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## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release: October 30, 2015*

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# **CLOSURE TO MOUNTAIN GOAT HUNTING IN THE SKAGWAY PIE ARCHERY ONLY AREA (RG024)**

The guideline harvest level for mountain goats has been met in the archery only area between the Taiya Inlet and River and the White Pass and Yukon Railroads to the Canadian border (commonly referred to as the Skagway Pie). An emergency order (01-16-15) was issued to close the goat hunting season in this area at **11:59 pm on Saturday, October 31, 2015**.

Those portions of Unit 1D not affected by this emergency order, and not previously closed, will remain open until the harvest guidelines are reached or the seasons come to their scheduled conclusions.

An aerial survey conducted on September 7, 2015 resulted in a low goat count; a total of 12 adults and 6 kids were observed. A combined guideline harvest objective of 1-2 points (male goat = 1 point & female goat = 2 points) was established for the archery only area of RG024 between the Taiya Inlet and River and the White Pass and Yukon Railroads to the Canadian border. As of Friday, October 30, 2015 one female goat has been harvested in this area for a total of 2 points. Due to the vulnerability of goats in this area based on the recent aerial survey, and because the guideline harvest level has been met, an emergency order (01-16-15) is being issued to close the goat hunting season in this area at 11:59 pm on Saturday, October 31, 2015.

Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game encourage hunters to target male goats to allow for a higher sustainable harvest. Hunters with questions about goat hunting can contact Carl Koch, in the Douglas Area Office at 907-465-4329.

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