



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: October 3, 2026

Eagle Glacier to Sawmill Creek Closed to Mountain Goat Hunting in Unit 1C

(Douglas) – Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Douglas announce an early closure to the mountain goat hunting season under the state registration permit hunt RG012 for that portion of Unit 1C from Eagle Glacier and Eagle River to Sawmill Creek.

An aerial survey conducted on October 3, 2019, in the area between Eagle Glacier and Sawmill Creek resulted in low goat counts. A total of 42 goats (26% kids) were observed. Previous surveys recorded 35 goats (26% kids) in 2018, 38 goats (12% kids) in 2016, and 64 goats (42% kids) in 2015. Goat numbers began declining in the area after the severe winter of 2006/2007 and population had not yet fully recovered before the severe winter of 2025/2026 likely further reduced mountain goat survival. In 2026, during mountain goat research in this area the numbers of goats observed were again low.

Although goats are not isolated in these areas, historical survey data and recent GPS radio collar information suggest little movement between drainages. Because goats exhibit high site fidelity, areas with low densities may require longer periods to recover. Allowing additional harvest before the population rebounds could delay recovery further. Given the low number of goats observed during recent surveys and the potential impacts of the 2025/2026 winter, area managers consider it prudent to close the season in this area until survey data show the population has rebounded.

Emergency Order R1-9-26 closes the mountain goat season in this area on Sunday, October, 4th @ 11:59 pm.

The remaining portion of registration mountain goat hunt RG012—area east of Sawmill Creek to Antler Lake—and all other mountain goat hunting regulations in Unit 1C are not affected by this Emergency Order.

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