

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Bruce Dale, Director
Region II – Southcentral Alaska
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sam Cotten, Commissioner
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Nathan Svoboda
Area Management Biologist
Kodiak, (907) 486-1880**

Three Kodiak Mountain Goat Registration Hunts to Remain Closed; Five Other Opportunities Open Nov. 1

(Kodiak) – Three popular Kodiak Island registration mountain goat hunts will not open this year due to larger than expected harvests achieved in drawing hunts earlier this fall, but five hunts in more remote areas are scheduled to open November 1.

The Hidden Basin - East Terror Lake (RG473) and North and South Road System hunt areas (RG478 and RG479) will not open because drawing hunt harvests exceeded targets established by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Unusually fair weather during the drawing hunt seasons created optimal hunting conditions resulting in a high hunter success rate.

The five registration hunts scheduled to open include RG471, RG472, RG474 (Port Lions), RG476 (Old Harbor), and RG480 (southwest Kodiak). To participate in any of the first four hunts, hunters must first pick up a permit in the tribal offices of the village closest to the hunt area – either Port Lions or Old Harbor. Permits for RG480 can be picked up in person at department offices in Palmer, Anchorage, Homer, Soldotna or Kodiak; or online at

https://secure.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=interperm.issue_permit_greeting&_ga=1.231797983.1159294538.1445963145

All five areas will open November 1, but hunters are encouraged to contact the department's Kodiak office prior to hunting to check individual hunt status.

Eight Kodiak Island mountain goat hunt areas are currently managed by drawing and registration permits. Goat harvest quotas are established annually for each hunt area. Harvest quotas in individual permit areas range from 5 percent to 20 percent. If harvest quota objectives are not met during the drawing permit season, registration permits are issued. In the southwestern part of Kodiak (RG480), where goat populations are expanding, liberal hunting regulations allow a seven-month registration hunt with a two-goat bag limit for resident and nonresident hunters. Hunters intending to take two goats must get two permits and report on both individually.

The mountain goat population on Kodiak originated from 11 females and seven males which were moved from the Kenai Peninsula to the Hidden Basin area in 1952 and 1953. The first hunting season was authorized in 1968, and permits have been issued each year since then with permit numbers and open areas changing to reflect population trends and goat movements. Mountain goats currently occupy all available goat habitats on the island, and goats have been confirmed as far as Halibut Bay and Akalura Lake. Based on data from comprehensive aerial surveys, the goat population on Kodiak Island in 2015 is estimated to be approximately 2,700 goats.

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