

RC 085

March 20, 2016

To the members of the Alaska Board of Game:

I am writing in formal opposition not only to Proposal 90 as it is written, but Proposal 90 in principle. I am also writing in formal opposition to [redacted] suggestion that Proposal 90 be passed with a two-year delay on implementation.

Prop 90 is vague, undefined, and overreaching. No efforts were made by Wild Sheep Foundation to contact any domestic sheep or goat owner before writing and submitting this ridiculous proposal. I believe that we livestock owners have shown our willingness to help protect wildlife but expect protection for our livestock as well - not the winner-takes-all mentality that has been demonstrated by WSF.

The 15 air mile restriction is unreasonable given the terrain in most of Alaska. Perhaps, maybe, one mile is reasonable, and only near \*defined\* wild sheep habitat.

To pass Prop 90 now, even with a two-year delay, is to take away our freedom to feed ourselves, and to own private property on private land. Removing domestic sheep and goats from the "clean list" would make them essentially illegal to own, as there is no permitting possible for an animal not on the "clean list."

The two-year delay would solve nothing. It would most assuredly be fully implemented at the end of the two year time frame. WSF could argue at any time that Prop 90 was already on the books and we would have no recourse. Our animals and lifestyles would be at risk. WSF has given us no reason whatsoever to believe they are acting in good faith. [redacted] only met with livestock owners two weeks before the BoG went into session; it was only at the request of livestock owners; and he only allowed two or three livestock owners to be present, so do not believe WSF or [redacted] when they tell you they willingly met with us. Prop 90 was a sneak attack and we are wary now.

Freedoms lost are not regained.

Thank you for your attention,  
Deanna O'Connor  
Nikiski, AK