

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 02-01-15

Issued at Cordova, Alaska
February 27, 2015

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m.
May 27, 2015

Expiration Date: June 30, 2015
unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the State of Alaska resident and nonresident hunting season for black bear in Unit 6(D). Black bear hunting regulations in all other areas of Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.

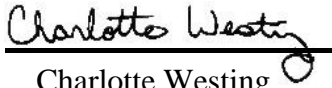
REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.015 (2), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Black Bear**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
Units and Bag Limits		
(2)		
...		
Unit 6(D)		
1 bear	Sept. 10-May 27	Sept. 10-May 27
...		

All other black bear hunting regulations in Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten
Acting Commissioner



By delegation to: Charlotte Westing
Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Black bear harvests increased in Unit 6D from the late 1990s to 2007. The number of harvested bears in Unit 6D has declined steadily since 2007 and the department has conservation concerns. Harvests in RY12 and RY13 were respectively 25% and 47% below the previous regulatory year. Additionally, anecdotal reports from a diverse group of users suggest a decline in bears during the last decade. The percentage of females in the harvest has increased the last three regulatory years and has been above management objectives in every year since 2006. Three of the last five years have had exceptional weather that may have impacted black bear behavior, availability and possibly survival. In order to prevent over-harvest, the black bear season in Unit 6D will be closed on 27 May, 2015 at 11:59 pm. This date was determined considering a Maximum Allowable Harvest objective of 200 bears and the date at which that harvest is traditionally met.

DISTRIBUTION:

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