

## PROPOSAL 106 AND 107 COMMENTS

These proposals seek to change the regulations in the any ram hunts in units 14A and 13D to the full curl/8 years old or two broken horn tips regulation.

When these any ram hunts were adopted by the Board of Game in 2007, the Department of Fish and Game's stated management goal was to decrease the hunting pressure on the older, mature rams and increase their numbers within the population. It was noted at the time that this would require issuing a smaller number of permits because of the potential for a high harvest rate with the any bag limit. This is how it is still being implemented in the 13D West hunts DS160/DS260 with a total of 10 permits issued, the same number that were issued in 2008, the first year of the hunt. In the Unit 14A hunts the Department of Fish and Game has veered away from this conservative approach and has gone from issuing 40 permits in 2008 to 75 permits each of the last two years. In all of the years under the any ram rule the harvest of sub-full curl rams has exceeded the harvest of full curl rams except in 2010, when 3 of each were harvested. Attached is a summary of the harvest before and after the any ram rule was implemented. You will notice that in 2007, the last year under a full curl general season hunt, there were 18 full curl rams counted in the sheep survey. The Dept. has never counted that many again, with the high number being 16 in 2012. The total ram count in 2007 was 145 and the total in 2014 was 178, with only 13 full curl rams counted. The total harvest in 2014 was 8 full curl and 11 sub-full curl rams. It is clear that the population of full curl/older age class rams has not increased with so many permits being issued, and the Department's management goal of increasing the older ram component is failing.

I believe these 14A and 13D hunts should again be managed under the full curl/8 year or both side broken regulation, with the goal of at least Unit 14A being taken off of the draw hunt management all together and returned to a general hunt in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration of these proposals.

Dan Montgomery

## Daniel Montgomery

**From:** Rinaldi, Todd A (DFG) <todd.rinaldi@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015 5:39 PM  
**To:** Daniel Montgomery (akta@mtaonline.net)  
**Subject:** Sheep Population info 14A  
**Attachments:** Sheep Goat Survey Memo\_2014\_Final.pdf

Hi Dan,

Please let me know if you need anything else. I will be in meetings all day but will check my email at lunch.

Table 1. Unit 14A Dall sheep hunts and harvest, regulatory years 2000 through 2014.

Regulatory Year	Total Permits	Total Hunters	Total Harvest	% Success	Average Length of Longest Horn	Average Age
<i>Pre-Draw</i>						
2002	-	104	20	19%	34.5	8.4
2003	-	103	22	21%	35.9	8.9
2004	-	113	32	28%	36.1	8.5
2005	-	104	29	28%	36.5	8.4
2006	-	125	24	19%	36.1	8.5
2007	-	104	22	21%	35.4	8.6
<i>Post-Draw</i>						
2008	40	17	8	47%	32.8	6.7
2009	40	25	9	36%	28.0	5.9
2010	40	25	6	24%	29.4	6.7
2011	50	42	14	33%	35.0	7.4
2012	50	43	13	30%	32.2	6.8
2013	75	39	18	46%	30.6	6.9
2014	75	49	17	35%	33.4	7.2

Table 2. Unit 14A Dall sheep survey composition results and harvest, regulatory years 2000 through 2014.

Survey Year	Total Rams Observed	≥ Full curl Rams Observed	≥ Full curl Harvested	% Full curl Harvested	Sub-full curl Observed	Sub-full curl Harvested	% Sub-full curl Harvested
1998	218	28	38	136%	190	0	0%
2002	276	19	32	168%	257	0	0%
2006	167	26	35	135%	141	0	0%
2007	145	18	34	189%	127	0	0%
2009	134	8	1	13%	126	8	6%
2010	167	14	3	21%	153	3	2%
2012	177	16	5	31%	161	8	5%
2013	168	11	6	55%	157	8	5%
2014	172	13	8	62%	159	11	7%

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