

Selected Statutes in bold

AS 16.05.256. Nonresident and Nonresident Alien Permits

Whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of big game so that the opportunity for state residents to take big game can be reasonably satisfied in accordance with sustained yield principles, the Board of Game may, through a permit system, limit the taking of big game by nonresidents and nonresident aliens to accomplish that purpose.

The question before the Board- Is resident opportunity for Dall sheep being satisfied with Sustained Yield principles? Below is the Statute definition of Sustained Yield.

AS 16.05.255. Regulations of the Board of Game; Management Requirements.(5)
"sustained yield" means the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of the ability to support a high level of human harvest of game, subject to preferences among beneficial uses, on an annual or periodic basis.

So now we look at what is a high level of human harvest?

(2) "high level of human harvest" means the allocation of a sufficient portion of the harvestable surplus of a game population to achieve a high probability of success for human harvest of the game population based on biological capabilities of the population and considering hunter demand;

So do resident sheep hunters have a high probability of success?

ADFG Report WMR-2014-3 Trends in Alaska Sheep Populations , Hunting and harvests. States *"Non resident sheep hunter success rates are often twice that of residents"*

Data in this report also shows from 2001-2013 Nonresident success was around 60% while resident was 23% for the state as a whole These numbers would indicate that the Nonresident has the "High Level of Human Harvest" It would seem the Board should take action to raise the residents level of harvest and success.

- Youth sheep hunting. (Page 20)

The group spent a considerable amount of time on the topics of resident and non-resident allocation; resident priority for hunting season dates; and youth sheep hunts, all of which are proposal topics for the March 2016 Board of Game (board) meeting. The group did not come to consensus for providing recommendations to the board on these topics.

★ The group agreed to following concepts and actions: ★

1. Recommend an increase to number of resident applications that can be submitted per individual for sheep hunts, from three to six, and increase application fee from \$5 to \$10 for residents.
2. Recommend creation of a sheep stamp/tag for residents for \$50.00 and that revenue be "designated" to ADF&G for research and management, which ADF&G would be expected to report to the legislature.
3. Help to minimize risk of disease spreading from domestic sheep and goats to Dall sheep populations by sending a resolution to the legislature and seeking support from Board of Game.
4. Support ADF&G's efforts to standardize the method used by staff to measure sheep horns. Sheep working group members, including advisory committees, are encouraged to provide general comments to ADF&G on the manual.
5. Information on guide use concession areas from the National Park Service is needed.
6. Information from USF&WS on sheep statistics is needed.
7. Improve customer services within ADF&G regarding practice and availability of staff and sealing horns.
8. Support raising nonresident tag and license fees.
- ★ 9. Residents should have a priority for sheep hunting. ★

Working group members were interested in scheduling another meeting in the future and agreed to have ADF&G identify a workable weekend in April, 2016. The members expressed an interest in having it in Fairbanks.

Summary page from BOG
Website Dall Sheep Group Meeting
Feb 20th 21 2016