Identifying a legal ram

A legal ram under a full-curl regulation is:

- A full curl ram, whose tip of at least one horn has grown through 360° of a circle described by the outer surface of the horn, as viewed from the side. (See figure 1, left.)
- A ram with the tips of both horns broken (see figure 3, at bottom of page).
- A ram at least 8 years old as determined by counting annual horn rings and segments (see figure 2, left). If a ram’s horns are not legal based on degree of curl or broken tips, you are responsible for counting at least 8 true annuli before attempting to take the ram. It is difficult and ill-advised to age a ram in the field by only counting horn rings because of false annuli and narrow horn segments on older rams.

A legal ram under an any ram hunt is:

Any ram. It can be difficult to tell the difference between ewes and young rams. The information below can help.

**EWE**
- No penis sheath (side view)
- Urinates while squatting
- Udder may be seen (rear view)
- Horns “wrinkled” near base

**YOUNG RAM**
- Penis sheath
- Urinates while standing
- Testes often not seen
- Horns relatively smooth
- Horns nearly parallel (front or top view)
- Horn tips splayed out

Of these, the penis sheath (small but visible), urination posture, and udder are the best clues.

Sheep rams taken in Units 7, 9, 11-16, 19, 20, and 24 and sheep rams with horn restrictions in Units 23, 25, and 26 must be sealed. It is illegal to transport sheep horns outside the state before sealing.

Ram horn sealing requirements:
Horns from rams harvested in areas listed in the yellow box above must be permanently sealed prior to exporting from Alaska. The horns, along with the harvest or permit report, must be presented to an ADF&G representative for sealing within 30 days of the date of kill, or sooner if permit requires. Horns must be attached to the skull plate for sealing purposes. If the hunter is unable to present horns in person for sealing, another individual must provide the hunter’s completed harvest report and transfer of possession (page 135) with horns at the time of sealing.

NOTE: Sheep sealing is available at most ADF&G offices Monday through Friday, except holidays. Sheep sealing is not available anywhere in Southeast, Arctic, or Western Alaska (except Kotzebue) so plan accordingly.

In areas where sheep horns must be sealed, they may not be altered prior to sealing.