Division of Wildlife Conservation Ryan Scott, Acting Director

Region II, Kodiak Area Office 351 Research Court Kodiak, AK 99615-7400



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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## Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: November 22, 2023

## Mountain Goat Registration Hunt RG479 Will Close Early

(Kodiak) – The bow and arrow-only registration mountain goat hunt RG479 (North Road System) for Alaska residents will close Friday November 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm. The hunt opened on November 1, 2023 following the conclusion of drawing permit hunt DG479 in order to allow certified archery hunters the opportunity to continue hunting in the area until the harvest objective was met. As of November 21, 2023 the total reported harvest from the North Road System hunt area was 21 goats and no further harvest is warranted at this time.

Following the completion of minimum count abundance surveys in the North Road System hunt area a harvest objective of 21 goats was established for the fall 2023 hunting season. This harvest objective was intended to provide hunting opportunities in the area while also maintaining the population at current levels. Following the conclusion of the DG479 permit hunt the total reported harvest of goats from the North Road System hunt area was 19 goats. An additional 2 goats were harvested during the archery-only hunt bringing the total number of goats harvested to 21, meeting the harvest objective for this hunt area. Registration permit hunt RG479 opened November 1, 2023 in order to provide certified archery hunters the opportunity to take additional animals from the hunt area in order to meet the harvest objective.

As a result of this emergency order closure the registration mountain goat hunt for certified Alaska Resident hunters hunting with bow and arrow, muzzleloader, or crossbow, RG489 will not open.

This emergency order closure does not affect the 5 remaining registration goat hunts that opened on November 1, 2023; RG471 (Wild Creek - Center Mountain), RG473 (Hidden Basin), RG474 (Uganik River), RG476 (Kiliuda Bay), and bow and arrow-only hunt RG478 (South Road System). To participate in RG471, RG473, or RG474, hunters must first pick up a permit at the tribal offices in the Village of Port Lions. To participate in RG476, hunters must first pick up a permit at the tribal offices in the Village of Old Harbor. Permits for registration hunt RG478 (South Road System; bow and arrow-only) are available at the Kodiak Fish and Game office or online at http://hunt.alaska.gov. Only certified bow and arrow hunters may obtain a permit for RG478. Registration hunts RG471-RG479 are open to Alaska residents only. Registration hunt RG472 (Crown Mountain) remains closed.

In the southwestern part of Kodiak Island (RG480) where goat populations are expanding, liberal hunting regulations allow up to a seven-month registration hunt with a two-goat bag limit for resident and nonresident

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hunters. Registration hunt RG480 (Southwest Kodiak) opened August 20 and will remain open until March 20, unless closed by emergency order. Permits for RG480 are available online at <u>http://hunt.alaska.gov</u> or in

person in Anchorage, Homer, Kodiak, Palmer, and Soldotna, with a two-goat bag limit. Hunters intending to harvest two goats must obtain two permits and must report on both permits individually. Hunters obtaining two hunt permits for RG480 are limited to taking only 1 male goat.

Registration mountain goat hunts are controlled by harvest quota and hunters are encouraged to contact the Kodiak office at 907-486-1880 prior to hunting to check individual hunt status.

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