gov

Under the authority of:

36 CFR §242.10 and .19 50 CFR §100.10 and .19

Federal subsistence goat hunting season to close in a portion of Unit 5A

YAKUTAT, Alaska - Yakutat District Ranger Lee Benson, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is closing the 2023 Federal subsistence mountain goat hunting season for a portion of Unit 5A. The closed area begins on the west shore of Harlequin Lake and the western edge of Yakutat Glacier; then west of Harlequin Lake and Yakutat Glacier to Yakutat Bay and Disenchantment Bay; and south of Russell and Nunatak Fjords. The closure is effective Monday, July 31, 2023, at 11:59 p.m., and will remain in effect through January 31, 2024. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has issued a closure to the State season for the same area (Emergency Order R1-2-23). Hunters are reminded that there is no Federal hunting season for goats in the Nunatak Bench area defined as; that area between the Hubbard Glacier and the West Nunatak Glacier on the north and east sides of Nunatak Fjord.

Aerial surveys indicate a decline in the mountain goat population starting in 2006. Harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative effects on the health and recovery of this population.

For additional information, contact U.S. Forest Service Yakutat District Ranger Lee Benson at (907) 784-3018 or call or email Wildlife Biologist Susan Oehlers at (907) 312-8003, susan.oehlers@usda.gov. Information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence

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