

IDENTIFY INFORMATION GAPS/NEEDS THAT COULD BE ADDRESSED THROUGH A PRESENTATION?

Update to the "Sheep populations, hunters, & harvest" from ADFG
(ON GOING)
2015 SHEEP DATA NEEDS TO BE PRESENTED (HARVEST NUMBERS)

- Spatially explicit abundance and harvest data over time

Historical data on harvest and participation by year user group, and mountain range, and all other

Historical data on biological makeup of harvest and mountain range populations.

Need area-specific S+I data long term

SEGMENT GROWTH RATES OF HORNS, AND DEGREE OF CURL OF HARVESTED SHEEP.

Read the WG website

- Data available as visual reference in room to refer to

Biologist in room to answer questions - verify claims of members

PREPARE, PRESENT DATA IN A WAY THAT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD. SIMPLE!

TOO MUCH DATA (it's not true, expensive, time consuming) WILL KILL the SWG.

STATEwide Combined GMU Sheep Hunter Statistics

How many Rams Left on The Range, After Hunting Season.

NUMBER of Hunters -
RGS. > Non-RGS. → PRESENT.

IS THERE A LONG TERM NEGATIVE IMPACT ON HEALTH OF HARVESTING FULL CURL ONLY? IS HEALTH DECLINING BECAUSE OF MANAGEMENT FOR ABUNDANCE AND MAXIMUM HARVEST?

Reliable and timely federal subsistence harvest data

ANALYSIS OF WHAT the Harvest DATA SAY

• REPORT EXISTS ON WEB
• UPDATE ALSO
• THERE
• TONY
• BY MTN RANGE Participation NATALIE

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REQUEST PRESENTATION
ON LEGAL SHEEP
SURVIVABILITY BY JOE
WANT

DO WE HAVE THE
SAME SURPLUS OF SHEEP
AS WE HAD IN PAST
YEARS

Complete Discussion on
the 13D-14A Sheep Allocation
Experiment To include:
Population Status, Harvest #'s
Resident - Non Resident %'

TONY
→ MINE
DATA
• 19C, MTN
RANGE,
→ BY 4 YR
CATEGORIES

NEED PARTICIPATION
NUMBERS FOR RESIDENT
VS NON RESIDENT IN
EACH GMU

- Hunter and guide use-
concentration / spatial
distribution

WOULD PREDATOR
CONTROL INCREASE
Sheep Populations

WEBSITE
→ 2 REPORTS
• MTN RANGE
SPECIFIC

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• CAN WE
GENERALIZE?
• RESULTS?

• TONY

• WHAT #
CAUSES
BIOLOGICAL
CONCERN?
• TRIGGER
POINTS?
• WHEN DON'T
WE HAVE A
SURPLUS?

GUIDE USE
AREAS
→ HOW WORK?
• COMMERCIAL BOARD
• Henry →
• Ryan → Refugees
• Laurel

ACCESSIBILITY
→ NOT
UNDERSTANDING
HOW DIFFICULT
TO GET THERE.

WE NEED COMPARATIVE
DATA BETWEEN STATE
MANAGED & FEDERAL
MANAGED AREAS

• Kevin
Willarage

Disease Data /
information

Briefing on disease
transmission from
domestic animals to
wild sheep

Analysis of validity and bias inherent in pre and post Scaling (self-report vs. pro-report) harvest data

CAN THE PRESENTATION OF OUR CROWDING BE DOCUMENTED

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES
→ B.O.G.

- SAME CAUTIONS GIVEN TO GROUP
- WASTE OF TIME AS BOARD WILL GET LEGAL ADVICE ANYWAY

Dept acknowledges overcrowding → aesthetic grounds

- Available online
- What is overcrowding?
NO to TDD!

Fed. Parks
→ control.

Briefing on other (undiscussed) biological factors affecting Sheep populations

RESOURCE EXTRACTION IMPACTS ON SHEEP

REGIONAL DATA ON PROPOSALS.

Where do most proposals come from?
→ Identify potential problem areas?

Specific vs statewide problems?

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- DECLINING SHEEP #S DOCUMENTED
- PARK SERVICE PRESENTATION KUMI

MODEL COULD BE DONE SPECIFIC REGION, NOT VALID STATEWIDE.

LOCATION SPECIFIC SEASONAL TIME SPANS OF DATA
~~REPLICATION TEST~~

POPULATION DATA MODEL INTO FUTURE

TONY.

RATES OF SUCCESS
BETWEEN RESIDENT & NON-RESIDENTS

EFFORT BY HUNTERS,
INCLUDING GUIDED,
UNGUIDED... AND SUCCESS RATES.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES REGARDING FUNDING.

IS THERE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A TIMELY LETTER TO THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE LICENSE INCREASE BILL?

LICENSE FEES FOR A SHEEP TAG FOR NON-RESIDENTS SHOULD BE INCREASED.

AGREE

LICENSE FEES FOR A SHEEP TAG FOR RESIDENTS SHOULD BE INCREASED.

SLIPPERY SLOPE FEES FOR ALL SPECIES.

VALUE - FREE TAG IS SHAMEFUL
→ "FREE RIDE" → NOT A LOT BEING ASKED

SUBSISTENCE HUNTING

CHALLENGE OF PAYING A FEE FOR THOSE POOR
→ CAN BE EXEMPTED.

WHERE WOULD THE MONEY GO?

RURAL VILLAGES NEED MONEY →

WE COULD HELP MAKE UP DIFFERENCE IF NON-RESIDENTS ARE REDUCED

STATE DOESN'T ENFORCE LICENSE FEES ACROSS STATE
→ NOT CAPTURING ALL MONIES POSSIBLE.

ECONOMIC BURDEN ARGUMENT FROM RESIDENTS FROM URBAN AREAS IS NON-EXISTENT.

NOT ABOUT THE MONEY.

BRING MORE FUNDS IN \$ FUNDS USED FOR PREDATOR CONTROL
→ TAG FEE - \$20.00\$
PIECE FOR INTENSIVE MGMT.

THAT'S BETTER.
→ FEE FOR THE DRAW HUNTS, NOT AFFECTING RURAL AREAS.

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WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING THE KEY ISSUES REGARDING 207.

~~PRO~~ ~~PLAYERS~~ LEVELS PLAYING FIELD ALL USERS.

levels playing field for hunters with different access.

"Evens the playing field" hunters w/ planes vs. w/o

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF 207?

fairness?

brings residents in line with commercial Services language for guides

Prop 207 directly addressed an identified issue

AIRCRAFT CAUSED CONFLICTS
→ SURVEY + COMMENTS OVER THE ISSUE DISTURBING HUNT → QUALITY OF HUNT.

It woke up Resident hunters? they participated.

ACs - some were in favour some against.

SPOTTING SHEEP WITH AIRCRAFT PRESENTS SAFETY HAZARD

SUBSISTENCE HUNTERS PUT AT DISADVANTAGE IF AIRCRAFT USED TO LOCATE LITTLE RAMS SHEEP

Traditional aircraft access opportunities have been maintained in the proposal

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207 Provides a misdemeanor penalty for spotting sheep. Effectively enforces Guide ethic regulations that are in place currently.

discouraging aerial spotting
encourages fair chase

PRO:

207 Resolution
It prevents unethical
hunting - buzzing to spot
sheep.

Promotes Fair-Chase Hunting

LOCATING SHEEP WITH
AIRCRAFT IS REGARDED
BY PUBLIC AS UNETHICAL
HUNTING

Addresses fair chase
issues

Tries to address abuses
using aircraft-ethical
issues

Reduces In-field
Conflicts

Less hunt disturbance
for hunters on ground
better quality hunt
on ground

Avoids scaring sheep
that hunters may be
stalking from the ground.

SPOTTING SHEEP UP
CLOSE MAY INTERFERE
WITH HUNTERS ON THE
GROUND

Better quality experience
fewer overflights

Maybe reduced
harvest?

Reduced Sheep Hunting effort
By Resident Airplane Hunters
in 2015 + Reduced Success
Rate.

Conserves Larger
Rams

PRO

Good Conservation
measure for Dall Sheep

Less hunters

IF 207 Remains in Effect
Compromise: No Sheep Spotting
8-10 thru 8-25 - Since up to
70% of Sheep Killed + Hunters gone
after 8-25 then conflict is
gone.

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Reduces Stress on Sheep

WHAT ARE THE DISADVANTAGES OF 207?

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CONS
DISCRIMINATES AGAINST PRIVATE PILOTS
Singles out Sheep hunters,
(it should apply to all species)
Targets a narrow segment of the Sheep hunting Public

Imposes restrictions on everyone before addressing allocation issues - (restricting non-residents).
Unfairly restricts one user group.

May negatively affect resident hunters more

Airplane use is not inherently BAD. Some small #s of conflicts drove the passage of 207. Harming the 95% of conscientious pilots.

Gives Non Res Advantage over Residents.

207 IS A BARRIER FOR RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY

Other options for 207 were not explored.

Exacerbates crowding on August 10th

207 Increases CROWDING DURING BEGINNING OF SEASON

Pilot concern with safety falsely accused of spotting

Safety
I dead pilot is
I too many

Could lead to risky flying behavior

HUGE SAFETY ISSUE FOR PILOTS

207 IS A SAFETY CONCERN FOR PILOTS

Difficult to Enforce

Con

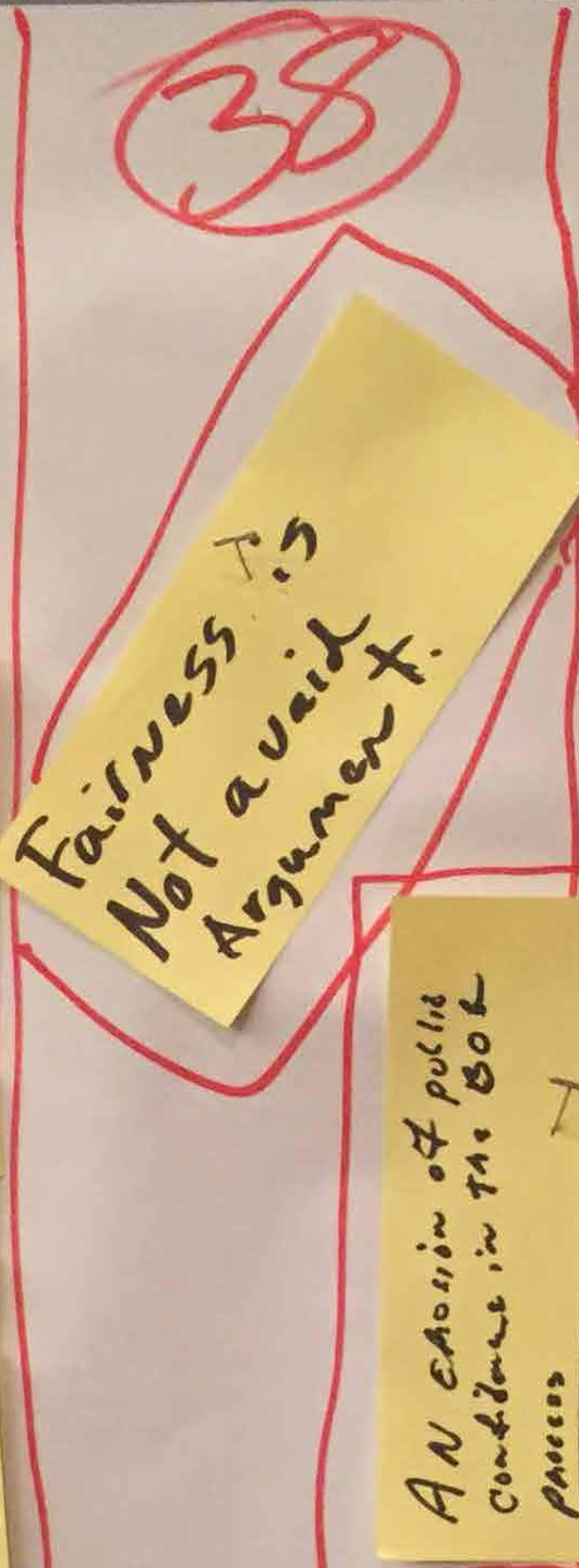
REGULATION DOES NOT REFLECT INTENT
OPEN TO INTERPRETATION.
NEED TO CLARIFY

Subjective/and interpreting
making it UNENFORCEABLE.

Prop 207 language has been
portrayed as vague

Enforcement was
not in support.

Trouble enforcing
could cause
unfair legal
burden



AN EXCEPTION OF PUBLIC
CONCERN IS THE BOG
CONTINUOUSLY IN THE
PROCESS

No Biological
Reasons to implement.

Adds cost due
to pre-season scouting
requirement

Makes taking
very large rams
more difficult

BOG didn't use
their criteria for board
generated proposals.

Wide-spread opposition
(public/ACs) but BOG
passed anyway.

Board Generated

NO Public Support
MAJORITY OF ACs
OPPOSE 207

BoG is painting
Aircraft harter as
unethical hunters

BOG Passed with
overwhelming opposition
to 207/BoG was divided

BOG VIOLATED THEIR
OWN POLICY FOR
BOARD GENERATED PROPOSALS

BOG GENERATED 207
WILL NO PUBLIC
INPUT

Con

UNILATERAL
BOG DEC

BoG generated proposal
WORST process

WAS THERE
ANY WRITTEN
COMMENTS / ORAL
REGARDING THIS
ISSUE?

207 DISCUSSION

• BEFORE 207 RESIDENT HUNTER'S SUCCESS WITH PLANES (2014) → 37% SUCCESS.

• AFTER 207 (2015) → 32% SUCCESS.

- 2015 WORST WEATHER EVER
- SINGLE DATA POINTS

NO ONE WAS CHARGED UNDER 207 IN 2015.

→ ONE WAS INVESTIGATED.

HUNTERS-RESIDENT
LARGE DECLINE
LAST YEAR

HUNTERS
CHANGED THEIR
BEHAVIOUR AND
CHOSE NOT TO
HUNT BECAUSE OF 207.
→ DON'T KNOW THIS

224 COMMENTS

184 - RESEND
27 - SUPPORT

PEOPLE THAT SUPPORT THINGS LESS LIKELY TO VOICE COMMENTS

→ B.O.G. COULD REDISCUSS 207 BECAUSE IT IS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE FROM THE WORKING GROUP.

LEGALLY CAN LOOK AT IT
→ NO PROBLEM
→ EVERY AC CAN MAKE COMMENTS

HUNTER ETHIC ISSUE
→ THEN EDUCATE PEOPLE/PILOTS THAN LEGISLATE THEM.

BUZZING SHEEP

· IF FLY LOW ENOUGH AND AFFECT SHEEP BEHAVIOUR

JUDGING SHEEP

→ FULL CURL

AFFECTING GROUND HUNT

INTENTIONAL ASPECTS

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IN SOME AREAS OF THE STATE ALLOCATION TO NON-RESIDENTS SHOULD BE REDUCED.

STRONGLY DISAGREE

DISAGREE

NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE

AGREE

STRONGLY AGREE

WHY SHOULD NON-RESIDENT ALLOCATION NOT BE REDUCED?

- DISADVANTAGES?
- DESIRED RESULTS?

Helps Preserve the Tradition of Guiding in AK.

Guided hunters increase Predator take.

Allows more opportunity for Alaskans to hunt with out-of-state family

Economics to the State Economy and ADF&G (license fees)

WHY SHOULD NON-RESIDENT ALLOCATIONS BE REDUCED?

- ADVANTAGES?
- DESIRED RESULTS

Guided Non Residents less likely to voluntarily reduce their take in times of shortage on state, BLM & Private lands.

aligns with intent of law

~~ALIGNS W/ INTENT OF LAW~~

RESIDENTS PRIORITY

~~SHEEP NOT ONE OF THOSE SPECIFIC ANIMALS~~

To Reduce Conflict in the field.

To Reduce the total sheep kill.

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More sheep available
on the mountain

Declining populations
in some areas

Reduce overcrowding

Less harvest
More Sheep

Reduced competition
for residents

Residents may have
a higher success rate

Less Large Rams
taken

The ADF&G insists
there is no conservation
concern. We shouldn't
second guess them.

Why penalize nonresidents
when [redacted] there are 3
times more residents
than nonresidents?

Economic loss to
the guiding industry

Lose \$2,000 per
nonresident hunter,
[redacted] from Fish &
Game Fund

40-60% of legally
harvestable rams left
on the mountain

Less Funding
ADFG

~~LOSS OF RESOURCE
MAY JUSTIFY
LOSS OF \$8~~

~~RESIDENT COULD
MAKE UP
DIFFERENCE.~~

~~HAVE FAITH IN
ADFG THAT
THEY WON'T LET
RESOURCE CRASH.~~

~~- DO FEES PAY
FOR SHEEP MGR?
- DO YOU INCLUDE
ADDITIONAL MATCH?~~

~~MANAGE MORE
CONSERVATIVELY
IF NO \$8 TO DO
RESEARCH~~

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To give residents
a priority when hunt
opportunity declines

Potential increase in resident
permit numbers to make up
for lost non resident success

COULD BE MORE
OPPORTUNITIES.

Increased resident hunter
morale - well, some
of them anyway

Fewer Hunters
Non Residents

More Sheep
May be left
on Mountain.

Low Sheep
Population

Give Res.
Priority

Quality of
Sheep increase

Disenfranchises a segment
of the broader hunting public
to prioritize a local preference
- fairness issue on Nat'l level

Economics - loss of
funding for state +
business + wildlife mgmt

Trickle down
Neg. Economic
impact

Takes away
opportunities

Loss of
Mgt. Money

Pushing
People to other
areas.

Loss of
Livinghood

GUIDES ARE
ALASKANS, NOT
ALIENS.

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Larger rams taken by guided nonresidents = more value \$\$

Increase price of nonresident guided sheep hunt

Any documentation that sublegal take would be lower at higher populations?

Less resident sublegal take (nonresident too?)

Decreased revenue for F&G and the whole state economy

Market will bear costs.
Assistant Guides
→ Some are not Alaskans
→ They should take the hit

Less competition for hunters res non

Negatively impacts viability of guide operations

Inter-state commerce
• Non-resident guides pay more than resident guides
• 3/4 Alaskan residents guides
• Guides decreasing in #s

More legal rams on mountain
More older rams with lower take

Curtails nonresident opportunity

Creates a perception of bias towards residents

Losing guides by attrition.
→ Licensing about 22/yr vs 700 several yrs ago

Small operations
→ Guide about 5 or so.
• Big operation - 30 hunters

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MAY REDUCE CROWDING

MAY HELP RELIEVE SOME
RESIDENT VS NON-RES FRICTION

PRESERVES THE OPPORTUNITY
FOR RESIDENTS

MAY ALLOW A ~~DECLINING~~
HERD TO RECOVER

might make
MARK HAPPY!

Some mature rams
May benefit 'cause
fewer takers.

Benefit resident
hunters by removing
competition.

More sheep
available to resident
hunters.

PREVENT NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON GUIDE /
OUTFITTERS

WILL NOT
REDUCE FUNDING
TO ADFG

DOES NOT DECREASE
OPPORTUNITY

SAFETY NET
GUIDES PROVIDING EMERGENCY
SUPPORT TO RESIDENTS

WILL MAKE VIRGIL HAPPY

Financial impact on
Alaska residents: guides,
transporters, taxidermists,
etc.

Lose clients/
revenue who will
go to Canada.

Loss of opportunity
to NR users.

Loss of F + G
Funds for 3:1
Match.

Guides may hunt
themselves w/ no
clients, for themselves
or family.

Negative financial
impact, to Alaska
+ Alaskans ~~to~~

Less \$ available for
 $S + I =$ More
conservative mgmt. =
Less user opportunity.

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Meet if we can put forward some ideas to B.O.G.

One more shot →

Group is a benefit for future.
Need a facilitator.
Accept majority

• Need to see something fleshed out.
• Momentum
→ took on big ones.

Optimistic
• Need you Alstat.
• B.O.G. are listening.

Should we move forward?
→ Yes, let's meet in Feb.
→ Momentum.

Stay, have meeting in Feb.
→ pleased with my work.
• Don't rush through something.
Work.

Develop mgmt plans.
→ Both proposals, recommendations etc.

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Different group to work with
• Wait for B.O.G. discussion first in March

Good idea to have consensus.
→ protect ideology.

• Appreciate my job.
• Work with group. Have momentum. Work.
• Need to compromise.

Go over proposals. Pick a few.
→

Optimistic. Like to meet in Feb. → Need momentum.
→ Stick with vision.

Let B.O.G. do their job.
→ Some ideas are in this book. ACs will do this.
→ Trust B.O.G.

Uniqueness - views can be brought here
→ chance to find unique solutions.
→ keep this.

• Process is voluntary → it want to work towards solutions
• B.O.G. → give recommendations to Board - working group

NEXT WORKSHOP
ANCHORAGE, AK
FEB. 20TH-21ST

B.O.G. set up working group
→ deeply appreciative of this process.

• How data is going to be presented?
• Based allocation on subjective ideas or data.

• Learning a lot from process
• Work on issues.

Thanks for allowing participation.
• Need to have additional opportunities to think about issues. B.O.G. listening.

• Majority says meet again.
• Majority says meet in Feb.

Promote Alaska's Dall sheep management through funding, research, habitat conservation, and the application of sustainable harvest goals to enhance quality opportunities for current & future generations.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING THE KEY ISSUES REGARDING ALLOCATION ISSUES IN THE STATE.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING ISSUES OF POTENTIAL LOSS OF HABITAT.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING THE KEY ISSUES REGARDING DECLINING SHEEP NUMBERS.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES REGARDING FEDERAL LANDS BEING CLOSED TO HUNTING.

WHAT ARE THE KEY QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED?

UNDERSTAND AND ADDRESS POTENTIAL ISSUES OF DISEASE TO WILD SHEEP POPULATIONS FROM DOMESTIC SHEEP AND GOATS.

UNDERSTAND AND ADDRESS THE KEY ISSUES REGARDING WEATHER TO SHEEP POPULATIONS.

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WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING
THE DEFINITION OF A
QUALITY HUNTING EXPERIENCE.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING
AND ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES
REGARDING PREDATOR MGMT.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING
AND ADDRESSING THE
KEY ISSUES REGARDING
CONCESSIONAIRES.

INCREASE COOPERATION
AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN
ALL GROUPS.

→ DECREASE/MINIMIZE CONFLICTS
BETWEEN GROUPS.

IMPROVE COMMUNICATION
BETWEEN ALL INTEREST
GROUPS AND ADF&G.

DESIGNATE A SPECIFIC
SHEEP PERSON AS A
CONTACT FOR ALL GROUPS.

WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING
AND ADDRESSING THE KEY
ISSUES REGARDING OVER-
CROWDING.

HOW DO YOU DEFINE
OVERCROWDING?
→ WHERE? → WHY?
→ WHEN? → HOW ADDRESS?

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