



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199



Forest Service

BEAR MOUNTAIN ZONE ON BARANOF ISLAND IN UNIT 4 IS CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF MOUNTAIN GOATS

TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION

Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
43 CFR 51.10 and .19

Temporary Special Action No: WSA 13-MG-04-25

Issued at: Sitka, Alaska, August 12, 2025

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday, August 14, 2025

Expiration Date 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, December 31, 2025, unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION: This Temporary Special Action closes the Bear Mountain Zone on Baranof Island near Sitka, Alaska to the harvest of mountain goats.

REGULATION: 36 CFR 242.26(n) and 43 CFR 51.26(n) are amended to read:

Unit 4 – Mountain Goat

1 goat by State registration permit only.

Aug. 1 - Dec. 31

South Baranof – Drainages south of Gut Bay and the east branch of Great Arm Whale Bay and their respective inlet streams; and north of the divide between Larch Bay and Port Conclusion.

Closed

Rosenberg Lake – North fork Nakwasina River drainages upstream of the Peak 3098 Creek confluence, south of the north fork Nakwasina River downstream of the Peak 3098 Creek confluence, and Rosenberg Lake/Creek drainages.

Closed

Bear Mountain – Silver Bay drainages between Sawmill and Medvejie Creeks, south of Blue Lake/Creek, west of the south fork Blue Lake Creek and northwest of Medvejie Creek to Baranof Pass.

Closed

JUSTIFICATION:

Data from collared mountain goats near Sitka documented that goats have high fidelity to small home ranges and are slow to recolonize vacant habitat. This finding, combined with high localized harvest in more accessible areas, led managers to develop an updated management strategy for mountain goats on Baranof Island beginning with the 2017 season. Baranof Island

was divided into 34 small hunt zones to allow biologists to manage at the subpopulation level, affording hunters more opportunities and reducing localized overharvest.

To date, one male and one unknown (unrecovered) goat have been harvested in the Bear Mountain zone of RG150. The management objective for this zone has been met and no further harvest is warranted. Harvest that exceeds objectives could lead to reduced hunting opportunity in the future.

A public hearing to discuss the 2025 Baranof Island mountain goat management strategy was held on July 24, 2025, in Sitka, Alaska. The 2025 strategy is similar to the 2024 strategy with distinct male and female harvest levels by zone. Female harvest is more restrictive than male harvest. As mountain goat harvest levels in zones are reached, they are closed.

The remainder of Baranof Island will remain open for goat hunting unless closed by special action. Future special actions may be issued to reopen zones if it is determined that subpopulations can sustain additional harvest.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to: /s/Eric Garner
Eric Garner
District Ranger
Sitka Ranger District
August 12, 2025

DISTRIBUTION:
RADIO

KHOO Radio-Hoonah Community FM Radio; KCAW radio – Sitka; KIFW radio – Sitka; KSBZ radio – Sitka

NEWSPAPERS
Sitka Daily Sentinel

TELEVISION
KSCT LP – Sitka, KYNL DT – Sitka, Simulcasts KATH LP – Sitka

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hoonah Indian Association; City of Hoonah; City of Tenakee; City of Sitka; Sitka Tribe of Alaska; City of Pelican, City of Angoon, Angoon Community Association; Don Hernandez, Southeast Regional Subsistence Advisory Council Chair; Stephen Bethune, ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation, Sitka; Ben Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, ADF&G; Mark Burch, Special Projects Coordinator, ADF&G; Monique Nelson, Forest Supervisor, USFS-Ketchikan; Joseph Boggs, USFS Law Enforcement Officer – Petersburg; Paul Robbins Jr., Public Affairs Officer, USFS – Ketchikan; Crystal Leonetti; Robbin LaVine, Justin Koller, Lisa Grediagin, Office of Subsistence Management – Anchorage; Alaska Department of Public Safety; Greg Risdahl, Robert Cross, Jacob Musslewhite, DeAnna Perry – USFS Subsistence Program.