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PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release: October 03, 2013 **CONTACT:** Stephanie Sell Asst. Area Management Biologist (907) 465-4266

PARTIAL CLOSURE OF TAKSHANUK MOUNTAINS TO GOAT HUNTING

Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game are announcing an early closure to the mountain goat hunting season (RG023) in the Takshanuk Mountain Range, east of the Haines Highway and Chilkat River, west of Chilkoot Lake and River, and north to Goat Hollow.

Based on survey information collected in September 2012, a guideline harvest objective of 10 points (male goat=1 point & female goat=2 points) was established for the middle portion of the Takshanuk Mountain Range. As of Thursday, October 3rd, 2013, 7 goats have been harvested in this area, including 3 male goats (3 points) and 4 female goats (8 points) for a total of 11 points. Due to the vulnerability of goats in this area and because the guideline harvest level set by ADF&G has been met, an emergency order (01-08-13) is being issued to close the goat hunting season in the middle portion of the Takshanuk Mountains.

Effective at **11:59 p.m., Friday, October 4, 2013**, the middle portion of the Takshanuk Mountains, south from Goat Hollow to Tukgahgo Mountain is closed to goat hunting. The Tukgahgo Mountain to the city of Haines hunt area was previously closed by emergency order (01-05-13).

Hunters are reminded that the northern portion of the Takshanuk Mountains, from Goat Hollow through Klutshah Mountain, and the remainder of GMU 1D, except for those areas previously closed by emergency order, remain open for mountain goat hunting.

If you have any questions about this closure, please call Stephanie Sell at ADF&G in Douglas at 465-4266.

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