

Mark Richards  
Personal Testimony

SHEEP ISSUES

Region III  
Board of Game Meeting

March 15 – 22, 2024

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If your state had the only thinhorn Dall Sheep population in the country, what would happen if you:

- Allowed unlimited nonresident sheep hunting opportunity
- Required all nonresidents to hire a guide
- Placed no limits on guides
- A guided sheep hunt costs upwards of \$25,000

**Unit 19C Sheep Harvest (ADF&G data)**

Year	Nonresident	Resident	Total	%Nonresident
2018	79	39	118	<b>67%</b>
2019	75	39	114	<b>66%</b>
2020	54	14	68	<b>79%</b>
2021	34	6	40	<b>85%</b>
2022	26	3	29	<b>90%</b>

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**2016 SHEEP WORKING GROUP CONSENSUS:**


- *Nonresident sheep hunters should be limited*

**2016 BRINKMAN SHEEP SURVEY CONSENSUS:**


- *Residents should have a sheep hunting priority*

***Why would we allow nonresident sheep hunters to take such a high percentage of the harvest, regardless if such harvest levels are sustainable?***

**Unit 19C 2022 Nonresident Sheep Harvests**



**Unit 19C 2022 Resident Sheep Harvests**



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**2017 Statewide Meeting**  
**PROPOSAL 36** – Change all nonresident general sheep hunts to drawing permit hunts

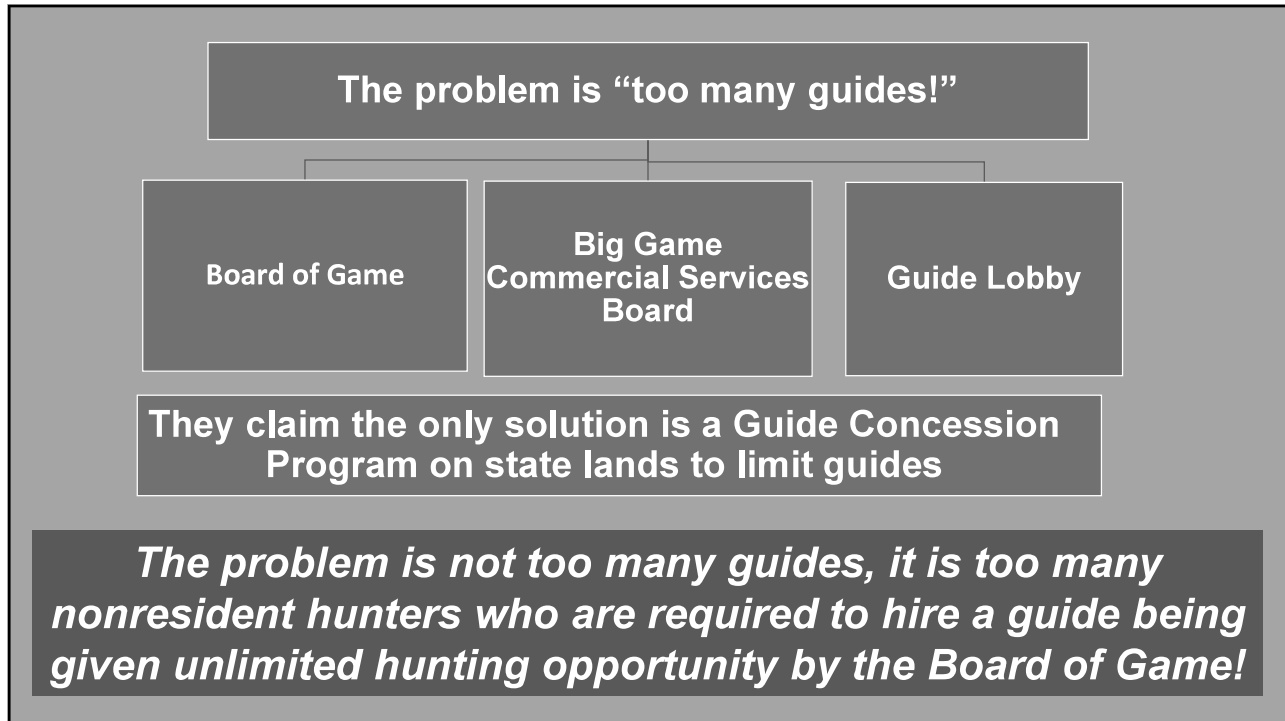
**2020 Region III Meeting**  
**PROPOSAL 52** – Change the nonresident general season sheep hunts in Units 20 Remainder and 19C to drawing permit, with a limited allocation of up to 50 permits for each hunt.

**2021 ACR Meeting**  
**ACR #4** – All current nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C to go to draw only, with a limited allocation of not more than 30 permits.

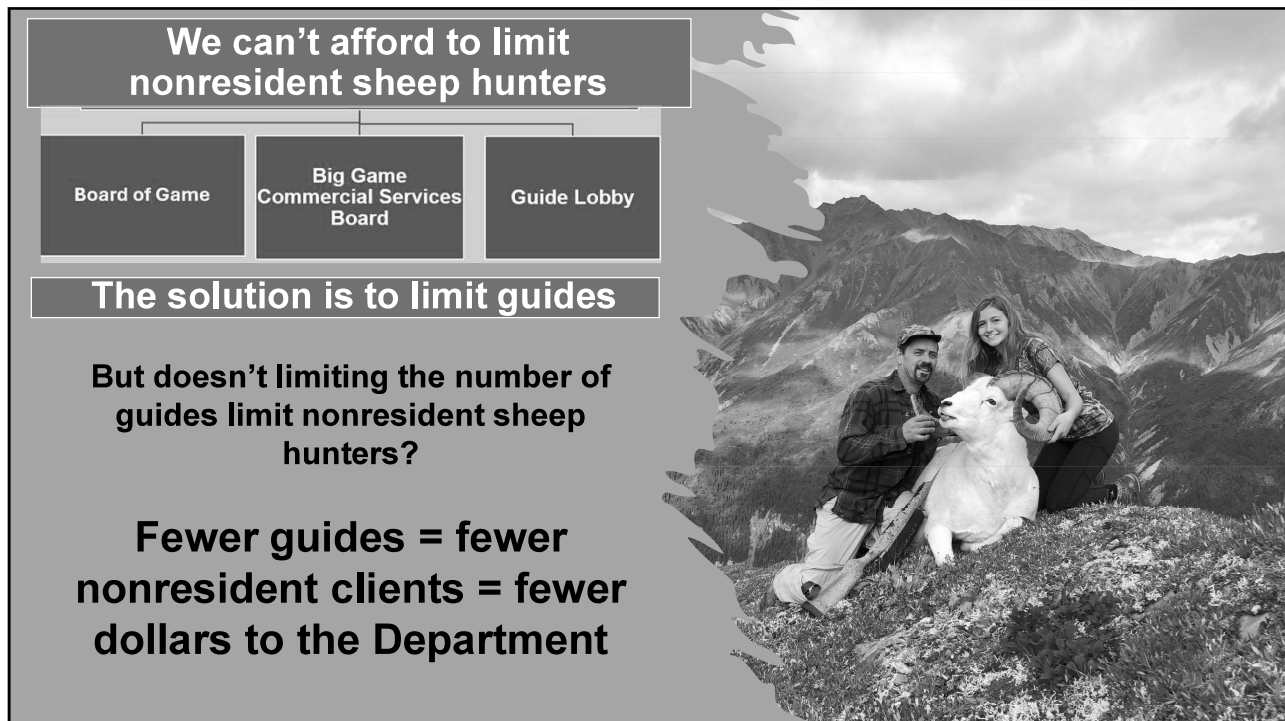
**2022 ACR Meeting**  
**ACR #12** – Limit nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C to drawing permit only, with up to 20 permits available.

**2023 Board-generated PROPOSAL 204 – Close resident and nonresident hunting for Dall sheep in Unit 19C, for five years**

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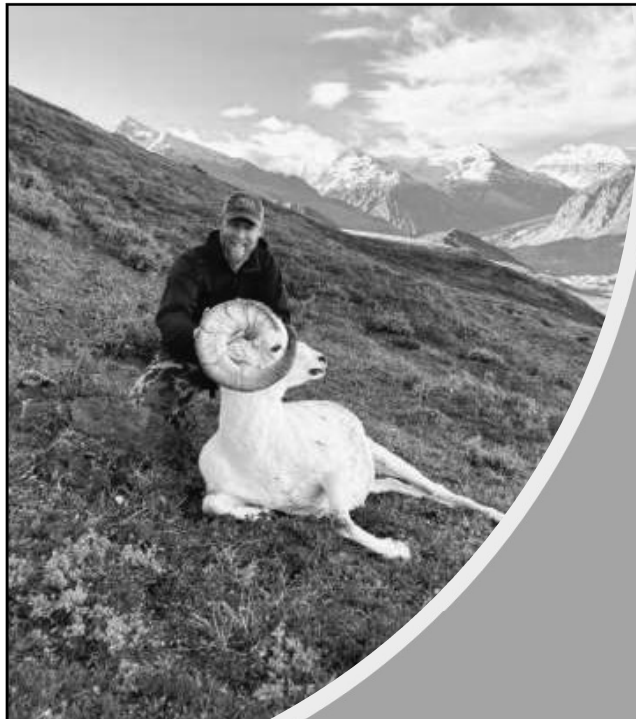
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APHA - Implementing nonresident sheep drawing hunts is the best way to kill or destroy guide businesses. It is impossible for a guide to make a living on public lands if they are managed by drawing hunt.

The APHA supports fully closing ALL sheep hunting in 19C to residents and nonresidents until the sheep management plan is finalized.

**WE CAN'T KEEP MAKING DECISIONS ON WHAT IS BEST FOR THE GUIDE INDUSTRY!**

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**“My number one goal, as mandated by Alaska’s constitution, is to deliver to the people of Alaska the maximum use and benefit of fish and game resources while ensuring a sustained yield for future generations.”**

**- ADFG Commissioner  
Doug Vincent-Lang**

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