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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: October 5, 2020 **CONTACT:** Charlotte Westing Area Wildlife Biologist (907) 424-3215 <u>charlotte.westing@alaska.gov</u>

Goat Hunt RG252 Closes East of Unakwik Inlet

(Cordova) – Registration permit hunt RG252 for mountain goats in Game Management Unit 6D will close by emergency order at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6. The hunt includes areas east of Unakwik Inlet and Meares Glacier, west of the Columbia Glacier, and south of the second branch of Columbia Glacier.

The 2019 aerial survey found a minimum count of 459 goats in the RG252 permit area. The department increased the maximum allowable harvest to 22 goat points. The current reported harvest is 19 billies; each billy counts as one goat point, each nanny counts as two goat points, and each unrecoverable goat counts as one and one-half (1.5) goat points. Hunters currently remain in the field and it's likely that additional goats have been taken and not yet reported. Harvest that exceeds objectives could lead to reduced future hunting opportunity.

This closure affects only registration permit hunt RG252 in Unit 6D. All other mountain goat hunting regulations in the remainder of Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.

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