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# Alaska Department of Fish & Game

## NEWS

July 31, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Mountain Goat season closure in a portion of Unit 5(A)

Biologists with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Douglas announced a closure to the mountain goat hunting season under the state registration permit hunt RG170, for that portion of unit 5(A) that is bounded by the western edge of Harlequin Lake and the Yakutat Glacier on the east, Russell Fiord on the west, and Nunatak Fiord (including the East Nunatak Glacier) on the north.

Aerial surveys conducted by ADF&G staff during 2006 (survey 1=122 goats and survey 2=117 goats), 2007 (66 goats) and 2008 (survey 1=53 goats and survey 2=57 goats) showed a dramatic decline in goat numbers. Any harvest of goats in this area could have long term negative impacts on the health of this goat herd.

**An Emergency Order (01-01-09) was issued that closed the mountain goat season in this area on Friday, 31 July 2009 @ 11:59 pm.**

All other mountain goat hunting regulations in Unit 5A remain unchanged and are not affected by this Emergency Order. Yakutat residents are reminded that this does not affect the federal subsistence season.

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