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PRESS RELEASE

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CLOSURE TO MOUNTAIN GOAT HUNTING ALONG CHILKOOT LAKE (RG023) IN UNIT 1D

The guideline harvest level for mountain goat has been met along Chilkoot Lake and Lutak Inlet, from Taiyasanka Harbor to the northern end of Chilkoot Lake. An emergency order (01-19-16) was issued to close the goat hunting season in this area at **11:59 pm on Friday, October 14, 2016.**

Based on a fall 2014 aerial survey (31 adults, 12 kids), a guideline harvest objective of 2 points (male goat= 1 point & female goat= 2 points) was established for the area described above. During a subsequent survey conducted on October 2, 2016 27 adults and 7 kids were observed. As of Thursday October 13, 2016, one female goat has been harvested in this area, for a total of 2 points. Due to the vulnerability of goats in this area, low number of goats seen during aerial surveys, and because the guideline harvest level has been met, an emergency order (01-19-16) is being issued.

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 goat 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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