



Alaska Board of Game

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ALASKA BOARD OF GAME October 19, 2022 - Web Conference Dall's Sheep Informational Meeting

Meeting Summary

The Board of Game (board) met by web conference Wednesday, October 19, 2022, convening at approximately 1:40 p.m. Seven board members were present: Chair Jerry Burnett, Vice-Chair Stosh Hoffman, Al Barrette, Jake Fletcher, Lynn Keogh, James Cooney, and Ruth Cusack.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive a report from the Department of Fish and Game (department) on recent survey and harvest data of Dall's sheep and future management considerations. The information presented by the department included:

- Historical review of sheep populations in Alaska;
- Trends in current hunter participation and harvest;
- Trends in current populations;
- Steps taken to assess horn morphometrics as a management tool
- Research project in the Chugach Mountains to establish baseline demographic information on the sheep population;
- Research project in the Chugach and Talkeetna Mountains to track disease status, pregnancy rates, rates and causes of mortality, and habitat use;
- Information on changing climates, weather events, and potential impact on sheep populations;
- Future research projects including one in the western Brooks Range to investigate factors limiting growth of a non-hunted sheep population and one in the central Brooks Range to examine the potential impacts of full curl harvest; and
- Strategies for biological and allocative/social mitigation.

The board did not take any action. However, member Hoffman gave notice of intent to request a board proposal be generated at the November board meeting, to close sheep hunting in Unit 19C for five years.

All meeting material and the audio recording are available on the Board of Game meeting information webpage at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=10-19-2022&meeting=webconference.

The board adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:15 p.m.