

To expand on my written comment regarding Proposals 130 and 131. I oppose Proposal 130, and support 131.

Every other sheep draw area in Alaska where there are more than two permits offered has a guaranteed non-resident guided allocation. It would be a significant exception if the DCUA which is made up of 3 separate GMU's, 2 Guide Use Areas, a mixture of State and Federal land, and offers a relatively high number of draw permits were to no longer have a guaranteed allocation of permits.

If the DS205 "non-resident guided" 10% permit allocation is eliminated it will eliminate any reasonable sustainable guide opportunities for Dall sheep in the DCUA. Speaking for myself and the 1-2 other Registered Guides who have benefited from this permit I urge the board to deny this proposal. A decision to return to the "up to 10%" non-resident allocation mixed with the resident draw pool would force these guides to make a decision to either:

- A. Flood as many applicants as possible into the draw without limit in hopes of acquiring any permits to sustain their business, which would negatively impact everyone's draw odds

OR:

- B. Move to another Guide Use Area with Harvest Ticket sheep permits, increasing pressure in other sheep units where hunting pressure is already extremely high.

Speaking for myself, this DS205 permit has allowed me to disperse my guided sheep hunts from other portions of GMU 20A that have incredible overcrowding of both guided and resident sheep hunting.

Having a guarantee of permits has allowed guides peace of mind that we can offer a set amount of hunts as well as provide work for our assistant guides.

If you give consideration to permit allocations in other western states you will find that some offer as much as a 25% Non-resident allocation, and that 10% is generally the standard NR allocation.

The proposal cites that NR enjoyed first come first serve permits while residents have around 1% draw odds. This is simply because myself and the other guides in the area have made an agreement not to flood the draw in hopes of attaining as many permits as possible for ourselves. We have exercised control over our number of applicants so that we have assurance of a permit for the clients we WANT to take, instead of applying as many hunters as possible and being stuck with guiding whoever happens to draw.

There is a mixture of BLM(federal land) and State land in the DCUA, and based on the common use clause in the Alaska State Constitution, non-residents of Alaska should maintain a guaranteed permit allocation.

In regards to Proposal 131, I support this so that the current DS205 permits would be divided between the early and late portions of this hunt instead of all early or late on an every-other-year basis.

I thank the Board for your time and efforts in making these decisions and am grateful for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Rowenhorst

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