

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Doug Vincent-Lang, Acting Director
Region II – Southcentral Alaska
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518
(907) 424-3215



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Cora Campbell, Commissioner
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

www.adfg.alaska.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Dave Crowley, Area Wildlife Biologist
PHONE: (907) 424-3215
e-mail: dave.crowley@alaska.gov

Unit 6 Deer Season to Close

Cordova – Resident and nonresident hunting for deer in Unit 6 will close at one minute before midnight on December 7, 2012, by emergency order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Cordova wildlife biologist Dave Crowley reported that winter mortality during the 2011-12 winter exceeded 50-70% in areas of Unit 6 because of heavy snow that persisted into late spring. During normal years hunter harvest has little overall impact to deer numbers in Prince William Sound compared to winter mortality. However, with the population now at a reduced density, additional harvest of deer could delay recovery of the population. December snowfall often concentrates deer near beaches in Unit 6D, where they are vulnerable to heavy harvest by boat-based hunters.