

ACR 3 – Close the sheep season in Unit 19C for two years or shorten the season.

SUBMITTED BY: Mont Mahoney

CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD.

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM.

Very low numbers of sheep in 19C. Estimate over 50% die off due to the previous two winters.

WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?

Either close Unit 19C for sheep (entire season) for two years or only open the last eleven days of season for sheep hunting, September 10-20.

STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- 1) **To correct an error in regulation.**
- 2) **To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.**
- 3) **Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?**

Having guided in Unit 19C (Guide Use Area 19-12) for the past 20 years and done extensive scouting for sheep by super cub each year for the past 20 years from July 1 – August 10th each year, this past year found at least 60% fewer sheep.

- 4) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f)?**
- 5) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future?**

In talking with and hearing about what other guides have said and found to be true. The population of all sheep in the area, not just rams, is down drastically. My estimate is at least a 60% loss of ewes, lambs and rams.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?

Who knows? But the resources has been hit hard. I would say a two-year closure of sheep hunting would be best.

STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.

IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.

Who knows? But the resources has been hit hard. I would say a two-year closure of sheep hunting would be best.

STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR.

Guides in Unit 19C (GUA 19-12) for past 20 years.

STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF GAME MEETING.

Has not.