

PROPOSAL 208-- 5 AAC 85.55. Seasons and bag limits for sheep. Modify the nonresident drawing permit allocation for Dall sheep in Unit 14C. Non-residents are allocated 13% of the total number of any weapon sheep permits in 14C and second degree of kindred hunters are allocated up to 20% of these permits.

The problem: In the 2023 draw permit period no guided non-resident permits were offered in the 14C, Northeast area or the 14C, Upper Eagle River area. This was the first time ever that guided non-residents had not had access to apply hunters for these areas since these areas went to draws permits in the 1980's. By adopting this new language you will guarantee that guided non-resident any weapon hunters will have access to these areas in the draw permit process in the future as long as there are enough total permits being issued. If there is an area that is closed for a any weapon hunt (no open season) the Dept. is not required to issue any non-resident permits in it.

NEW LANGUAGE:

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, at its discretion may issue second degree of kindred guided non-resident any weapon sheep permits for any of the 4 existing hunt areas in unit 14C. 14C, Northeast 14C, Northwest, 14C, Upper Eagle River and 14C Southwest when enough permits are available. If there are less than 5 any weapon sheep permits available to non-residents there will be no second degree of kindred permits issued.

The Dept. shall issue at least one guided non-resident permit in each of the 4 existing hunt areas 14C, Northwest, 14C, Northeast, 14C Upper Eagle River and 14C, Southwest when enough permits are available, at least 4, when less than 4 are available the Dept. at its discretion will decide which areas not to issue permits in. If there are no any weapon permits offered to either residents or non-residents in any of these areas the Dept. is not required to issue a non-resident permit.