



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

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

For Immediate Release

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Under the Authority of:

36 CFR Part 242.10 and .19

50 CFR Part 100.10 and .19

NAKWASINA RIVER DRAINAGE IS CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF MOUNTAIN GOATS BY ALL USERS IN UNIT 4 (Baranof Island)

The Sitka District Ranger is closing the Nakwasina River drainage to the harvest of mountain goats by all users, effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, August 12, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

The closure is made under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board. It was triggered when the nanny harvest quota for the Nakwasina River drainage management unit was met, as of Monday August 8th, 2011. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has also issued a closure in the same watershed, effective August 10, 2011 through the close of the season on December 31, 2011.

The majority of Baranof Island will remain open for goat hunting but will be managed as small management units with distinct male and female goat harvest caps. The harvest caps help ensure the long-term conservation of the mountain goat resource and are determined by maximum point totals. As in prior seasons, nanny harvest will be more restrictive than billy harvest when applied to the point total. If and when point totals are met, additional special actions will be issued to close other watersheds and zones to prevent overharvest of mountain goats.

A public hearing about mountain goat harvest on Baranof Island was held on July 15, 2011 in Sitka, Alaska. Residents of other affected communities were also able to participate by calling in. During the hearing, members of the public discussed the Baranof Island management plan for the 2011 hunting season and expressed support for conservation of mountain goats in the Sitka area through the proposed closure and harvest caps.

A map and description of the closed areas are available from the Sitka Ranger District Office and the Sitka area office of ADF&G. Information on federal subsistence management special actions for the Tongass National Forest can be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/subsistence/subsistence.shtml>. For additional information, contact Sitka Ranger District Subsistence Biologist Jack Lorrigan at 907-747-4299 or by email at jlorrigan@fs.fed.us

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Information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found at
<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>.

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