## PROPOSAL 29

## 5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Expand the hunt area of the RG014 archery goat hunt in Unit 1C as follows:

I recommend that the hunt area be expanded:

The most preferable expansion of RG014 would be to include the north side of Blackerby Ridge and the entirety of Thunder Mountain/Heintzelmann Ridge. This hunt area includes the area of Thunder Mountain/Heintzelmann Ridge and reduces potential conflicts with goat viewing opportunities associated with the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area by limiting the hunt to over the 2000-ft contour. The hunt area would read:

"that mainland portion draining into the south bank of Little Sheep Creek, Gastineau Channel south of Little Sheep Creek, Stephens Passage, and Taku Inlet between the mouth of Little Sheep Creek and Taku Glacier including Blackerby Ridge, portions of Thunder Mountain, and Heintzelmann Ridge encompassed by a line from Nugget Mountain northwest to the 2000-ft contour, along that contour around Thunder Mountain/Heintzelmann Ridge and Blackerby Ridge to the northern shore of the Salmon Creek Reservoir, then following the north shore of the Salmon Creek Reservoir to the main drainage at the head of the reservoir following that drainage south and east up the ridgeline and east to Olds Mountain, then following a line back to Nugget Mountain."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? RG014 has been a successful example of small population management for goats in areas of higher population in Southeast Alaska. The current hunt area, which is generally limited to the south face of Blackerby Ridge in Juneau, is unnecessarily restrictive for hunters. The area is generally used by hikers which further limits hunter success. In order to reduce the number of user conflicts, I propose that the hunt area under RG014 be expanded.

**PROPOSED BY:** Tyler Riberio (EG-F22-122)