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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: September 17, 2018

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Upper Benzeman Mt. Goat Hunt Zone Closed

(Sitka) – Biologists set a maximum harvest quota of four male goats or one female for the Upper Benzeman Zone of the Unit 4 registration mountain goat hunt on Baranof Island (RG150). Quotas were calculated from 2017 survey results. The one female limit was set to encourage harvest of males and has been a successful strategy, allowing hunters more opportunity and lowering the risk of localized overharvest. As of Monday, September 17, 2018, four male goats have been reported harvested. Because the maximum harvest quota has been met in this zone, an emergency order

(EO) is being issued to close this zone to goat hunting at 11:59 PM, Wednesday, September 19, 2018.

Emergency Order 01-6-18 was issued to close the mountain goat season in the Upper Benzeman Zone of RG150 on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 @ 11:59 PM.

This emergency order is necessary to restrict the harvest to the maximum sustainable level and prevent overharvest in this zone. Any additional harvest could have long-term negative effects on this goat population.

Those portions of Unit 4 not affected by this emergency order will remain open until harvest quotas are reached or the season concludes.

Previous EO's are listed online at: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wc</u> <u>news.main</u>.

For additional information please contact the Sitka area office at (907) 747-5449.

