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## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release: October 5, 2016*

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# **EAST FORK OF THE SKAGWAY RIVER TO KASIDAYA CREEK CLOSED TO MOUNTAIN GOAT HUNTING**

(Juneau) – An emergency order (01-13-16) has been issued to close the mountain goat hunting season in the area bounded by the East Fork of the Skagway River on the north side, Kasidaya Creek on the south side, Taiya Inlet, and the White Pass and Yukon Railroad on the west, and the Canadian border on the east at **11:59 P.M., on Thursday, October 6, 2016.**

Based on recent survey data, ADF&G established a guideline harvest objective of 1-2 points (male goats=1 point, female goats=2 points) for the area described above. Few goats, particularly kids, were found during September 7, 2015 (21 adults, 0 kids) and September 11, 2016 (39 adults, 3 kids) surveys. As of Tuesday morning, October 4, 2016 one female goat was reported harvested for a total of 2 points. Because the guideline harvest level has been reached and any additional harvest may be detrimental to the sustainability and future harvest opportunity for this population, an emergency order has been issued to close the mountain goat hunting season in this area.

Those portions of Unit 1D not affected by this emergency order, and not previously closed by emergency order, will remain open until the harvest guidelines are reached or the seasons come to their scheduled conclusions. Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game encourage hunters to target male goats to allow for higher sustainable harvest. Hunters with questions about mountain goat hunting in Game Management Unit 1D contact Carl Koch in the Douglas Area Office at (907) 465-4329.

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