

## **Suggested Approach for Addressing Sheep Proposals**

The Board of Game (board) will be considering a number of proposals for potential changes to sheep hunting season dates, bag limits, and method and means in February and March 2015. The board is not limited by the specific language in the actual proposals and may consider alternative language. This following list of options has been compiled by board member Spraker for the board's consideration at the January 2015 Work Session. The board may choose to develop a proposal on any of these items which would then be distributed to the public for solicitation of comment. Any proposal resulting from the board's consideration at the Work Session will be made available on the board's website at [www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov).

### **Status quo:**

1. Current hunt types, seasons, and method and means will remain unchanged.

### **Existing draw hunts:**

1. All existing drawing and registration hunts will stay in place and remain unchanged.

### **Options for nonresident hunters:**

1. Nonresident hunters on private, state, and BLM managed lands will be entered into a limited draw for the entire season, permit allocation by Subunit.
2. Nonresident hunters on private, state, and BLM managed lands will be entered into a limited draw from Aug. 10 to 31, (permit allocation by Subunit) followed by a general season harvest ticket hunt.
3. NOTE: Nonresidents hunting on National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service managed lands are already limited due to the guide concession program, so this proposal does not address those hunters and hunt areas.

### **Options for resident hunters:**

1. Resident hunting season will change from a general season harvest ticket to a limited draw for August 10 – August 31, and will remain a general season harvest ticket for the remainder of the season. Drawing hunt areas will be defined on a Game Management Subunit level.
2. Resident hunting season will change from a general season harvest ticket to a limited draw for August 10 – August 25, and will remain a general season harvest ticket for the remainder of the season. Draw hunt areas will be defined on a Game Management Subunit level.
3. Resident hunting season will change from a general season harvest ticket to a limited draw for August 10 – August 19, and will remain a general season harvest ticket for

- the remainder of the season. Draw hunt areas will be defined on a Game Management Subunit level.
4. Hunters must chose to apply for current drawing hunts or one of the registration hunts by the December Drawing deadline. Hunters may not choose a registration hunt if they apply for any drawing hunt. All hunters may hunt the late open season.
    - a. 1st season registration: August 10-13 (length of season is very short to discourage choosing the “opener”, length of season could be up to 5 days if desired)
    - b. 2nd season registration: August 14-21 (short season but not too short to encourage choosing this option over 1st season)
    - c. 3rd season registration: August 22-31 (longer season for those that want a traditional ten day hunt)
    - d. 4th season general harvest: September 1-20 (Open season for all applicants that didn’t get drawn in drawing hunts, forgot to apply for either drawings or registrations or were not successful in earlier hunts.
  5. Hunters must register according to his/her last name. The season will be divided into three hunt periods. Hunters with a last name starting with letters A through I can only hunt during the first period (August 10 – August 23); hunters with a last name starting with letters J through Q can only hunt during the second period (August 24 – September 6); hunters with a last name starting with letters R through Z can only hunt during the last period (September 7 – 20). The following year, hunters from the first period hunt second, hunters from the second period hunt last and the last group hunts during the first period. This rotate allows hunters to hunt the first period once every three years.

**Potential changes to use of aircraft for sheep hunting:**

1. From August 10 to September 20 aircraft may only be used to place hunters and camps, maintain existing camps, and salvage meat and trophies while used for the purpose of Dall sheep hunting. Using an aircraft for the purpose of spotting sheep or locating Dall sheep during the open hunting season is prohibited.
2. It is against the law to hunt or help someone else take a Dall sheep until 2 PM the day following the day you have flown.
3. It is against the law to hunt or help someone else take a Dall sheep within 5 miles of the site where you were flown-in, until 24 (48) hours after you have flown.
4. Note: suggestions in 2 and 3 do not apply if you have flown on a regularly scheduled commercial or commuter airplane.

**Submitted by ADF&G Boards Support Section  
at the request of Board Chairman Ted Spraker.**