

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Bruce Dale, Acting Director
Region II, Cordova Area Office
PO Box 669
Cordova, AK 99574



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sam Cotten, Acting Commissioner
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Charlotte Westing
Area Wildlife Biologist
(907) 424-3215
charlotte.westing@alaska.gov

Southwestern Prince William Sound Goat Hunt Closes

(Cordova)- Registration permit hunt RG266 for mountain goats in Unit 6D will close at 11:59 p.m. on December 20 by Emergency Order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Hunt area RG266 includes that portion of Unit 6(D) including mainland drainages south of Icy Bay, Tiger Glacier and Sargent Icefield, east of Cape Fairfield, and west of Port Bainbridge and Bainbridge Passage.

Aerial surveys conducted in September 2014 found a minimum count of 291 goats in registration permit area RG266. The department set the maximum allowable state harvest at 10 goat units. Additional take beyond the harvest objective could harm the long-term stability of the mountain goat population. According to Cordova Area Biologist Charlotte Westing, the harvest is currently at 6 billies and 2 nannies. Hunters are currently in the field, and therefore it is likely that additional goats have been taken and not yet reported. This closure is necessary to prevent unsustainable harvest.

This closure affects only registration permit hunt RG266 in Unit 6D. All other mountain goat hunting regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.

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