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PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release: July 11, 2016 CONTACT: Carl Koch Assist. Area Biologist (907) 465-4329

Mountain Goat Quiz Required For All Unit 1D Goat Hunters

Due to an increase in the number of female mountain goats harvested in the Game Management Unit (GMU) 1D (Haines/Skagway) over the last few years, all goat hunters are now required to complete and pass an <u>online</u> mountain goat identification quiz prior to obtaining a registration permit (RG023, RG024, RG025, and RG026). Mountain goat registration permits will be available beginning July 15, 2016 at Fish and Game offices in southeast or online at <u>www.hunt.alaska.gov</u>. The quiz and goat identification materials can be found in the "highlights" section at <u>www.hunt.alaska.gov</u> or by typing the following link into your internet browser:

<u>www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=goatidentification.main</u>. After achieving a passing score (80%) hunters are provided with instructions to submit the results to Fish and Game electronically. To be issued a registration permit and legally hunt mountain goats in GMU 1D all hunters must first submit proof of a passing score.

Biologists with the department encourage all goat hunters to take the time to carefully observe goats and target male goats. Harvest of females results earlier season closures and can reduce goat numbers to where they can no longer sustain a harvest. The quiz and educational materials are intended to help hunters correctly identify male goats in the field, which allows for a higher and more sustainable harvest.

The Department encourages hunters to read the materials and take the quiz in advance of the season to prevent delays in the registration process. Hunters with questions about goat hunting in GMU 1D can contact Carl Koch, in the Douglas Area Office at 907-465-4329.

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