

## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

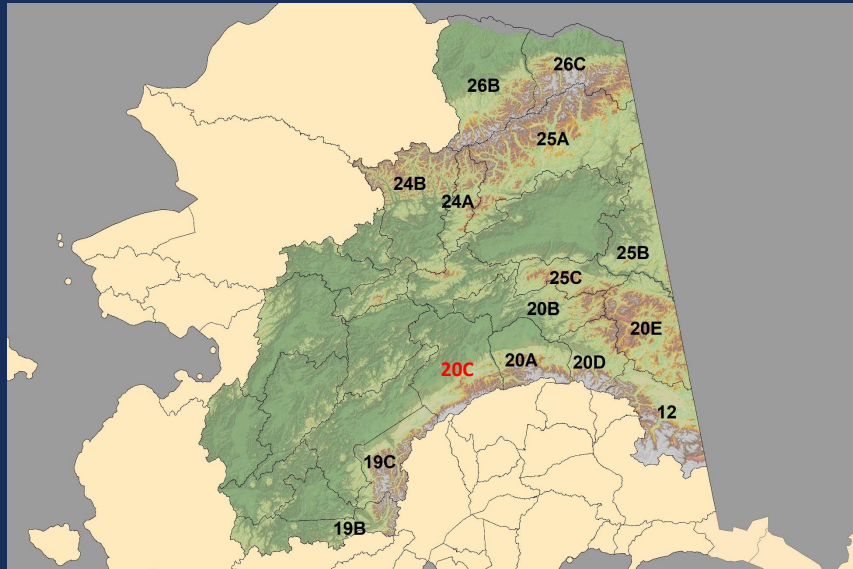
Change all general season sheep harvest tickets in Region III to registration permits. A hunter may only obtain a permit once every two years. (alternatively, apply this regulatory change only to Unit 12)

Proposed by: Upper Tanana/Fortymile AC  
Department Recommendation: Neutral

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

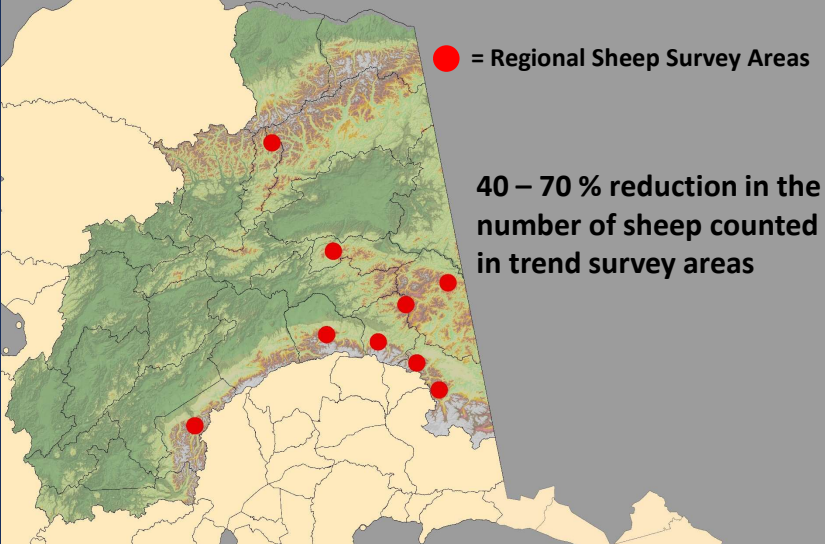


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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Regional Sheep Survey Areas



● = Regional Sheep Survey Areas

40 – 70 % reduction in the number of sheep counted in trend survey areas

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

- 68% of total statewide sheep harvest occurs in Region III
- Average # of sheep hunters = 1,358 (range: 1,038 – 1,557)
- Average # of res sheep hunters = 1,011 (range: 768 – 1,131)
  - Average res success rate = 29.7% (range: 18.6% – 34.2%)
  - Average res sheep harvest = 301 (range: 143 – 376)

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 –2022)

- 15.5% – 32.8% of sheep **hunters** participated in consecutive seasons
- 10% of total annual **harvest** is by hunters who harvest in consecutive seasons (range: 8% – 14%)
- 3% of total **hunters**, harvest in consecutive seasons (range: 1% – 4%)

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Department Comments

- Sheep hunting managed using the conservative full curl harvest management strategy:
  - male only harvest, restricted to older age classes
  - very small segment of the overall population
  - compensatory mortality component
  - self limiting during population fluctuations
  - provides liberal hunting opportunity

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Department Comments

- 2016 – 2021 horn morphometric study:
  - 41% – 85% of rams harvested were legal in at least one previous hunting season across the region
    - Brooks Range: 56% – 82%
    - 20A: 41% – 53%
    - 19C: 59% – 85%
    - 12: 58% – 67%

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Customary and Traditional Use

#### Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

- Units 23, 24, 25A, and 26 have a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 75 – 125 sheep
- Unit 19 has a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 1 – 5 sheep

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

### Department Comments

- Sheep populations have declined across the region
- No biological concerns with full curl harvest management
- Allocative issue: competition/hunter crowding
- Registration permit may result in a small reduction in sheep hunters and harvest
- Could displace some hunters to other regions
- Reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses?

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## Proposal 43 Sheep Registration Permit

**Change all general season sheep harvest tickets in Region III to registration permits. A hunter may only obtain a permit once every two years. (alternatively, apply this regulatory change only to Unit 12)**

**Proposed by: Upper Tanana/Fortymile AC**  
**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

Reduce the sheep bag limit in Region III from one full curl ram every year to one full curl ram every two regulatory years.

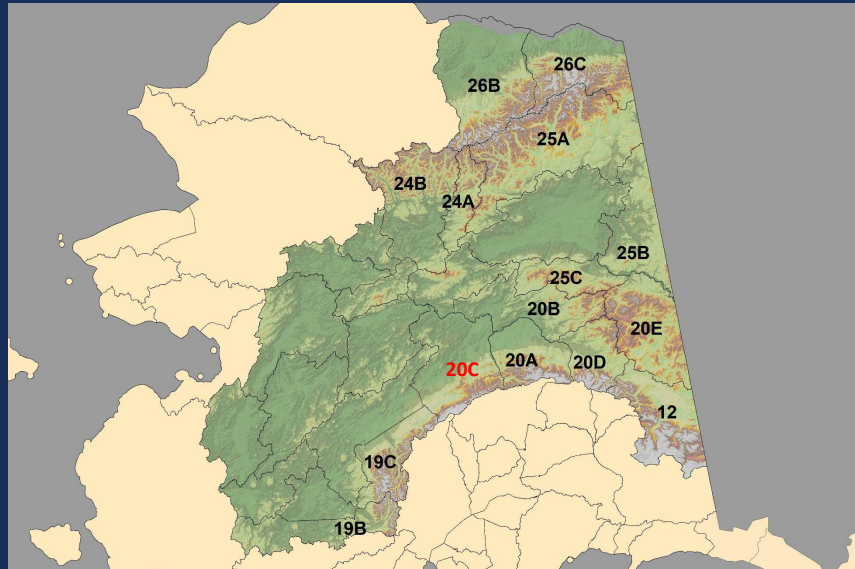
Proposed by: Public

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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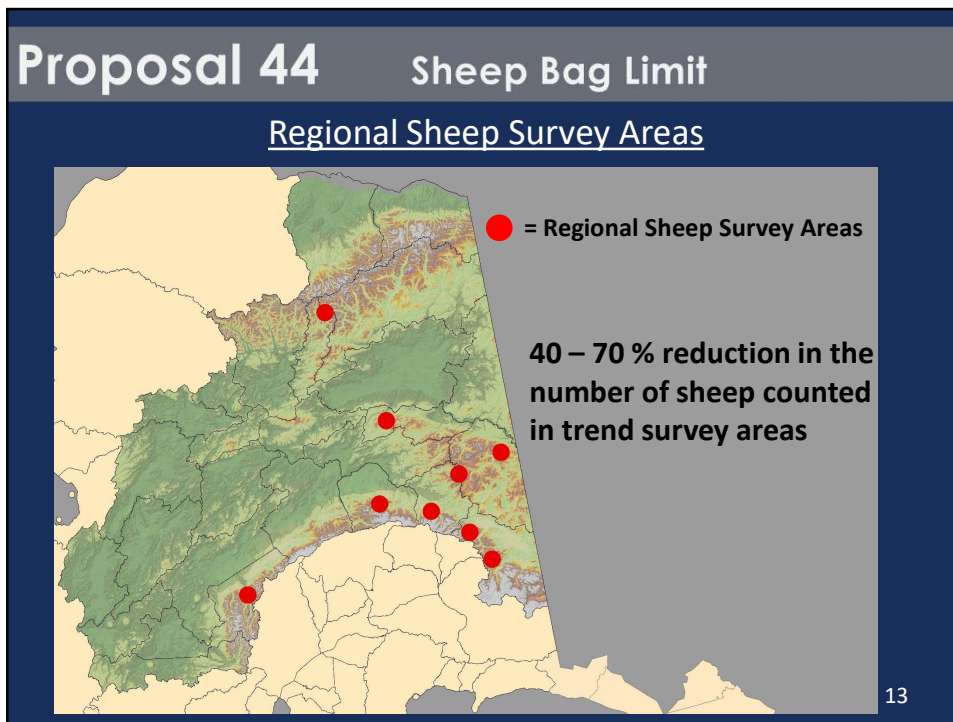
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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

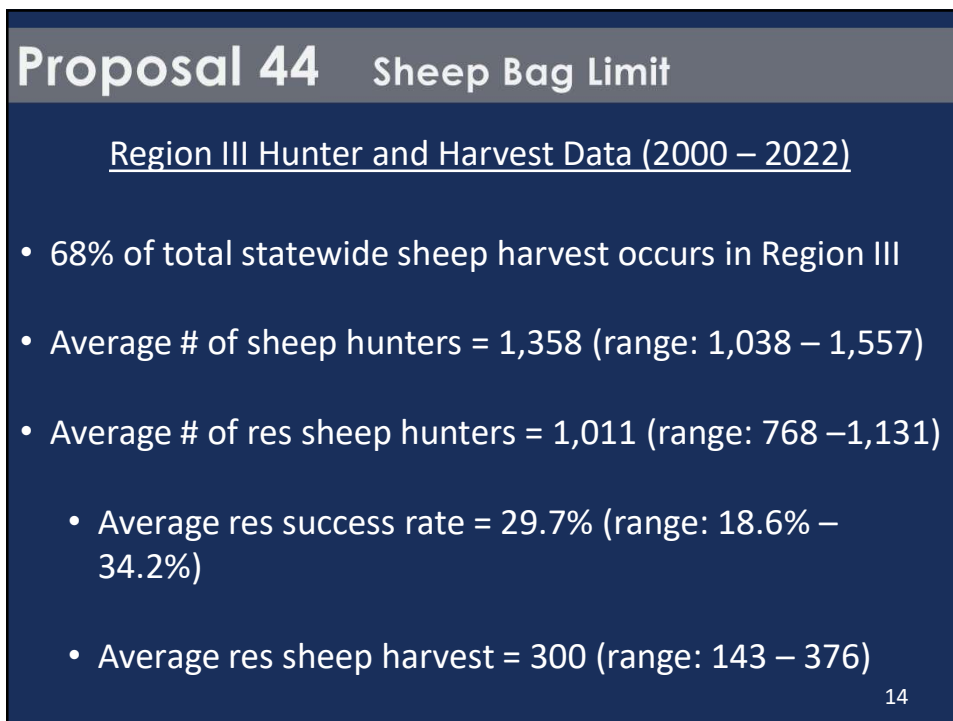


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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

- 15.5% – 32.8% of sheep **hunters** participated in consecutive seasons
- 10% of total annual **harvest** is by hunters who harvest in consecutive seasons (range: 8% – 14%)
- 3% of total **hunters**, harvest in consecutive seasons (range: 1% – 4%)

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- Sheep hunting managed using the conservative full curl harvest management strategy:
  - male only harvest, restricted to older age classes
  - very small segment of the overall population
  - compensatory mortality component
  - self limiting during population fluctuations
  - provides liberal hunting opportunity

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- 2016 – 2021 horn morphometric study:
  - 41% – 85% of rams harvested were legal in at least one previous hunting season across the region
    - Brooks Range: 56% – 82%
    - 20A: 41% – 53%
    - 19C: 59% – 85%
    - 12: 58% – 67%

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

### Customary and Traditional Use

#### Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

- Units 23, 24, 25A, and 26 have a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 75 – 125 sheep
- Unit 19 has a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 1 – 5 sheep

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- Sheep populations have declined across the region
- No biological concerns with full curl harvest management
- Allocative issue: competition/hunter crowding
- Registration permit may result in a small reduction in sheep hunters and harvest
- Could displace some hunters to other regions
- Reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses?

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## Proposal 44 Sheep Bag Limit

**Reduce the sheep bag limit in Region III from one full curl ram every year to one full curl ram every two regulatory years.**

**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

Reduce the sheep bag limit in Region III from one full curl ram every year to one full curl ram every four regulatory years.

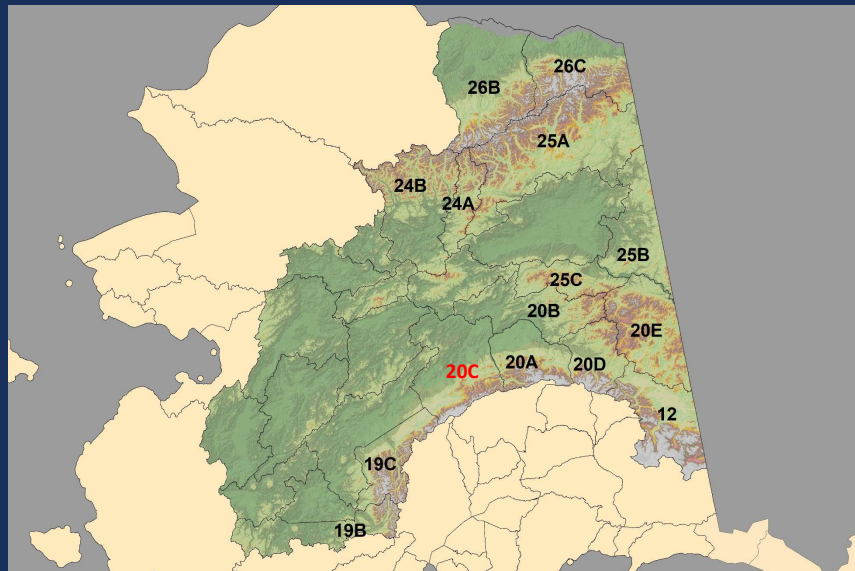
Proposed by: Public

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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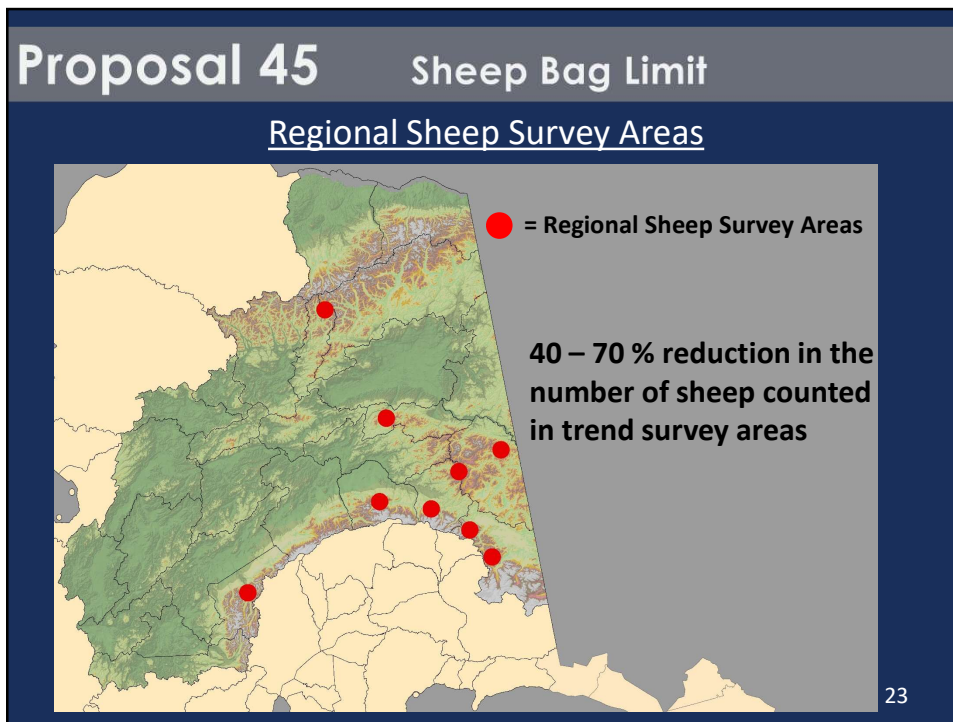
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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

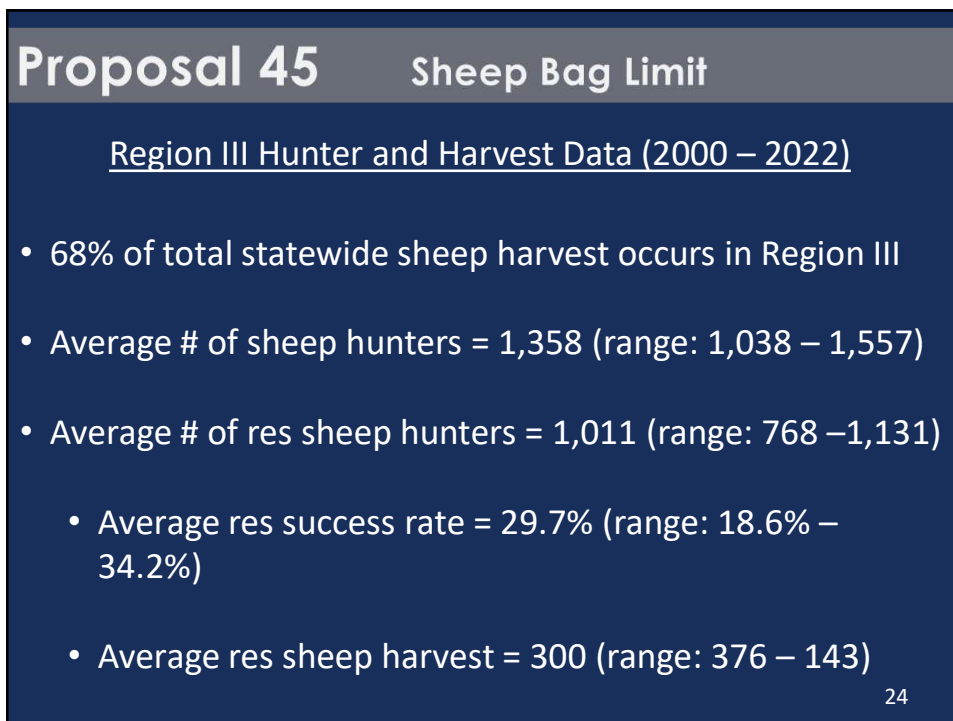


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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data

- 7% of total **hunters** harvest more frequently than once every 4 years (range: 5% – 9%)
- 24% of total **harvest** is by hunters who harvest more frequently than once every 4 years (range: 19% – 31%)

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- Sheep hunting managed using the conservative full curl harvest management strategy:
  - male only harvest, restricted to older age classes
  - very small segment of the overall population
  - compensatory mortality component
  - self limiting during population fluctuations
  - provides liberal hunting opportunity

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- 2016 – 2021 horn morphometric study:
  - 41% – 85% of rams harvested were legal in at least one previous hunting season across the region
    - Brooks Range: 56% – 82%
    - 20A: 41% – 53%
    - 19C: 59% – 85%
    - 12: 58% – 67%

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

### Customary and Traditional Use

#### Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

- Units 23, 24, 25A, and 26 have a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 75 – 125 sheep
- Unit 19 has a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep
  - Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of 1 – 5 sheep

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

### Department Comments

- Sheep populations have declined across the region
- No biological concerns with full curl harvest management
- Allocative issue: competition/hunter crowding
- Bag limit change may result in a modest reduction in sheep harvest
- Could displace some hunters to other regions
- Reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses?

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## Proposal 45 Sheep Bag Limit

**Reduce the sheep bag limit in Region III from one full curl ram every year to one full curl ram every four regulatory years.**

**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

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**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

**Change sheep general season harvest ticket hunts to drawing permit for Units 12, 19, and 20. Allocation of 80% to residents and 20% to non-residents.**

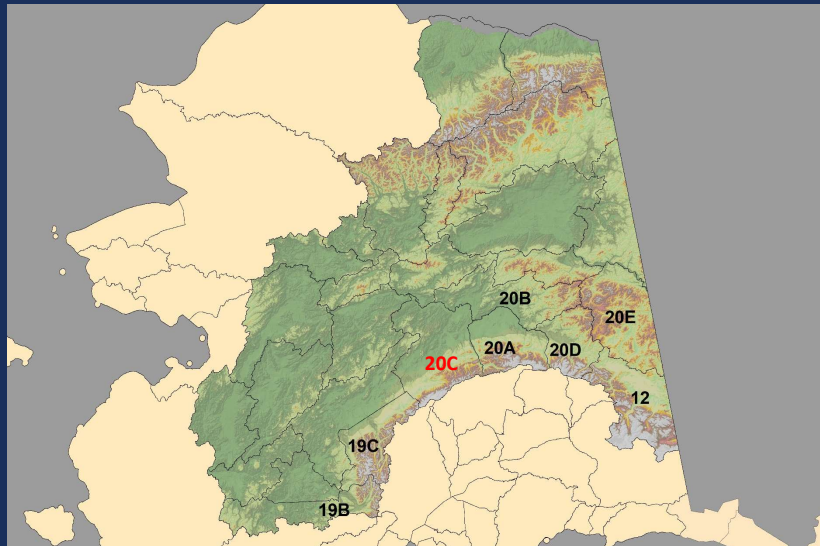
**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Opposed**

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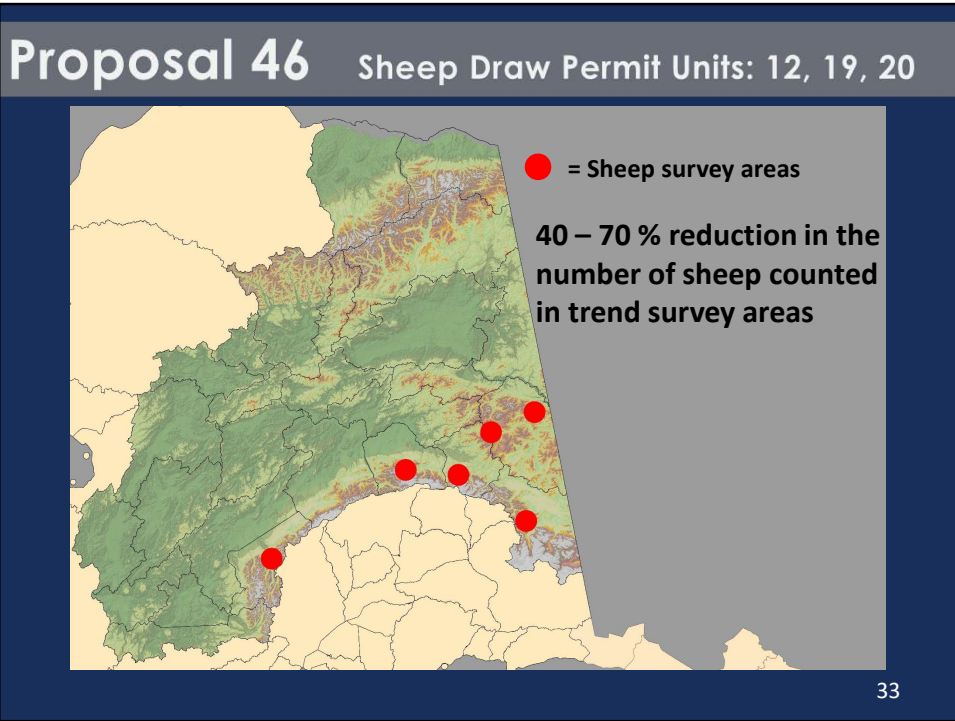
**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20



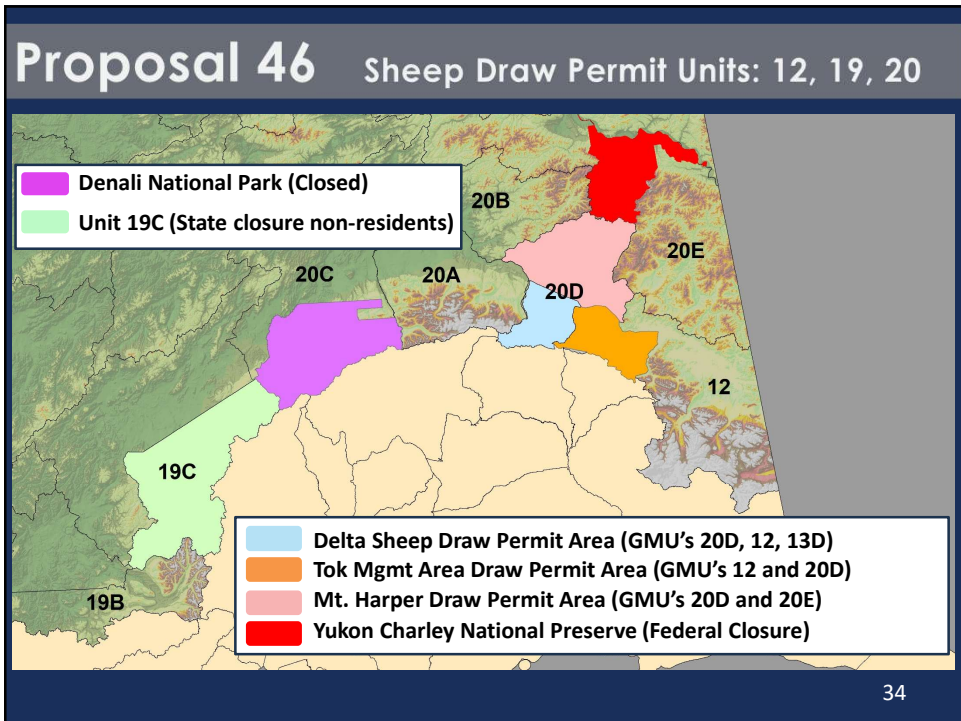
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**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

Units 12, 19, and 20 General Season Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

- Average # of resident hunters = 510 (range: 380 – 665)
- Average # of non-resident hunters = 202 (range 149 – 237)

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**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

Units 12, 19, and 20 General Season Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

Harvest:

- Average resident sheep harvest = 136 (range 84 – 231)
- Average non-resident sheep harvest = 141 (range 73 – 174)

Success Rates:

- Average resident success rate = 26% (range 17% – 35%)
- Average non-resident success rate = 68% (range 49% – 75%)

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## Proposal 46 Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

### Department Comments

- Sheep hunting managed using the conservative full curl harvest management strategy:
  - male only harvest, restricted to older age classes
  - very small segment of the overall population
  - compensatory mortality component
  - self limiting during population fluctuations
  - provides liberal hunting opportunity

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## Proposal 46 Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

### Department Comments

- 2016 – 2021 horn morphometric study:
  - 41% – 85% of rams harvested were legal in at least one previous hunting season in units 20A, 19C, and 12
    - 20A: 41% – 53%
    - 19C: 59% – 85%
    - 12: 58% – 67%

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## Proposal 46 Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

### Customary and Traditional Use Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

- Unit 19 has a positive finding for customary and traditional use of sheep

Combined amounts necessary for subsistence uses of  
1 – 5 sheep

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## Proposal 46 Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

### Department Comments

- No sheep population estimates for any GMU's
- Trend count survey areas occur in small portions of some GMU's
- Trend count survey occurrence is weather dependent and not annually reliable
- Numerous existing draw permit hunts
- BOG guidance on the # of permits issued for each hunt

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**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

Department Comments

- Sheep populations have declined across the region
- No biological concerns with full curl harvest management
- Could displace some hunters to other units or regions
- Reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses in Unit 19?

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**Proposal 46** Sheep Draw Permit Units: 12, 19, 20

**Change sheep general season harvest ticket hunts to drawing permit for Units 12, 19, and 20. Allocation of 80% to residents and 20% to non-residents.**

**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Opposed**

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**Proposal 207** Change definition of full curl

**Change the legal definition of “full curl horn” of a male (ram) Dall sheep in Region III to exclude rams  $\geq 8$  years of age, if not broomed on both sides or if at least one horn has not grown through 360 degrees.**

**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

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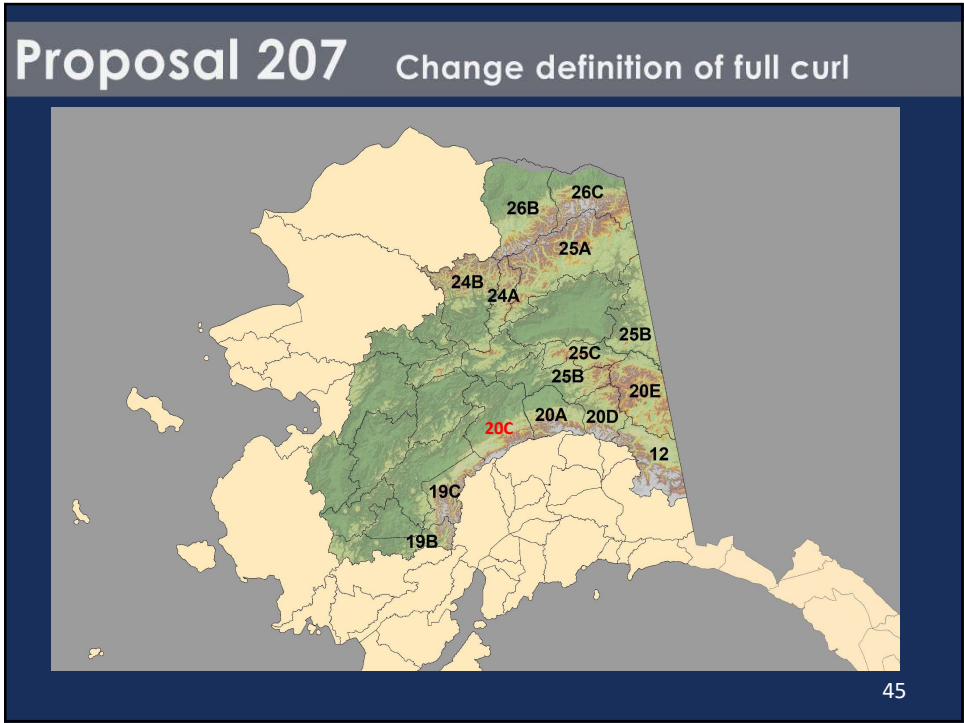
**Proposal 207** Change definition of full curl

Current legal definition of “full curl horn”

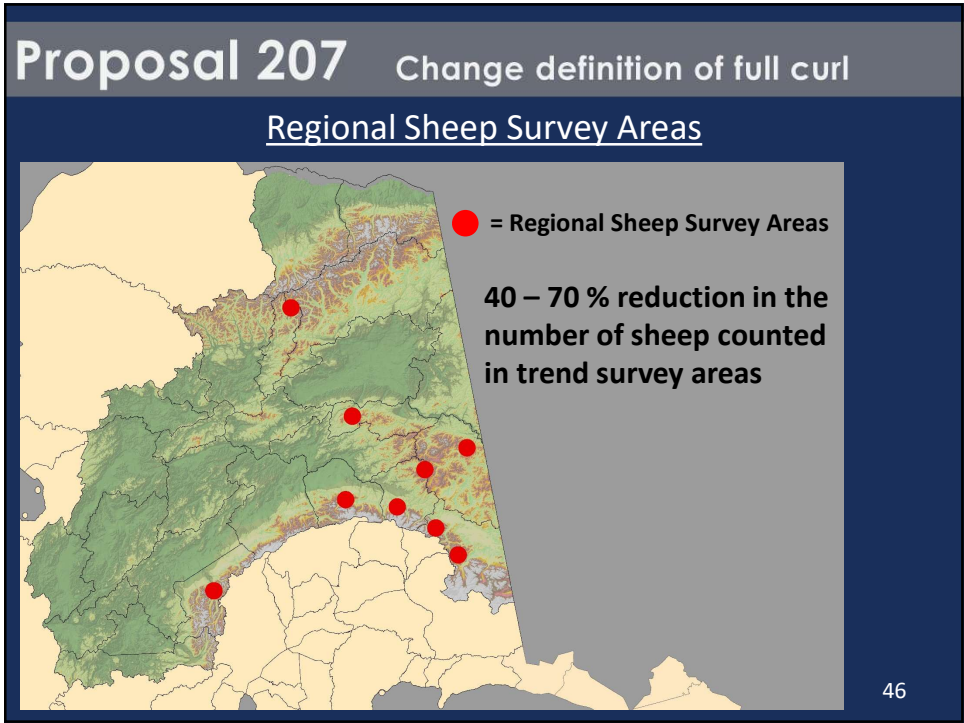
- A. The tip of at least one horn has grown through 360 degrees of a circle described by the outer surface of the horn as viewed from the side; or
- B. Both horn tips are broken (broomed); or
- C. The sheep is at least 8 years of age as determined by horn growth annuli

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

- 68% of total statewide sheep harvest occurs in Region III
- Average # of resident hunters = 1,011 (range: 768 – 1,131)
- Average # of non-resident hunters = 335 (range 270 – 407)

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Region III Hunter and Harvest Data (2000 – 2022)

#### Harvest:

- Average resident sheep harvest = 301 (range 143 – 376)
- Average non-resident sheep harvest = 223 (range 132 – 289)

#### Success Rates:

- Average resident success rate = 30% (range 19% – 34%)
- Average non-resident success rate = 66% (range 49% – 73%)

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Region III Sheep Sealing Data (2007 – 2023)

- 11.1% of total harvest were rams less than 360 degrees and not double broomed (range: 6.5% – 15.6%)
  - 6.8% were legal by age only
  - 4.3% were rams less than 360 degrees with at least one tip present and less than 8 years of age (sublegal take)

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Department Comments

- Sheep hunting managed using the conservative full curl harvest management strategy:
  - male only harvest, restricted to older age classes
  - very small segment of the overall population
  - compensatory mortality component
  - self limiting during population fluctuations
  - provides liberal hunting opportunity

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Department Comments

- 2016 – 2021 horn morphometric study:
  - 41% – 85% of rams harvested were legal in at least one previous hunting season across the region
    - Brooks Range: 56% – 82%
    - 20A: 41% – 53%
    - 19C: 59% – 85%
    - 12: 58% – 67%

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## Proposal 207 Change definition of full curl

### Department Comments

- Sheep populations have declined across the region
- Less legal rams on the landscape
- No biological concerns with full curl harvest management
- Unclear what the effect would be on illegal take

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**Proposal 207** Change definition of full curl

**Change the legal definition of “full curl horn” of a male (ram) Dall sheep in Region III to exclude rams  $\geq$  8 years of age, if not broomed on both sides or if at least one horn has not grown through 360 degrees.**

**Proposed by: Public**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

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**Proposal 47** Bison/Units 12, 19 and 20

**Allow proxy hunting for bison in Units 12, 19, and 20.**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

**Public Proposal**

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## Proposal 47

Bison/ Units 12, 19 and 20

### Current Regulations

- 5 AAC 92.011 Taking big game by proxy.
  - (a) A resident hunter (the proxy) holding a valid resident hunting license may take specified game for another resident (the beneficiary) who is blind, at least 70% physically disabled, 65 years of age or older, or developmentally disabled, as authorized by AS 16.05.405 and this section
  - ...
  - (k) Proxy hunting under this section is only allowed for
    - (1) caribou;
    - (2) deer;
    - (3) moose in Tier II hunts, any-bull hunts, and antlerless moose hunts; and
    - (4) emperor geese; and
    - (5) muskoxen in Tier II hunts;
- There is a negative customary and traditional use finding for bison in Units 11, 19(D), and 20(D) (5 AAC 99.025(a)(1))

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## Proposal 47

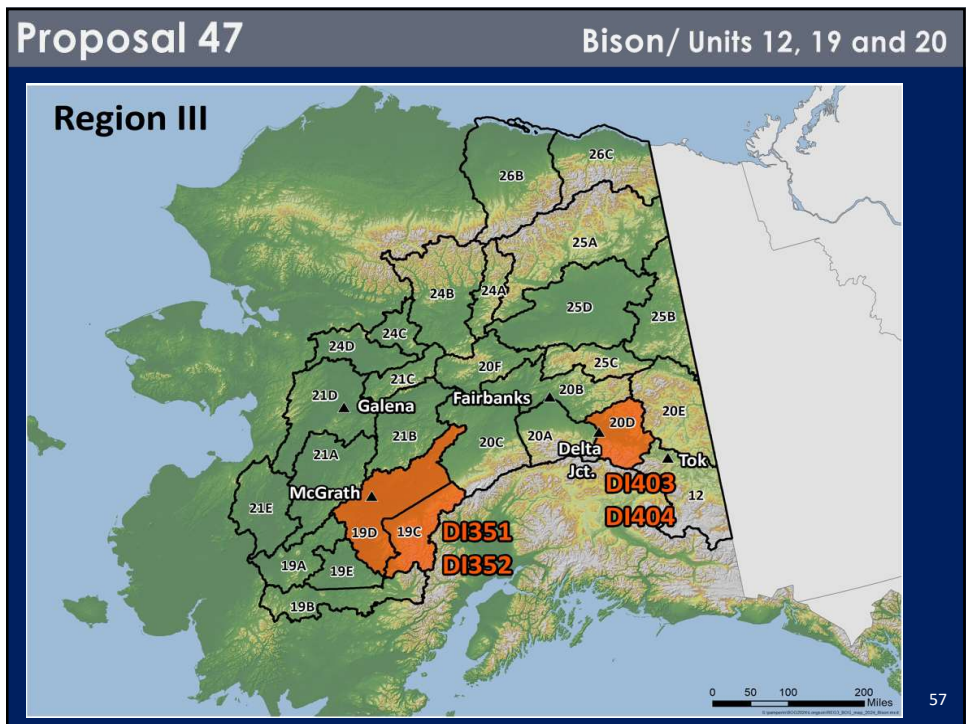
Bison/ Units 12, 19 and 20

### Proposed Regulations

- 5 AAC 92.011 Taking big game by proxy.
  - (a) A resident hunter (the proxy) holding a valid resident hunting license may take specified game for another resident (the beneficiary) who is blind, at least 70% physically disabled, developmentally disabled, or 65 years of age or older, as authorized by AS 16.05.405 and this section
  - ...
  - (k) Proxy hunting under this section is only allowed for
    - (1) caribou;
    - (2) deer;
    - (3) moose in Tier II hunts, any-bull hunts, and antlerless moose hunts; and
    - (4) emperor geese
    - (5) muskoxen in Tier II hunts; and
    - (6) bison

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**Proposal 47** **Bison/ Units 12, 19 and 20**

**Background**

- The number of permits awarded based on annual surveys.
- A resident who is awarded a drawing permit is ineligible to apply for 10 years
- A nonresident who is awarded a bison drawing permit can only win one permit per lifetime.

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**Proposal 47** **Bison/ Units 12, 19 and 20**

**Background**

- An average of 35 permits issued for DI351/DI352 with an average harvest of 25 bison and a 90% success rate
- An average of 105 permits issued for DI403/DI404 with an average harvest of 80 bison and an 83% success rate
- The average number of applications during RY18-RY22 was 3485 (range 2302-4792) for DI351/DI352 and 22,700 (range 15,978-43,557) for DI403/DI404.

Hunt	5-yr Average Permits Awarded	5-yr Average Annual Harvest	5-yr Average Hunter Success Rate	5-yr Average Total Applications
DI351/352	35	25	90%	3485
DI403/404	105	80	83%	22,700

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**Proposal 47** **Bison/ Units 12, 19 and 20**

**Background**

- Of the hunters who drew permits, an average of 13% of the hunters are over the age of 65.
- Other hunters may qualify under the other provisions (blind, 70% physically disabled or developmentally disabled).
- All bison hunting is conducted by drawing permit, and it is unlikely any effect will be seen on these bison populations.

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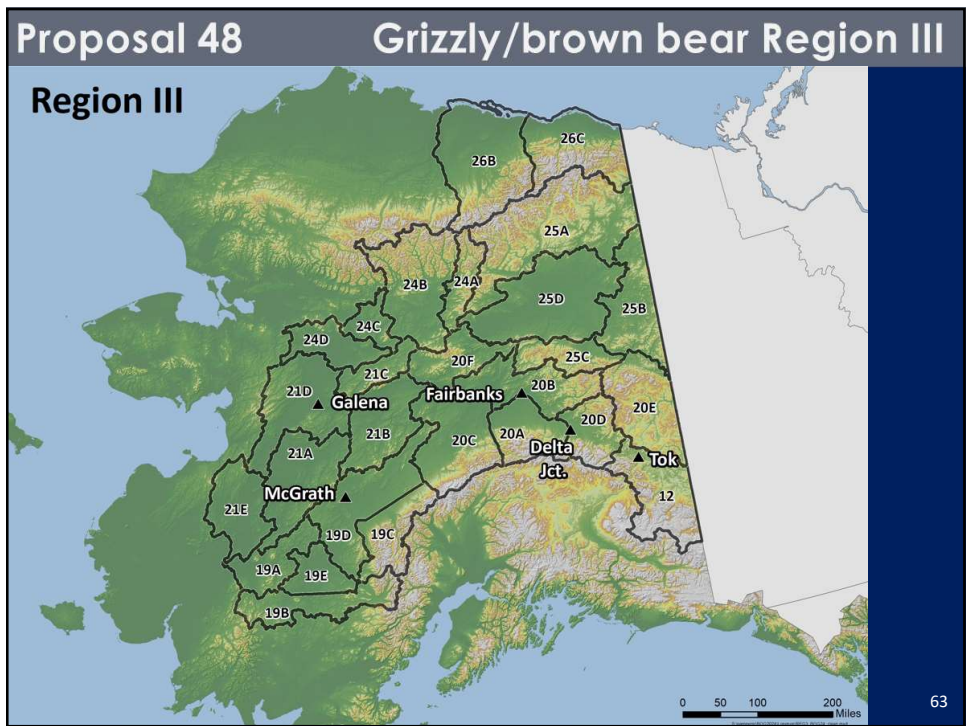
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<b>Proposal 47</b>	<b>Bison/Units 12, 19 and 20</b>
<p data-bbox="332 415 1096 457"><b>Allow proxy hunting for bison in Units 12, 19, and 20.</b></p> <p data-bbox="332 739 808 781"><b>Department Recommendation: Neutral</b></p> <p data-bbox="332 835 535 877"><b>Public Proposal</b></p> <p data-bbox="1242 907 1274 934">61</p>	

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<b>Proposal 48</b>	<b>Grizzly/brown bear Region III</b>
<p data-bbox="332 1264 1177 1339"><b>Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Northeast Alaska</b></p> <p data-bbox="332 1600 815 1642"><b>Department Recommendation: Support</b></p> <p data-bbox="332 1696 600 1738"><b>Department Proposal</b></p> <p data-bbox="1242 1822 1274 1850">62</p>	

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**Proposal 48**      **Grizzly/brown bear Region III**

**Current Regulations**

- **5 AAC 92.015(a)(4) Brown bear tag fee exemptions**
  - (a) A resident tag is not required for taking a brown bear in the following units:
    - (4) Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26(B) and 26(C)
- **Most brown bears must be sealed.**

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Proposal 48		Grizzly/brown bear Region III
<u>Customary and traditional use findings, and Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses</u>		
Unit	Finding	Amount reasonably necessary for subsistence
Unit 12	Negative	---
Units 19A and 19B upstream of and excluding the Aniak River drainage, and Unit 19D	Positive	10–15
Units 19A and 19B downstream of and including the Aniak River drainage	Positive	5
Unit 19C	Negative	N/A
Unit 19D	Positive	2–6
Units 20A and 20B outside the boundaries of the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Use Area and Unit 20C	Positive	1–3
Unit 20D, outside the boundaries of the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area	Positive	1–2
Unit 20E	Negative	N/A
Units 21 and 22	Positive	20–25
Units 23, 24, and 26	Positive	25–35
Unit 25A, 25B, 25C	Negative	N/A
Unit 25D	Positive	None made

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Proposal 48		Grizzly/brown bear Region III
<b><u>Background</u></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Simplifies regulations.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Allows residents to take bears opportunistically.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Marginal increases in harvest; no effect on brown bear populations.</b></li> </ul>		

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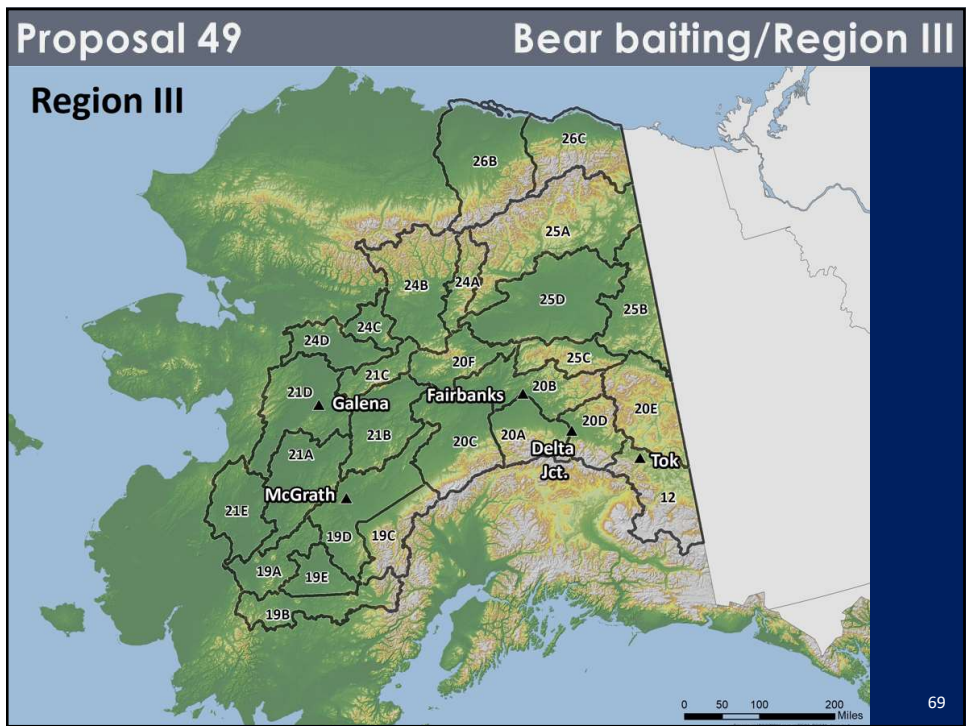
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<b>Proposal 48</b>	<b>Grizzly/brown bear Region III</b>
<b>Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Northeast Alaska</b>	
<b>Department Recommendation: Support</b>	
<b>Department Proposal</b>	
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<b>Proposal 49</b>	<b>Bear baiting/Region III</b>
<b>Clarify which rivers in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C are major rivers for the purposes of bear baiting</b>	
<b>Department Recommendation: Take No Action</b>	
<b>Proposed by: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee</b>	
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**Proposal 49** **Bear baiting/Region III**

**Current Regulations**

- 5 AAC 92.044

...

(2) a person may not use bait or scent lures within

- (B) one mile of a
  - (i) house or other permanent dwelling, except that bait may be used within one mile of a cabin if the cabin is on the opposite side of a major river system, as identified by the department in the permit, from the bear baiting station;

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**Proposal 49** **Bear baiting/Region III**

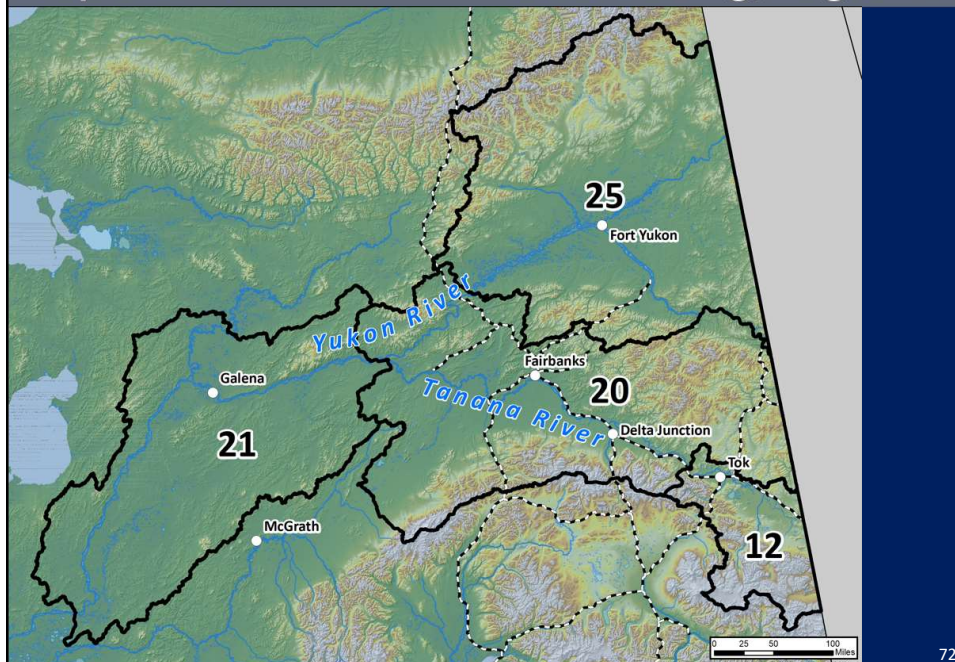
**Background**

- When this proposal was put forward the department had not yet identified “major river systems”.
- The proposed regulatory actions have already been taken.
- The department identified in Units 12, 20, 21 and 25, the Tanana and Yukon Rivers.

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**Proposal 49** **Bear baiting/Region III**



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<b>Proposal 49</b>	<b>Bear baiting/Region III</b>
<b>Clarify which rivers in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C are major rivers for the purposes of bear baiting</b>	
<b>Department Recommendation: Take No Action</b>	
<b>Proposed by: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee</b>	
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<b>Proposal 50</b>	<b>Marten/Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25</b>
<b>Lengthen the marten trapping season in Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25 by two weeks to end March 15</b>	
<b>Department Recommendation: Neutral</b>	
<b>Proposed By: Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council</b>	
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**Proposal 50** **Marten/Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25**

**Current Regulations**

Area	Season	Bag limit
Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25	Nov 1–Feb. 28	No limit

- There is a positive customary and traditional use finding for marten populations with a harvestable surplus statewide, with an amount reasonably necessary for subsistence of 90% of the harvestable portion.
- Marten in Units 12, 19, 21 and 24 are outside of the nonsubsistence areas.
- Marten in portions of Units 20(A), 20(B), 20(D) and 25(D) are within the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area.

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**Proposal 50** **Marten/Units 12, 19-21,24 and 25**

**Proposed Regulations**

Area	Season	Bag limit
Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25	Nov 1– <del>Feb. 28</del> Mar 15	No limit

- This will put marten out of alignment with mink and weasel.

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## Proposal 50

Marten/Units 12, 19-2, 24 and 25

- **Ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup> most important trapping species in Region 3 by trappers who responded to the trapper questionnaire.**
- **Chronology of harvest traditionally aligns with snowfall and freeze-up which increases access by snowmachine.**
- **No abundance estimates**
  - **Those who responded to the trapper questionnaire indicate a transition from “common” in 2018-2019 to “scarce” from 2020-2021**

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## Proposal 50

Marten/Units 12, 19-2, 24 and 25

### Effects

- **Pelt quality may be diminished later in the trapping season**
- **Decreased value**
- **No biological concerns**
- **May increase incidental take of weasel or mink.**

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**Proposal 50** Marten/Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25

**Lengthen the marten trapping season in Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25 by two weeks to end March 15**

**Department Recommendation: Neutral**

**Proposed By: Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council**

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**Proposal 51** Muskrat/Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C

**Align muskrat trapping seasons with beaver trapping seasons in Units 19, 20 (except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C**

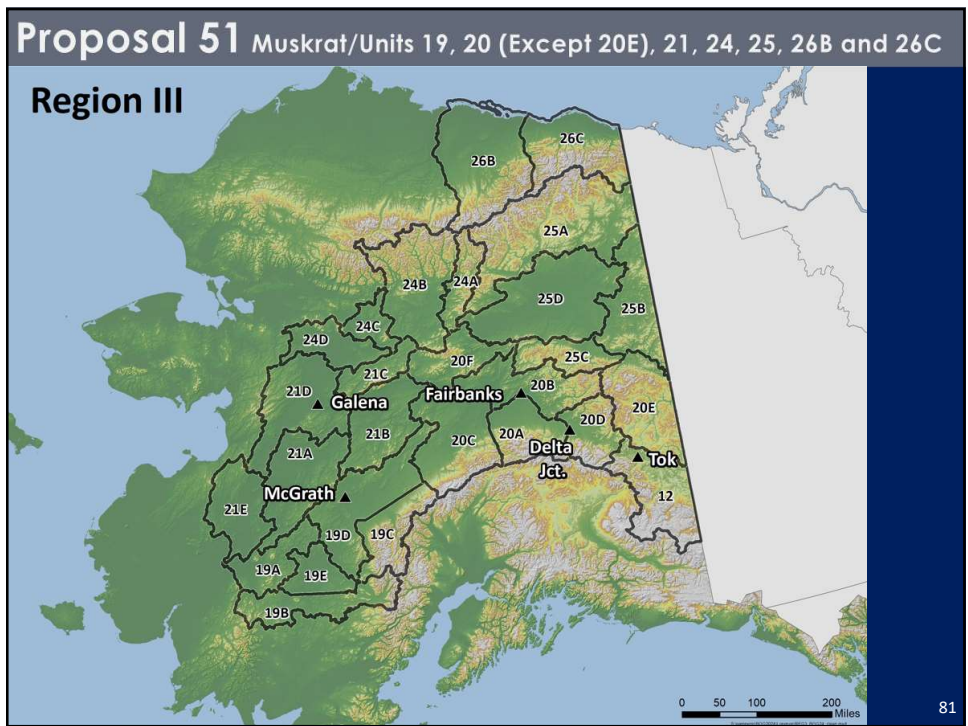
**Department Recommendation: Opposed on closing seasons, neutral on biological aspects**

**Proposed By: Public**

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**Proposal 51** Muskrat/Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C

**Current Regulations**

Area	Season	Bag limit
Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C	Nov 1-Jun 10	No limit
Units 12 and 20E	Sept 20-Jun 10	No limit

There is a positive customary and traditional use finding for muskrat populations with a harvestable surplus statewide, with an amount reasonably necessary for subsistence of 90% of the harvestable portion.

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**Proposal 51** Muskrat/Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C

**Proposed Regulations**

Area	Current Season	Proposed Season	Bag limit	Change
Units 19, 21, 24 and 25	Nov 1-Jun 10	Sept 15-Jun 10	No limit	61 days added
Units 20A, 20C, and 20F	Nov 1-Jun 10	Sept 15-Jun 10	No limit	46 days added
Units 20D and 20B remainder	Nov 1-Jun 10	Sept 25-May 31	No limit	56 days added in the beginning of season 10 days reduced at the end of season
Units 20B, 26B and 26C	Nov 1-Jun 10	No open season		221 days reduced

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- Proposal 51** Muskrat/Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C
- No abundance estimates in Region 3.
  - Current regulations are straightforward.
  - Proposed regulations add days in some units, reduce days in other units and close season altogether in GMU 26B, 26C and parts of 20B.
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**Proposal 51** Muskrat/Units 19, 20 (Except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C

**Align muskrat trapping seasons with beaver trapping seasons in Units 19, 20 (except 20E), 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C**

**Department Recommendation: Opposed on closing seasons, neutral on biological aspects**

**Proposed By: Public**

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**Proposal 52** Furbearers/Region III

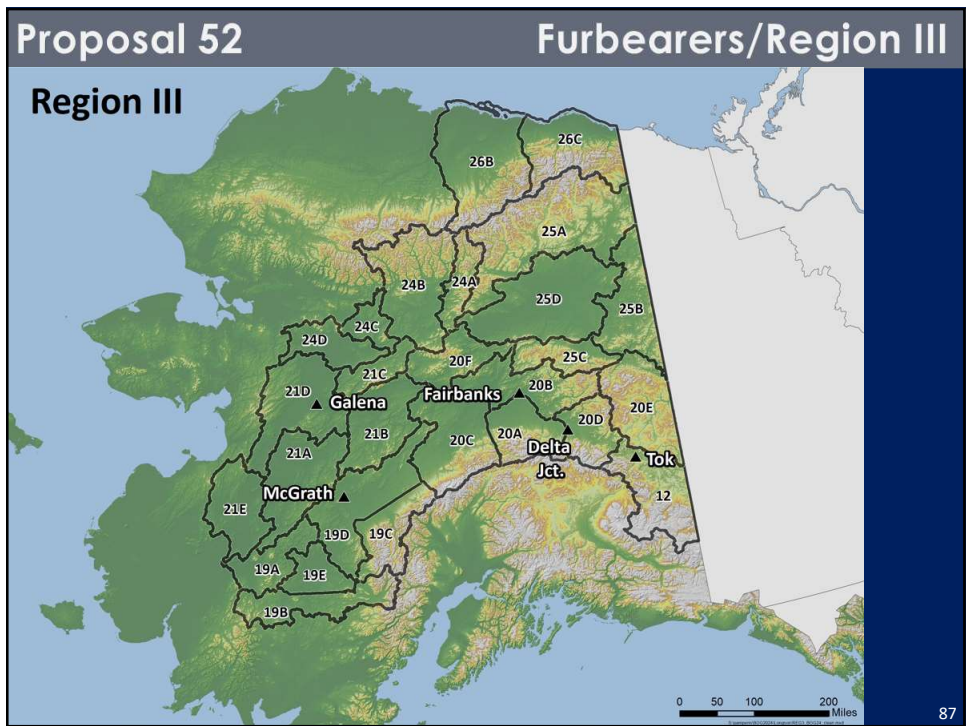
**Allow the use of night vision goggles and forward-looking infrared devices for taking furbearers with a trapping license in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C.**

**Department Recommendation: Support**

**Proposed By: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee**

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**Proposal 52** **Furbearers/Region III**

**Definition of a furbearer:**

- Furbearer is a classification of animals subject to taking with a trapping license.
- Most furbearers are taken with either traps, or snares, but can also be shot with firearms unless specifically prohibited.
- Beaver, coyote, Arctic fox, red fox, fisher, lynx, marten, mink, weasel, muskrat, river otter, squirrel, marmot (Alaska or hoary marmot and woodchucks), wolf or wolverine;

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Proposal 52	Furbearers/Region III
<p><u>Current Regulations</u></p> <p>➤ 5 AAC 92.080 Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions. The following methods of taking game are prohibited</p> <p>...</p> <p>(7) with the aid of</p> <p>(E) electronically enhanced night vision;</p> <p>(F) any forward looking infrared device;</p> <p>All furbearers and fur animals have a positive customary and traditional use finding with an amount reasonably necessary for subsistence of 90% of the harvestable portion of the population.</p> <p>➤ Artificial light may only be used for the purpose of taking furbearers Nov. 1–Mar. 31 in Units 7 and 9-26.</p>	
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Proposal 52	Furbearers/Region III
<p><u>Proposed Regulations</u></p> <p>➤ 5 AAC 92.080 Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions. The following methods of taking game are prohibited</p> <p>...</p> <p>(7) with the aid of</p> <p>(E) <del>electronically enhanced night vision;</del></p> <p>(F) <del>any forward looking infrared device;</del></p>	
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**Proposal 52** **Furbearers/Region III**

**Background**

- **FLIR technology detects infrared radiation emitted from a heat source to create a thermal picture**
- **FLIR can detect the heat of animals against cooler backgrounds and employs advanced image corrections**
- **Night vision enhances or amplifies visible light.**
- **Night vision and FLIR devices are available as:**
  - **Hand-held cameras,**
  - **Smart phone cameras**
  - **Goggles**
  - **Rifle scopes**



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**Proposal 52** **Furbearers/Region III**

**Allow the use of night vision goggles and forward-looking infrared devices for taking furbearers with a trapping license in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C.**

**Department Recommendation: Support**

**Proposed By: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee**

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