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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: October 8, 2020

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PARTIAL CLOSURE OF TAKSHANUK MOUNTAINS TO GOAT HUNTING

Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game are announcing an early closure to the mountain goat hunting season (RG023) in the Takshanuk Mountain Range, east of the Haines Highway and Chilkat River, west of Chilkoot Lake and River, and north to Goat Hollow.

Based on the aerial survey information, a guideline harvest objective of 8-9 points (male goat=1 point & female goat=2 points) was established for the middle portion of the Takshanuk Mountain Range. As of Thursday, October 8, 2020 a total of 6 goats have been harvested in this area, including 4 male goats (4 points) and 2 female goats (2 points) for a total of 8 points. In addition, snowfall last winter was 45% above the long-term average and may have increased winter mortality. Due to the vulnerability of goats in this area to additional harvest beyond the guideline harvest level, an emergency order (01-16-20) is being issued to close the goat hunting season in the middle portion of the Takshanuk Mountains at **11:59 pm on Friday, October 9, 2020.**

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.

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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