

PROPOSAL 32

5 AAC 85.040. Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat.

Restrict hunters who take nanny goat in Unit 1D from hunting goat the following regulatory year in Unit 1D as follows:

The committee would like this regulation to be changed to read the following: **“If a nanny is taken in subunit 1D, the hunter is prohibited from hunting any goats in subunit 1D the following regulatory year.”**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In Unit 1, the regulations currently read, **“the taking of nannies with kids is prohibited. Taking of males is encouraged.”**

There are 22 hunt areas in Unit 1D. Of those 22 subunits, nine of them are one to two point units and three units as of 2021 were closed to goat hunting entirely. These are fragile populations of ungulates. While we do have a huntable population amongst some of the subunits, nearly half of the areas with populations are teetering on the huntable/emergency closure line. Nannies not accompanying a kid can be harvested. The committee wants to see this stopped.

Numbers show that in Unit 1D, people are hunting any goat and not targeting billies. For example, preliminary ADF&G data indicates that 40% of females harvested were done so knowingly, and not a result of misidentification. These numbers have all been extracted from Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s harvest data (available publicly on their website). They have shown that in Unit 1D from 2010-2020, 30% (86/284) of harvested goats were nannies. To expand on that, in 2016, 13 of the 28 goats harvested were nannies. That’s 46%.

For example, if 50 harvest points were allowed in Unit 1D and 46% of the harvest was females only 35 mtn goats (19M: 16F) could be harvested before the quota was met. However, if all harvest was males then a total of 50 mountain goats could be harvested (50M: 0F). Thus, in this real-world scenario, harvest opportunity could be increased by 15 mountain goats (46%) if only males were harvested!

PROPOSED BY: Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F22-040)
