

Division of Wildlife Conservation  
Bruce Dale Director  
Region I – Southeast Alaska  
802 3rd Street  
Douglas, AK 99824-5412  
(907) 465-4265



Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Sam Cotten, Commissioner  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## PRESS RELEASE

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### CONTACT:

Carl Koch  
Asst. Area Biologist  
(907) 465-4329

# AREA BETWEEN EAST FORK OF THE SKAGWAY RIVER AND CANADIAN BORDER CLOSED TO GOAT HUNTING

(Juneau) –The guideline harvest for mountain goats has been reached in a portion of the RG024 mountain goat hunt near Skagway, Alaska. An emergency order (01-11-15) has been issued to close the mountain goat hunting season in the area bounded by the White Pass and Yukon Railroad on the west side, the East Fork of the Skagway River on the south side, and the Canadian border to the north and east side at **11:59 P.M., on Thursday, October 8, 2015.**

A guideline harvest objective of 1-2 points (male goats=1 point, female goats=2 points) was established by ADF&G for the area described above. As of Wednesday, October 7, 2015 one female goat had been harvested for a total of 2 points. Due to the vulnerability of goats in this area to overharvesting the department conducted an aerial survey on September 7, 2015 which revealed low numbers of goats (9 adults). Due to the low number of goats observed, the decision was made to limit the harvest to just 1-2 points in this area. Because the guideline harvest level has been reached and any additional harvest may be detrimental to the sustainability of this population of goats, an emergency order has been issued to close the mountain goat hunting season in this area.

Those portions of Unit 1D not affected by this emergency order, and not previously closed by emergency order, will remain open until the harvest guidelines are reached or the seasons come to their scheduled conclusions. Please consult your Alaska Hunting Regulations for descriptions of hunt areas, boundaries, and season dates. For additional information concerning mountain goat hunting in Game Management Unit 1D contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at (907) 465-4329 or (907) 465-4265.

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