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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Registration Goat Hunt RG204 Closes**

(Cordova)- Registration permit hunt RG204 for mountain goats in Unit 6A will close at 11:59 p.m. on October 25 by Emergency Order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Hunt area RG204 includes that portion of Unit 6A west of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park boundary, south and east of the main channel of the Duktoth River, north and west of the east bank of the White River, and north of White River Glacier.

The last aerial surveys for goats in registration permit area RG204 found 239 goats. The department set the maximum allowable harvest at 9 goat units. Additional take beyond the harvest objective could harm the long-term stability of the mountain goat population. The harvest is currently at 8 reported billies and 1 unrecoverable goat. 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 an unsustainable harvest.

This closure affects only registration permit hunt RG204 in Unit 6A. 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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