



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEW ALASKA GAME LAWS FORBID SHOOTING OF MOUNTAIN SHEEP

The shooting of mountain sheep is forbidden by the 1949-50 Alaska Game Regulations, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service disclosed today.

To prevent extinction of Alaska's depleted herds of mountain sheep, the closed season was prescribed for the first time in the Territory's history. The Service recently began an extensive wolf- and coyote-control program in Alaska as another measure to save the white mountain sheep, which are found nowhere else under the U.S. flag.

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug signed the 1949-50 Alaska Game Regulations on May 2. Complete printed texts will be made available in July, when the new laws go into effect, by the Alaska Game Commission, Federal Building, Juneau, Alaska.

Other new features of the Game Regulations are a shortened season on deer in Southeastern Alaska, opening of certain areas in Southeastern Alaska to moose shooting, and eliminations of the December 1 - 15 season on caribou south of the Alaska Range and the five-day December season on moose in the Kenai Peninsula. The restrictions were made to conserve seriously depleted herds.

The open season on deer runs from September 1 to November 7 in Southeastern Alaska. Bag limit is two deer a season for residents; one for non-residents. The deer season for the rest of Alaska (except the Kodiak-Afognak Island group) is September 10 - October 10, with a one deer-limit for the season.

The moose season for Southeastern Alaska (except the Stikine and Unuk River areas) runs from September 1 to September 20. In the Stikine and Unuk River areas and on most of the Kenai Peninsula, the season is September 15 - October 14. Elsewhere in the Territory, with a few exceptions, the season runs September 1 - 20 and December 1 - 10. Bag limit is one moose a year.

The caribou season south of the Alaska Range runs August 20 - September 30. Elsewhere in Alaska, with a few exceptions, the season runs August 20 - September 30 and December 1 - 15. Limit is one caribou a year.

Mountain goats may be taken from August 20 to November 15 throughout the Territory, except for several closed areas. Limit for residents is two a season; for non-residents, one.

Investigations of the Alaska Game Commission, personal observations of private citizens, hunting guides and agencies within the Territory, and testimony presented at public hearings held at Juneau in February, formed the basis of the regulations drafted by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

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