Division of Wildlife Conservation Doug Vincent-Lang, Director 333 Raspberry Road Anchorage, AK, 99518



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**PRESS RELEASE** 

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## **Twentymile Drainage Resident Registration Goat Hunt RG868 Closes**

(Anchorage) – Mountain goat hunt RG868 in the Twentymile River drainage south of Anchorage will close by emergency order at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, September 26, 2014. Hunters have already taken most of the allowable harvest, thanks in part to favorable weather conditions. With several hunting parties remaining in the field, Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists have determined that an early closure is the best course of action to ensure the quota for RG868 is not exceeded.

The most recent mountain goat survey in the Twentymile area was conducted in 2011 when 111 goats were counted. The population objective for all of Game Management Unit 14C, which includes the Twentymile drainage and surrounding areas, is at least 500 goats. The objective provides a sustainable annual harvest of 25 goats comprised of at least 60 percent males. To maintain that goal, the Twentymile River drainage has a harvest target of no more than nine "goat units." Goat units are calculated using one unit for billies and two units for nannies. The Twentymile drainage is managed through separate registration hunts for resident and nonresident hunters. Seven of the total goat units are allotted for resident hunters. To date, resident hunters have harvested six goat units (four billies and one nanny) in the Twentymile drainage, and additional hunters remain in the field.

All other goat hunts in Game Management Unit 14C, including the nonresident season in the Twentymile drainage, are unaffected by the emergency order. For more information concerning this closure, contact Anchorage Area Wildlife Biologist Jessy Coltrane at (907) 267-2811.

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