

## **PROPOSAL 84**

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

Change the sheep bag limit in Unit 19C for resident hunters to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every two regulatory years as follows:

One full-curl or larger ram every two regulatory years for residents. Nonresidents are already at one legal ram every four regulatory years. This places a higher priority on shooting mature aged rams and lessens the chance of a sub legal ram taken by mistake. Rams “close” to legal will be passed over and saved for the next season when they are obviously of age and legal hence giving them at least one more season of mating to help the population.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The harvesting of sublegal rams. While the bulk of the sheep population issue is weather and predator related. An issue that we can help is the taking of sub legal rams. 8 year old, full curl or double broken rams are the statewide professional biologist standard of management. To put more of an emphasis on this and leaving breeding age rams in the population longer therefor putting more sheep on the mountain in the long term. Taking of sub legal or immature rams needs to be placed in a higher priority.

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