

Proposal 21

Modify the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 21

Background

Current Restriction:

- Aircraft may only be used to place hunters and camps, maintain existing camps and salvage meat and trophies.
- Using aircraft to spot or locate sheep is prohibited

Proposal 21

Modify the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 22

Modify the restrictions on the use of aircraft for sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Professional Hunters Association

Proposal 22

Background

Current Restriction:

- Aircraft may only be used to place hunters and camps, maintain existing camps and salvage meat and trophies.
- Using aircraft to spot or locate sheep is prohibited

Proposed Restriction:

“You must avoid using an aircraft in any manner to spot Dall Sheep for the purpose of taking a specific sheep”.

Proposal 22

Modify the restrictions on the use of aircraft for sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Professional Hunters Association

Proposal 23

Repeal the restrictions on the use of aircraft for sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Mat Valley AC

Proposal 24

Repeal the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 25

Repeal the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 26

Repeal the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 26

Background

- Address airplane use through hunter harassment law
- Require 12 inch N numbers on all planes
- Develop an "Airplanes and Hunting Etiquette" DVD

Proposal 26

Repeal the restrictions on the use of aircraft for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 27

Change the definition of legal ram

- Full curl
- 9-years of age
- Double broomed

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 27

Background

2010-14

3,692 sheep harvested

216 (6%) were 8 yrs old; not full curl and not broken

125 (3%) were 9 yrs old; not full curl and not broken

Proposal 27

Change the definition of legal ram

- Full curl
- 9-years of age
- Double broomed

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 28

Modify the bag limit for Dall sheep to include
Full curl (-) and Full curl (+)

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 28

Background

- “Full Curl –”: Full curl / 8 yrs old / Broken
 - Resident 1 every 4 years
 - Nonresident 1 every 10 years
 - If 2 are taken in 4 year period, hunter cannot hunt sheep for 5 years
- “Full Curl +”: 38” or greater AND 10 yrs old or Broken
 - Resident and Nonresident 1 every year

Proposal 28

Background

Characteristics of Rams harvested between 2010-2014

Horn Length

| | < 38 inches | > 38 inches |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Age | | |
| <10 yrs of age | 2,379 (67%) | 355 (10%) |
| >10 yrs of age | 594 (17%) | 206 (6%) |

Proposal 28

Modify the bag limit for Dall sheep to include
Full curl (-) and Full curl (+)

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 29

Define the term “broken” as it applies to the definition of a full-curl horn

Recommendation: Support

Department Proposal

Proposal 29

Background

“Broken”

- Lamb tip is completely absent
- Not broken if chipped or cracked and lamb tip is present

Proposal 29

Background

Characteristics of the “lamb tip”

- Length of less than 4 inches
- Inside surface is distinctly concave
- Grown during first 6 months of life
- Distal of the first annulus

Proposal 29

Define the term “broken” as it applies to the definition of a full-curl horn

Recommendation: Support

Department Proposal

Proposal 30

Modify the nonresident bag limit for sheep to
“one every (three) four years”

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Professional Hunters Association

Proposal 30

Background

2005-14 3,295 successful nonresident hunters

136 (4.5%) returned to hunt within a 4-year period

Proposal 30

Modify the nonresident bag limit for sheep to
"one every (three) four years"

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Professional Hunters Association

Proposal 31

Allow one sheep or goat drawing permit
per hunter every 3 years

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 31

Background

Intent is to encourage applicants to consider their ability to use the permit before applying for a hunt

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Permit Use</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Sheep | 70% |
| Goat | 52% |
| All Species | 66% |

Proposal 31

Background

- Permit use rate was not affected when a similar restriction was adopted for Delta bison hunts (limit 1 permit every 10 years)
Permit use rate 90% before and 89% after adoption
- If permit usage rate goes up, the department will need to issue fewer permits to keep harvests within objectives

Proposal 31

Allow one sheep or goat drawing permit
per hunter every 3 years

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 32

Change all sheep hunts to drawing or registration permit hunts

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 32

Change all sheep hunts to drawing or registration permit hunts

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 33

Extend the sheep hunting seasons
and
Establish statewide registration hunts

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 33

Background

Proposed registration hunts and seasons:

- Resident-only Aug 2-9
May hunt once every 2-3 years
- Nonresident Aug 10-17
May hunt once every 10 years
- Resident and Nonresident Aug 18-Sept 20
One permit for all open areas
- Early registration hunts alternate between residents and nonresidents

Proposal 33

Background

Proposed:

- Auction tag recipients may hunt all seasons
- Drawing hunts would remain unchanged

Proposal 33

Extend the sheep hunting seasons
and
Establish statewide registration hunts

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 34

Extend the sheep hunting season
Establish a statewide registration hunt
and
Limit methods and means

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 34

Background

Proposed registration hunts and seasons:

- Resident-only; Walk-in only Aug 3-9
- Resident and Nonresident
Restricted Weapons Hunt Aug 10-16
- Resident and Nonresident
Statewide, No restrictions Aug 17-Sept 20
- Auction Tag recipients may hunt all seasons with no restrictions

Proposal 34

Background

Proposed limited entry areas:

- No changes
 - Unit 14C, TMA, and winter subsistence hunts
- All remaining draw hunts
 - Resident opportunity offered through a registration hunt
 - 3 separate seasons like the other registration hunts
 - Opportunity limited to once every 5 years
 - Nonresident opportunity remains draw

Proposal 34

Extend the sheep hunting season
Establish a statewide registration hunt
and
Limit methods and means

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 35

Modify hunting seasons for residents and nonresidents statewide based on last name

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 35

Background

Proposed season examples:

- A-M Aug 10-19 Odd years
- N-Z Aug 10-19 Even years
- All Hunters Aug 20-Sept 20

50% of hunters

A-K and L-Z

Proposal 35

Modify hunting seasons for residents and nonresidents statewide based on last name

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 36

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Aug 17-Sept 20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 36

Background

Proposed seasons:

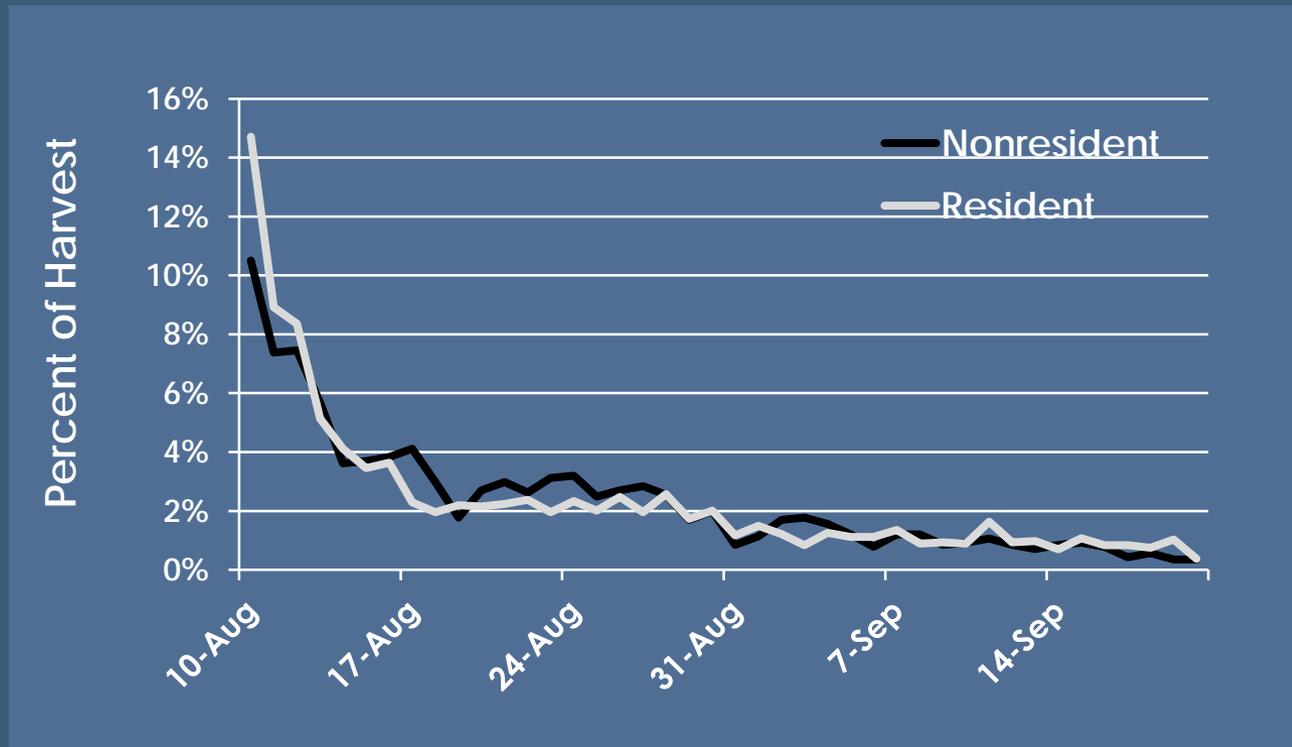
- Residents Aug 10-Sept 20
- Nonresidents Aug 17-Sept 20

Aircraft restrictions apply to all hunters starting Aug 10

Proposal 36

Background

Sheep Harvest Chronology (2010-2014)



42% of nonresident harvest and 48% of resident harvest occurred prior to August 17

Proposal 36

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Aug 17-Sept 20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 37

Open all sheep hunts 10 days earlier for residents
than nonresident hunters
(including split season hunts)

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 37

Background

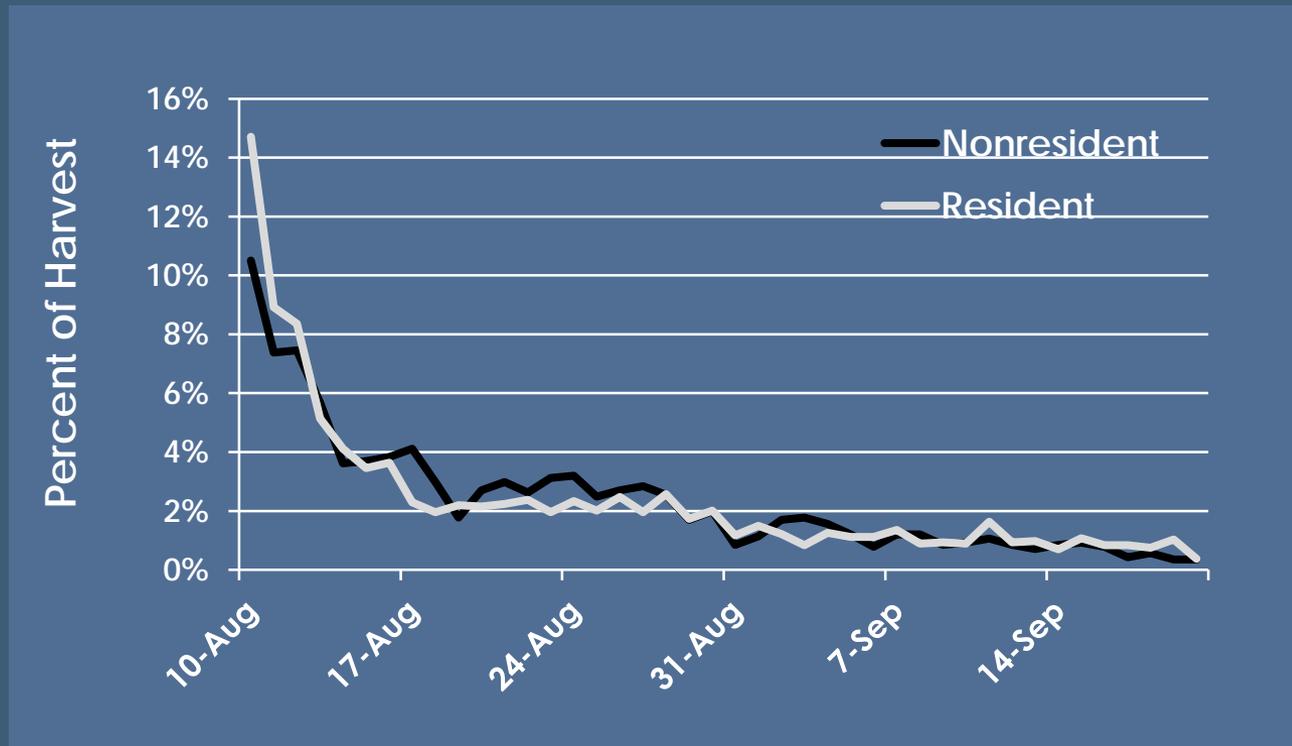
Proposed seasons:

- Residents Aug 10-Sept 20
- Nonresidents Aug 20-Sept 20

Proposal 37

Background

Sheep Harvest Chronology (2010-2014)



51% of nonresident harvest and 55% of resident harvest occurred prior to August 20

Proposal 37

Open all sheep hunts 10 days earlier for residents
than nonresident hunters
(including split season hunts)

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 38

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Aug 20-Sept 20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 38

Background

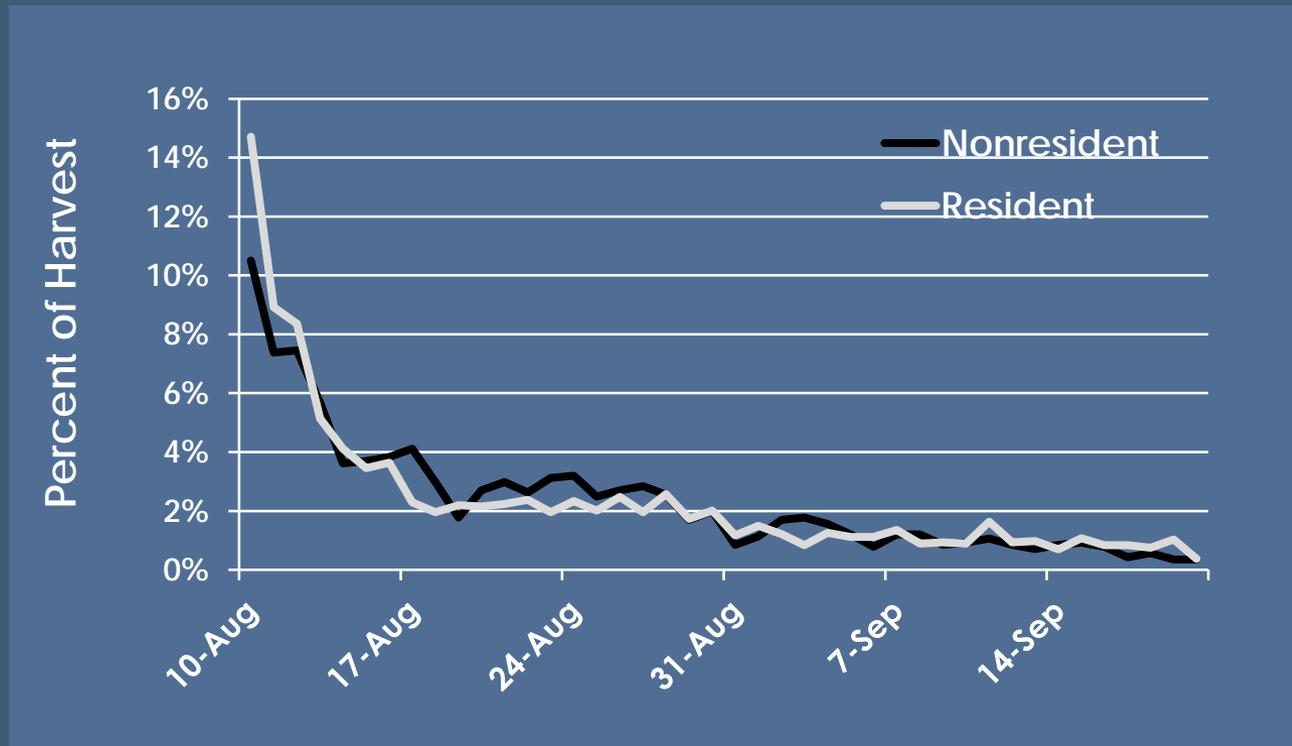
Proposed seasons:

- Residents Aug 10-Sept 20
- Nonresidents Aug 20-Sept 20

Proposal 38

Background

Sheep Harvest Chronology (2010-2014)



51% of nonresident harvest and 55% of resident harvest occurred prior to August 20

Proposal 38

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Aug 20-Sept 20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 39

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Sept 1-20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 39

Background

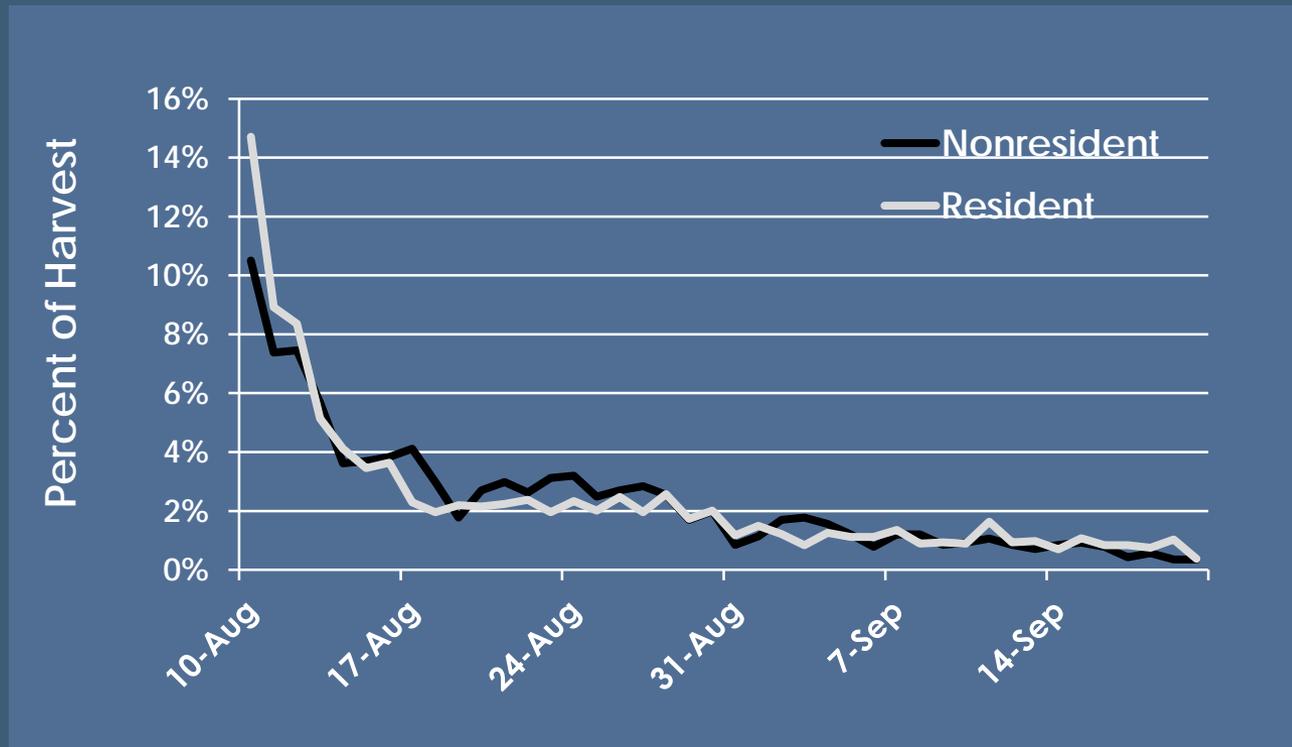
Proposed seasons:

- Residents Aug 10-Sept 20
- Nonresidents Sept 1-Sept 20

Proposal 39

Background

Sheep Harvest Chronology (2010-2014)



81% of nonresident harvest and 80% of resident harvest occurred prior to September 1

Proposal 39

Change nonresident sheep seasons to
Sept 1-20

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 40

Limit nonresident hunters to drawing permits
and
Restrict sheep guiding to residents only

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 40

Background

Proposed restrictions:

- Establish nonresident drawing permit hunts
- Biologists set quota to limit nonresident opportunity for each hunt area
- Sheep guide services can only be provided by Alaska residents

Proposal 40

Limit nonresident hunters to drawing permits
and
Restrict sheep guiding to residents only

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 138

Convert general-season, nonresident sheep hunting on state and BLM lands to drawing permits

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Chapter Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Proposal 41

Allocate 90% of sheep hunting permits to residents
and 10% to nonresidents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 41

BOG Policy 207-173-BOG

Affected Permit Hunts:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Unit 13D | 80% residents and 20% nonresidents |
| • Unit 14C – Archery | max of 5% for nonresidents |
| • Unit 14C – Remaining | max of 13% for nonresidents |
| • Units 7&15A | Unallocated |
| • Mt Harper – Units 20E &20D | Unallocated |

Permit Hunts Not Affected (already allocated 90% resident and 10% nonresident)

- Delta Control Use Area
- Tok Management Area
- Unit 14A

Proposal 41

Allocate 90% of sheep hunting permits to residents
and 10% to nonresidents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 42

Convert all nonresident sheep hunts to draw
and
Nonresident hunting opportunity capped at 12%

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 42

All Statewide Hunts:

- Residents Harvest Ticket
- Nonresidents Draw, capped at 12%

Department will need guidance on how to issue nonresident permits to achieve the desired allocation

Proposal 42

Nonresidents accounted for 19% of sheep hunters
(RY2010 - RY2014)

- Current Average 448 nonresidents
- Proposed 230 nonresidents

 (48% reduction)

Proposal 42

Convert all nonresident sheep hunts to draw
and
Nonresident hunting opportunity capped at 12%

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 43

Allocate 90% of sheep hunting opportunity to residents and 10% to nonresidents

and

Restrict sheep guiding to residents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 43

Nonresidents accounted for 19% of sheep hunters
(RY2010 - RY2014)

- Current Average 448 nonresidents
- Proposed 190 nonresidents
(58% reduction)

Proposal 43

Also Proposed:

- Restrict guiding opportunity to residents
- Make scientifically based decisions

Proposal 43

Allocate 90% of sheep hunting opportunity to residents and 10% to nonresidents

and

Restrict sheep guiding to residents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 44

Allocate 90% of sheep drawing permits to residents and 10% to nonresidents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 44

BOG Policy 207-173-BOG

Affected Permit Hunts:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Unit 13D | 80% residents and 20% nonresidents |
| • Unit 14C – Archery | max of 5% for nonresidents |
| • Unit 14C – Remaining | max of 13% for nonresidents |
| • Units 7&15A | Unallocated |
| • Mt Harper – Units 20E &20D | Unallocated |

Permit Hunts Not Affected (already allocated 90% resident and 10% nonresident)

- Delta Control Use Area
- Tok Management Area
- Unit 14A

Proposal 44

Allocate 90% of sheep drawing permits to residents and 10% to nonresidents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 45

Allocate 90% of sheep permits to residents and
10% to nonresidents

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 46

Establish a statewide archery season for sheep
from August 1-9

Recommendation: Neutral

The Alaskan Bowhunters Association

Proposal 46

- Unit 14C has the only archery-only hunt for sheep
 - 247 hunters participated (2010-2014)
 - 19 (8%) successfully harvested a sheep
- Of the 3,700 sheep harvested statewide between 2010 and 2015, 60 sheep (2%) were harvested by bow and arrow

Proposal 46

Establish a statewide archery season for sheep
from August 1-9

Recommendation: Neutral

The Alaskan Bowhunters Association

Proposal 47

Establish a statewide youth hunting season for sheep
from August 1-5

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Proposal 48

Consider several alternate hunt structures for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

The Alaska Board of Game

Proposal 48

Background

Resident options:

- Status quo
- Limited draw hunts
 - Aug 10-31
 - Aug 10-25
 - Aug 10-19

(Harvest tickets used for the remainder of the season)

Proposal 48

Background

Resident options continued:

- Apply for drawing permits or one registration hunt

Registration Hunts

Aug 10-13

Aug 14-21

Aug 22-31

(Harvest tickets used the remainder of the season)

Proposal 48

Consider several alternate hunt structures for
sheep hunting

Recommendation: Neutral

The Alaska Board of Game

Proposal 49

- 5 AAC 85.055 Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep: Restrict bag limit for Dall sheep in certain areas.
- Public proposal
- Restrict bag limit in most subsistence hunts and in one hunt in nonsubsistence area

Proposal 49

1

Proposal 49 - continued

- GMU 19C: registration hunt on population with positive C&T finding
 - 1 ram [WITH FULL CURL HORN OR LARGER; OR 1 SHEEP WITH $\frac{3}{4}$ CURL OR LESS]
- GMU 14C: nonsubsistence area drawing permit hunt
 - 1 ram [WITH FULL CURL HORN OR LARGER; OR 1 EWE]
- GMU 24B that portion within the John River drainage upstream of Till Creek, and that portion within the Glacier River drainage: harvest ticket hunt on population with positive C&T finding
 - 1 ram [3 SHEEP]

Proposal 49

2

Proposal 49 - continued

- GMU 25A: registration hunt on population with positive C&T finding
 - 1 ram [WITH A FULL-CURL HORN OR LARGER] may be taken only from Aug. 10 through Sept. 20; [UP TO 3 SHEEP MAY BE TAKEN BY REGISTRATION PERMIT ONLY OCT. 1 – APRIL 30]
- GMU 26C: registration permit hunt on population with positive C&T finding
 - 1 ram [WITH A FULL-CURL HORN OR LARGER] may be taken only from Aug. 10 through Sept. 20; [UP TO 3 SHEEP MAY BE TAKEN BY REGISTRATION PERMIT ONLY OCT. 1 – APRIL 30]
- GMU 26B private lands within the Gates of the Arctic National Park: harvest ticket hunts for population with positive C&T finding
 - 1 ram[3 SHEEP]

Proposal 49

3

Proposal 49 - continued

- ANSs for referenced GMUs with positive C&T findings:
 - GMU 19 = 1-5 sheep
 - GMUs 23 and 26A, that portion west of the Etivluk River (DeLong Mountains) = 0-9 sheep
 - GMUs 23 and 26A, that portion east of the Etivluk River (Schwotka Mountains) = 2-4 sheep
 - GMUs 23, 24, 25A, and 26 (Brooks Range) = 75-125 sheep
- Staff comments = available harvest data, by community of residence.
- Customary and traditional uses report = provided at February 2015 board meeting

Proposal 49

4

Proposal 49 - continued

- The department is neutral on the allocation of sheep hunting opportunities between resident and nonresident hunters
- In considering this proposal, the board should determine whether its adoption would still provide reasonable opportunities for subsistence uses of Dall sheep in subsistence hunts
 - Reasonable opportunity means an opportunity that allows a subsistence user to participate in a subsistence hunt that provides a normally diligent participant with a reasonable expectation of success of taking game.

Proposal 49

Modify the bag limit for Dall sheep for hunts with bag limits of multiple sheep, ewe, or less than $\frac{3}{4}$ curl rams

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Outdoor Council

Proposal 49

Proposed Bag Limit : Any ram

Affected Areas:

- Unit 19C – one sheep with $\frac{3}{4}$ curl or less
- Unit 24B – three sheep in specified areas
- Unit 25A – three sheep
- Unit 26B – three sheep in specified areas
- Unit 26C – three sheep

The bag limit in Unit 14C has already been changed to any ram during the 2015 board meeting

Proposal 49

Reported harvest of more than one sheep by individual hunters in 3 sheep bag limit areas

| | 25A | 26B | 26C |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 2010 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2011 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2012 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2013 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 2014 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Only 2 sheep were harvested in all cases

Proposal 49

Modify the bag limit for Dall sheep for hunts with bag limits of multiple sheep, ewe, or less than $\frac{3}{4}$ curl rams

Recommendation: Neutral

Alaska Outdoor Council