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PRESS RELEASE

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Kenai Peninsula Registration Goat Hunts RG346, RG360 Close by Emergency Order

(SOLDOTNA) – To prevent overharvest, two popular Kenai Peninsula mountain goat hunts – one located outside of Seward, the other near Homer – will close for the season this weekend. Registration hunts RG346 and RG360 will close by emergency order on November 11, at 11:59 p.m.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game manages mountain goat populations by calculating "goat units." Each billy is counted as one goat unit and each nanny represents two goat units. Aerial surveys are used to count mountain goats and set harvest quotas for individual hunt areas.

As of November 9, the reported harvest for RG346 was seven goat units – five billies and one nanny. The maximum allowable harvest for this hunt is eight goat units. Registration hunt RG346 is located outside of Seward between Resurrection Bay and Day Harbor in Game Management Unit 7.

The harvest quota for registration goat hunt RG360 was calculated at seven goat units. As of November 9, hunters had reported harvesting six goat units – four billies and one nanny. Registration goat hunt RG360 is located east of Homer on the far side of Kachemak Bay in Game Management Unit 15.

Harvest quotas are established by the department to prevent overharvest. Registration goats hunts are frequently closed by emergency order when reported harvests approach or achieve the harvest quota for a given hunt area.

For more information, contact Kenai Area Wildlife Biologist Jeff Selinger in Soldotna at (907) 260-2905, or <u>jeff.selinger@alaska.gov</u>.