

# Hunting and Trapping

## Emergency Order

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No. 02-01-22**

**Issued at:** Anchorage, Alaska  
August 3, 2022

**Effective Date:** 12:01 AM  
July 1, 2022

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2023  
at 11:59 p.m. unless superseded  
by subsequent emergency order

### EXPLANATION:

In spring 1992, the Alaska Board of Game adopted a lynx harvest tracking strategy in Southcentral game management units with framework trapping seasons of November 10 through the last day of February. The board delegated authority to the department to adjust season dates within this framework to track population cycles. In March 2005, the board determined lynx hunting seasons, but not bag limits, would be included as part of the lynx tracking harvest strategy. In March 2009, the board eliminated the tracking strategy in Unit 6 and established a permanent hunting and trapping season of November 10 through the last day of February.

This emergency order meets the lynx management needs for 2022–2023 by adjusting lynx hunting and trapping seasons for the Region 2 units managed under the lynx tracking harvest strategy.

Based on information collected during the past season, the lynx trapping season will open January 1 through February 15 in Units 7 and 15 with no bag limit. The lynx trapping season will open November 10 through February 28 in Unit 14C. The lynx hunting season will be open from January 1 through February 15 in Units 7 and 15, and November 10 through February 28 in Unit 14C, both with a hunting bag limit of 2 lynx.

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping**, and **5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for lynx hunting and trapping:

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Open Season</b>	<b>Bag limit</b>
<b>5AAC 84.270(5), Furbearer trapping</b>		
(5) Lynx		
Units 7 and 15	Jan. 1 – Feb. 15	No limit.
Unit 14C	Nov. 10 – Feb. 28	No limit.
<b>5 AAC 85.060(4), Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals</b>		
(4) Lynx		
Units 7 and 15	Jan. 1 – Feb. 15	2 lynx
Unit 14C	Nov. 10 – Feb. 28	2 lynx

All other lynx hunting and trapping regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to: 

Cynthia Wardlow  
Regional Supervisor

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

#### **Units 7 and 15: Kenai Peninsula**

Observations and track counts indicate snowshoe hare and lynx populations have increased on the Kenai Peninsula to a level that justifies opening a lynx trapping season this year in Units 7 and 15 and to open lynx hunting and trapping seasons. Kitten production and survival is expected to continue to increase during RY22 as the hare population increases.

#### **Units 14C Anchorage and Chugach State Park**

Snowshoe hare populations peaked throughout most of Unit 14C around 2000 to 2001, again in 2011–2012 and most likely peaked again within the last three years. Lynx populations have followed similar patterns. Lynx season was closed to both hunting and trapping from RY14–RY19 due to low population estimates. Observations indicated that both snowshoe hare and lynx populations had increased to a level that would support hunting and trapping

seasons for lynx beginning in RY20, so both hunting and trapping seasons were opened, and will remain open in RY22.

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