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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Port Valdez North Goat Hunt Scheduled to Open October 1**

(Cordova) – Registration permit hunt RG248 for mountain goats in Game Management Unit 6(D) will open for the 2014 regulatory year on October 1. The hunt area includes the mainland drainages of Sheep Creek; north of Port Valdez, Robe Lake, and the Richardson Highway; and east of Shoup Glacier. Permits will be available at “The Prospector” in Valdez starting September 15.

An aerial survey of the area conducted in 2013 found a minimum count of 115 goats. The department set the maximum allowable harvest of five “goat points.” Under the goat points system, a billy (male) counts as one point and a nanny (female) as two.

While nannies without kids are legal game, hunters are encouraged to take billies. Focusing harvest on billies is better for the population and allows more hunters to participate. This is especially true for this area because the quota is small and many people are interested in hunting. To receive a permit for RG248, hunters must successfully complete the goat identification quiz and print a copy of the quiz to present to The Prospector. Educational materials about goat hunting and the goat identification quiz are available online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> in the mountain goat section.

Prior to hunting, permit holders must confirm that the goat season remains open and inquire about the number of goats already taken. The season will close by emergency order when the maximum allowable harvest is met or on October 10.

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