

# **Northeast Alaska Area Proposals - Units 25A, 25B, 25D, 26B & 26C**

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## **PROPOSAL 77**

### **5 AAC 85.050. Hunting seasons and bag limits for muskoxen.**

Open a resident permit hunt for muskox in Unit 26B as follows:

Reauthorize registration or drawing muskox permits to residents only for Unit 26B.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Reauthorize registration or drawing muskox permits to residents only for Unit 26B.

**PROPOSED BY:** Nicholas Muche

(EG-F19-090)

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*Note: This proposal is also scheduled for the Western Arctic/Western Region meeting as Proposal 28.*

## **PROPOSAL 78**

### **5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.**

Eliminate the registration caribou permit RC907 and general season caribou harvest ticket requirement for North Slope residents as follows:

We would like the Board of Game to rescind RC907 and harvest ticket requirements for North Slope resident hunters because residents of Unit 23 (Point Hope), Unit 24B (Anaktuvuk Pass), and Unit 26A, B, and C currently already report their caribou harvest to the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management. Most people on the North Slope are very hesitant to report their harvest to agencies that are outside of their region. Because of this, the data that the department receives is poor and of little use for management purposes.

Possible language could include a sentence similar to one in the 2016-2017 Hunting Regulations on page 14. This language would read something like: "If you reside in the North Slope Borough and hunt caribou in Unit 23 north of including Singoalik River drainage or in Unit 24B including Contact Creek south to the confluence of the Ekokpuk drainage with the John River, or in Unit 26 A, B, or C neither a harvest ticket nor registration permit is required."

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** RC907 and harvest ticket requirements for residents of portions of Unit 23 (Point Hope) and Unit 24B (Anaktuvuk Pass) and Unit 26 A, B, and C are not resulting in the collection of good caribou harvest data. The North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management (DWM) already successfully collects that information. The DWM traveled to all of the communities on the North Slope and held public meetings during which the residents overwhelmingly supported the DWM to continue to collect harvest data rather than using state harvest tickets or registration permits.

**PROPOSED BY:** North Slope Fish & Game Advisory Committee

(EG-F19-060)

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**PROPOSAL 79**

**5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.**

In Unit 26B Remainder, modify the resident season and bag limit for caribou and open a registration permit hunt as follows:

**Increase resident opportunity in Unit 26B Remainder:** Allow a higher (four) bull-only bag limit; lengthen season from **July 1** [AUGUST 1] – April 30; consider some limited (registration) cow harvests after August 15.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** During the last Interior/NE Alaska Region cycle, due to a sudden decline of the Central Arctic caribou herd (CAH) from ~50,000 animals to ~22,000 animals, ADF&G recommended reducing seasons and bag limits to allow the herd to recover the CAH is an identified big game prey population under our Intensive Management statutes and was now well below the low end of the population objectives of 28,000 – 32,000 animals.

The Board of Game drastically reduced seasons and bag limits for all hunters, and since that time the resident take has gone from 403 in 2016 to 71 in 2018. This is the last general season caribou hunt along the road system in the state, and participation is severely dropping. The CAH is designated as important for high levels of consumption by Alaskans, but the onerous regulations have reduced resident participation far below what was needed. In fact, for two years now, nonresidents have taken more Central Arctic caribou than Alaskans.

This area, even with the low herd numbers, has an allowable harvest of 680 bulls. Allowable harvest is NOT being met. There were 230 total bulls taken in 2017 and only 149 in 2018. This is leaving much opportunity of the tables of Alaskans.

**PROPOSED BY:** Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee

(EG-F19-106)

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**PROPOSAL 80**

**5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.**

In Unit 26B Remainder, modify the resident season and bag limit for caribou; open a resident registration permit hunt; and change the nonresident general season hunt to a registration permit as follows:

**Increase resident opportunity in Unit 26B Remainder:**

Residents **5 bulls** [2 BULLS] **July 1 – April 30** [AUG. 1 – APRIL 30]

Allocate a certain limited resident only cow harvest after August 15<sup>th</sup> with a defined quota based on Department of Fish and Game (department) analysis:

**Residents 1 cow by registration permit Aug 15 -March 30, report within 5 days of harvest, no more than 5 caribou total may be taken**

What we are trying to accomplish with this proposal is what should have happened at the last Region III (Interior and Eastern Arctic Region) meeting, and what we believe would have happened if the new language in Alaska Statute 16.05.256 was in place; ensuring that resident opportunity for the allowable harvest is fully realized.

The department will have to look at these new proposed bag limits and season dates, along with lost caribou hunting opportunity for the Nelchina herd, to come up with a projection of what the resident participation and harvest rates may be. We don't want to go over the current allowable harvest; we want the herd to recover. But we want residents to have increased opportunity to achieve the allowable harvest.

In conjunction with this expansion of resident opportunity, we want to decrease the nonresident opportunity in Unit 26B Remainder so that nonresidents harvest no more than 10% of the total harvest.

**Set a quota for nonresident harvests based on department projections of resident harvests, so nonresidents take no more than 10 percent of the total harvest, and close hunt when quota is met:**

Nonresidents: 1 bull **by registration permit available online August 1- September 15, report within 5 days of harvest**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?**

**Resident Hunting Opportunities for the Central Arctic Caribou herd.**

At the last Region III Board of Game (board) meeting, due to a severe decline in the Central Arctic Caribou Herd (CAH) – an identified big game prey population under our Intensive Management (IM) Law important for high levels of human harvest by Alaskans – the board voted to significantly reduce seasons and bag limits for both resident and nonresident hunters.

The CAH population had suddenly and sharply declined to about 23,000 animals, which was below the IM population objective of 28,000 to 32,000 animals. The department recommended a maximum allowable harvest of 580 bulls (no cows) from Unit 26B Remainder, south of 69°30' North, west and east of the haul road and including the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area. The board, during deliberations approved the following changes for Unit 26B Remainder:

Residents **2 bulls** [5 CARIBOU] **Aug 1 – April 30** [JULY 1 – APRIL 30]

Nonresidents **1 bull** [5 CARIBOU] **Aug. 1 – Sept. 15** [JULY 1 – APRIL 30]

The board approved these changes based on department projections that 43 percent of the harvest would be taken by nonresident hunters. Since these changes, however, nonresidents now take the majority of the CAH harvest in Unit 26B Remainder.

This does not at all comply with AS 16.05.255(d) that states “Regulations adopted under (a) of this section must provide that, consistent with the provisions of AS 16.05.258, the taking of moose, deer, elk, and caribou by residents for personal or family consumption has preference over taking by nonresidents.”

Neither did the board conform to AS 16.05.255(e) or AS 16.05.255(f) that speak to when the board significantly reduces seasons and bag limits for residents and when an intensive management program would be instituted for an identified big game prey population whose highest and best use is to feed Alaskans.

This decision by the board to significantly reduce resident opportunities while at the same time allocating such a high percentage of the harvest to nonresidents is what sparked the introduction of Senate Bill 87 in the 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature that would change the language of AS 16.05.256 to require the board when restricting resident hunting opportunities to put nonresidents on some kind of a permit system. SB 87 reads:

**Sec. 16.05.256. Nonresident and nonresident alien permits.**

*Whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of big game so that the opportunity for state residents to take big game can be reasonably satisfied in accordance with sustained yield principles, the Board of Game shall [MAY], through a permit system, limit the taking of big game by nonresidents and nonresident aliens to accomplish that purpose.*

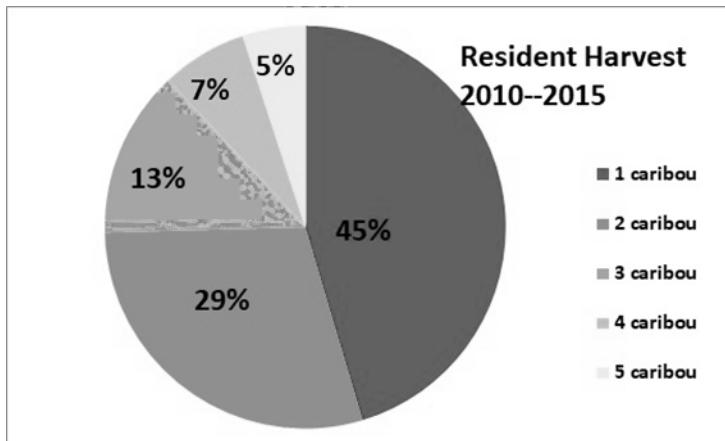
Had this change been in place we believe we would not have the situation we have now where resident hunting opportunities were significantly reduced and it led to nonresidents taking the majority of the harvest of this diminished caribou herd.

Below is harvest data from the department. As it turned out, even though nonresidents now take the majority of the CAH in Unit 26B Remainder, the combined harvests since the reduced seasons and bag limits are under the allowable harvest of 580 caribou for Unit 26B Remainder.

Year	males	females	Total harvest	Total hunters
2010	978	234	1238	1622
2011	814	346	1172	1401
2012	726	275	1007	1430
2013	729	135	868	1462
2014	720	196	916	1433
2015	530	225	756	1256
2016	316	268	585	1063
2017	223	7	230	619
2018Prelim	146	3	149	317

Year	Resident hunters	<b>Resident harvest</b>	Nonresident hunters	<b>Nonresident harvest</b>
2010	1201	953	371	280
2011	1045	935	264	228
2012	1126	773	295	235
2013	1014	530	441	331
2014	987	555	442	358
2015	807	414	449	342
2016	705	403	358	183
2017	348	109	268	118
2018Prelim	181	71	136	78

The graph below illustrates that residents lost 25 percent of their harvest opportunity with the reduction in bag limits from five to two caribou.



Harvest opportunity for residents was also significantly reduced with the reduced season and elimination of any cow harvests.

Essentially, the board reduced resident opportunity so much that for many it was no longer worth the time and expense to drive north and participate in this hunt. We see this in the resident participation rate dropping so much. And the caribou simply are not as prevalent as they were in the past along a certain migration pattern.

It's important in conjunction with this proposal to point out that resident hunters recently lost 4,500 permits available for the Nelchina caribou hunt. Due to a decline in that herd, the 5,000 permits formerly available to resident hunters was reduced to 500 permits. This is the only remaining general season caribou hunt along the road system, and with the significant decline in available Nelchina caribou hunting opportunities, we anticipate many of those 4,500 residents will be looking north to this hunt to put meat in their freezers if residents are given more harvest opportunity.

In these circumstances, where an identified prey population under our 5AAC 92.108 Intensive Management regulations has declined to the point the population is under the minimum population objective, and seasons and bag limits need to be reduced, nonresident hunters should bear the brunt of any restrictions. Nonresidents should not end up taking more than ten percent of the harvest in these situations, regardless of whether the total harvest is under the allowable harvest. Nonresidents should be placed on a permit system that significantly reduces their harvest opportunity until the population has recovered.

**PROPOSED BY:** Resident Hunters of Alaska (EG-F19-131)

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*Note: This proposal is also scheduled for the Western Arctic/Western Region meeting as Proposal 27.*

**PROPOSAL 81**

**5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.**

Increase the nonresident bag limit for caribou in Unit 26 as follows:

I propose reinstating the caribou harvest limit for nonresident hunters in the Game Management Unit 26A, B, and C of the North Slope, from the current harvest limit of one bull to two bulls, as it was prior to 2016.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** As one of the predominant air-taxi operators conducting in these units consistently for over ten years, flying an average of 150 flight hours during the month of August, we have not observed a substantial fluctuation in the caribou numbers. Arrowhead Outfitters, LLC (AOLLC) has observed a drastic decline in the general hunter participation on the Dalton Highway Corridor. Along with a dramatic drop in hunter inquiries and bookings after the harvest limit was decreased to one bull caribou in 2016.

By using the data from the ADF&G area biologist, provided in the table below, the harvest numbers are WELL BELOW ALLOWABLE HARVEST and the current caribou population is stable.

CAH HARVEST Reported harvest from the general harvest ticket:

	males	females	Total harvest	Total hunters
2010	978	234	1238	1622
2011	814	346	1172	1401
2012	726	275	1007	1430
2013	729	135	868	1462
2014	720	196	916	1433
2015	530	225	756	1256
2016	316	268	585	1063
2017	223	7	230	619
2018Prelim	146	3	149	317

	Resident hunters	<u>Resident harvest</u>	Nonresident hunters	<u>Nonresident harvest</u>
2010	1201	953	371	280
2011	1045	935	264	228
2012	1126	773	295	235
2013	1014	530	441	331
2014	987	555	442	358
2015	807	414	449	342
2016	705	403	358	183
2017	348	109	268	118
2018Prelim	181	71	136	78

Prior to 2016, when nonresident hunters were allowed to purchase the second caribou tag, according to ADF&G only 17 percent used the tag. All the nonresident hunters AOLLC has had contact with, would prefer to at LEAST have the option to PURCHASE a second caribou tag. Using ADFG estimated 17 percent additional harvest, THE TOTAL ESTIMATED HARVEST WOULD ONLY BE APPROXIMATELY 50 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST OF 680 CARIBOU.

In conclusion the total harvest by resident and nonresident hunters was 149 caribou for 317 hunters. With a native local harvest estimated at 100 animals for a total harvest of 249 caribou. This is far below the ADF&G allowable harvest of 680 caribou, set by the 2016 population estimate of 22,630 caribou. Please refer to data above. I see no biological data to keep the nonresident hunters in Unit 26 to the one caribou limit, and respectfully request that the ADF&G to reinstate the possibility of nonresident hunters to purchase two bull caribou licenses in the 2020 hunting season.

Thank you for your consideration to this important matter

**PROPOSED BY:** Howard Tieden (HQ-F19-146)

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**PROPOSAL 82**

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

**5 AAC 92.530(X). Management areas.**

Establish the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area in Unit 25A, open a new resident and nonresident drawing hunt for sheep within the area, and change the bag limit for the resident registration permit, RS595 as follows;

Establish a new hunt area akin to the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area (State AVSMA) as described in Federal Subsistence Regulations: The Arctic Village Sheep Management Area consists of that portion of Unit 25A north and west of Arctic Village, which is bounded on the east by the East Fork Chandalar River beginning at the confluence of Red Sheep Creek and proceeding southwesterly downstream past Arctic Village to the confluence with Crow Nest Creek, continuing

up Crow Nest Creek, through Portage Lake, to its confluence with the Junjik River; then down the Junjik River past Timber Lake and a larger tributary, to a major, unnamed tributary, northwesterly, for approximately six miles where the stream forks into two roughly equal drainages; the boundary follows the easternmost fork, proceeding almost due north to the headwaters and intersects the Continental Divide; the boundary then follows the Continental Divide easterly, through Carter Pass, then easterly and northeasterly approximately 62 miles along the divide to the headwaters of the most northerly tributary of Red Sheep Creek then follows southerly along the divide designating the eastern extreme of the Red Sheep Creek drainage then to the confluence of Red Sheep Creek and the East Fork Chandalar River.

Change the harvest limit for the winter season in the Chandalar River hunt area from three sheep to one ram with full-curl horn or larger by permit. Establish a draw permit hunt for residents and nonresidents within the newly established hunt area, State AVSMA. Proposed harvest limits within the state AVSMA are one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years. (See regulatory language below).

Unit 25A – Sheep				
R	East of Middle Fort of Chandalar River, <b><u>excluding the AVSMA</u></b>	One ram with full-curl horn or larger. Youth hunt only.	HT	Aug 1 – Aug 5
R		One ram with full-curl horn or larger.	HT	Aug 10 – Sept 20
R		[THREE SHEEP] <b><u>One ram with full-curl horn or larger</u></b> by permit.	RS595	Oct 1 – Apr 30
N		One ram with full-curl horn or larger every 4 regulatory years.	HT	Aug 10 – Sept 20
<b><u>R</u></b>	<b><u>Arctic Village Sheep Management Area</u></b>	<b><u>One ram with full-curl horn or larger. Youth hunt only.</u></b>	<b><u>HT</u></b>	<b><u>Aug 1 – Aug 5</u></b>
<b><u>R</u></b>		<b><u>One ram with full-curl horn or larger every 4 regulatory years by permit.</u></b>	<b><u>DSXXX</u></b>	<b><u>Aug 10 – Sept 20</u></b>
<b><u>R</u></b>		<b><u>One ram with full-curl horn or larger every 4 regulatory years by permit.</u></b>	<b><u>RS595</u></b>	<b><u>Oct 1 – Apr 30</u></b>
<b><u>N</u></b>		<b><u>One ram with full-curl horn or larger every 4 regulatory years by permit.</u></b>	<b><u>DSXXX</u></b>	<b><u>Aug 10 – Sept 20</u></b>

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) would like to address sheep hunting in Unit 25A, specifically in the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area (AVSMA). The Council intends for this proposal to become a joint effort between the State Board of Game, the Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) and Arctic Village residents to find a workable solution to a historically contentious issue and build mutual respect between parties. The Council views this as a placeholder proposal and will further discuss this proposal at their fall 2019 meeting and will submit additional comments to the Alaska Board of Game by the February 21, 2020, deadline. Below is a brief



history of the AVSMA, including recent events at the 2018 Federal Subsistence Board meeting, which led to the development of this proposal.

In 1991, the FSB established the AVSMA in Unit 25A in response to local hunter (residents of Arctic Village, Venetie, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik, and Chalkyitsik) concerns that sport hunters interfered with sheep hunting by federally qualified subsistence users and because of low sheep densities in the area. Generally, the AVSMA included the area between Crow Nest and Cane Creeks, west of the East Fork Chandalar River to the Continental Divide and is entirely within Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The effect of the AVSMA was a closure to sheep hunting within its boundaries except by federally qualified subsistence users. In 1995, the FSB expanded the northeast portion of the AVSMA to include the entire drainages of Cane Creek and Red Sheep Creek.

In 2006, the FSB approved a special action to open the Red Sheep and Cane Creek drainages within the AVSMA to non-federally qualified users for the 2006/07 regulatory year from August 10 through September 20, 2006 because a survey conducted in June 2006 by ANWR personnel indicated no conservation concerns for the area and that sheep abundance could support increased harvest. In 2007, the FSB permanently lifted the closure under federal regulations from August 10 through September 20. These actions resulted in state regulations once again being applicable in the Cane and Red Sheep Creek drainages of the AVSMA, allowing non-federally qualified users to hunt sheep in this area.

In 2012, the Eastern Interior Council requested that the FSB close Cane Creek and Red Sheep Creek drainages to the harvest of sheep by non-federally qualified users from August 10 through September 20. The Council said the proposal enhanced the ability of the residents of Arctic Village to pursue subsistence opportunities and might reduce incidents of trespass and resource damage. The Council said it was compelled by extensive and detailed public testimony and that subsistence users were concerned that non-federally qualified users were interfering with subsistence hunts. The FSB then re-closed the entire drainages of Cane Creek and Red Sheep Creek, and they have remained closed along with the remainder of the AVSMA.

The FSB considered Proposal WP18-56 to reopen the AVSMA at its April 2018 meeting. FSB members considered deferring the proposal to work with ADF&G on submitting an agenda change request in November 2018 to the Alaska Board of Game to modify the state's hunt structure for sheep in Unit 25A. FSB members expressed concern that current state regulations for sheep in Unit 25A are fairly aggressive (three sheep harvest limit and harvest ticket hunts that do not limit hunter numbers). FSB members considered other options such as a state draw permit hunt that could limit hunter numbers, which could make opening the AVSMA to non-federally qualified users more acceptable to Arctic Village residents and other federally qualified subsistence users.

While the FSB ended up opposing WP18-56 for the continuation of subsistence uses in 2018, the intention of this proposal is to start the process of making state regulations more acceptable to federally qualified subsistence users by averting a large influx of hunters into the AVSMA if the federal closure is lifted in the future. This could facilitate the opening of the AVSMA to all users. The Council believes removing the three sheep harvest limit and establishing a draw hunt would limit the sheep harvest and number of hunters in the AVSMA if the federal closure was lifted.

The Alaska Board of Game has previously addressed this issue by requiring sheep hunters in this area to complete a department approved hunter ethics and orientation course, including land status and trespass information (5 AAC 92.003(i)). This provision has not been implemented; however, because the area has not been open to hunting under state regulations. The Council hopes this proposal will encourage the Alaska Board of Game to develop this hunter ethics and orientation course.

The FSB and ADF&G representatives expressed willingness to work together on this issue at the April 2018 FSB meeting. ADF&G representatives reiterated their willingness to work with the FSB at the Council's 2019 winter meeting. The Council also plans to engage Arctic Village residents to make this a truly cooperative effort.

**Other Alternatives Considered:**

The Council discussed requiring horn destruction to promote subsistence rather than sport/trophy hunting in the area.

The Council discussed and passed a motion to write a letter to Arctic Village to engage residents in the conversation and in developing an acceptable solution. The Council's Chair is considering a visit to Arctic Village to start a dialog with the residents.

The Council formed a working group at its winter 2019 meeting to work on this proposal. The working group discussed removing the youth hunt from the proposed AVSMA regulations as it has potential for abuse and overharvest.

The Council is currently working on a hunter ethics and education initiative, and the working group considered coordinating the AVSMA hunter orientation course with the Council's hunter ethics initiative.

The working group also thought of eliminating the winter hunts completely as no other area in the state has a state winter sheep hunt.

**PROPOSED BY:** Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (EG-F19-139)  
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**PROPOSAL 83**

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

Modify the bag limit for sheep in the RS595 hunt in Unit 26C as follows:

**Change the RS595 hunt stipulations to match the RS380 language for rams.**

RS595 Three sheep by permit available online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> or in person in Fairbanks and Kaktovik beginning September 13, **however rams must be 3/4 curl horn or smaller, excluding rams with both horn tips broken.** The use of aircraft for access to hunt sheep and to transport harvested sheep is prohibited in this hunt except into and out of Arctic Village and Kaktovik airports. No motorized access from the Dalton Highway.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** RS595 subsistence sheep hunt, Unit 26C. In recent years, this hunt is being taken advantage of by those looking for a trophy ram, who can fly to Kaktovik and rent snow machines to access sheep country. It is legal also for a hunter who harvests a ram in the fall hunt to participate in this subsistence hunt.

Many don't believe it was the Board of Game's intent to allow this; there is a similar subsistence hunt in Unit 19 (RS380) with the same season dates October 1 – April 30, and for that hunt the board has stipulated that any rams must be ¾ curl horn or smaller. The rationale for this ¾ curl or smaller when the RS380 hunt was passed by the board was that we did not want to take legal rams out of the population that would otherwise be available for the fall general hunt. The same rationale should apply for the RS595 hunt.

**PROPOSED BY:** Leonard Jewkes (EG-F19-123)

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### **PROPOSAL 84**

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

Extend the sheep season in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area within Units 24A, 25A, and 26B as follows:

Extending the season from September 20 – October 5 would provide additional opportunity for residents and nonresidents to hunt in a bow only area. This hunt would not help meet harvest objectives, this special opportunity would be an allocative issue, and it would provide additional opportunity to residents and nonresidents by extending their season (guides would be able to book additional hunts). Under full curl regulations the populations of legal rams could handle the additional harvest, with less than 1% (according to the department on the success rate of archers over the past ten years in general season Dall sheep hunts) archery success rate for all sheep in general areas, archers will not affect the breeding populations of sheep. Overharvest would not be an issue with limited success rate, and the regulation would be for the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area only.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Provide more special opportunities for Dall sheep hunters in the State of Alaska. There is continued user conflicts with user groups who prefer different weapons. Rifle/ muzzleloader hunters are out shooting/competing archers in general season Dall sheep hunts. Extending the Dall sheep general season in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area, an archery only area, would alleviate some user conflict and give more opportunity to residents and nonresidents. There are always legal rams that are not harvested in every range every year. This can be seen in the sealing data as there are always sheep over the age of eight that are harvested. Overharvest with limited success of archery equipment, and with current archery only area regulation in effect for these units, would not occur.

**PROPOSED BY:** Austin Manelick (EG-F19-065)

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**PROPOSAL 85**

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

Open an archery only registration sheep hunt in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area in Units 24A, 25A, and 26B as follows:

Open an archery only registration hunt September 20 – October 5, managed by ADF&G by emergency order. Or open the archery only registration hunt September 25 – October 5, managed by ADF&G by emergency order. This would provide additional opportunity for residents and nonresidents to hunt in a bow only area. This hunt would not help meet harvest objectives, this special opportunity would be an allocative issue, and it would provide additional opportunity to residents and nonresidents by extending their season (guides would be able to book additional hunts). Under full curl regulations the populations of legal rams could handle the additional harvest, with less than 1% (according to ADF&G on the success rate of archers over the past ten years in general season Dall sheep hunts) archery success rate for all sheep in general areas, archers will not affect the breeding populations of sheep. Overharvest would not be an issue with limited success rate, and the regulation would be for the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area only. This proposal would simply give hunters another opportunity to hunt sheep after the season elsewhere around the state have closed. With very limited success with archery equipment, this hunt would not affect the herd population at all.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Provide more special opportunities for Dall sheep hunters in the State of Alaska. There is continued user conflicts with user groups who prefer different weapons. Rifle/muzzleloader hunters are out shooting/competing archers in general season Dall sheep hunts. Opening a registration Dall sheep hunt in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area, an archery only area, would alleviate some user conflict and give more opportunity to residents and nonresidents. This hunt would open up more time for archers to choose when they can go on the hunt and give guides more opportunity to book clients. There are always legal rams that are not harvested in every range every year. This can be seen in the sealing data as there are always sheep over the age of eight that are harvested every. Overharvest, with limited success of archery equipment and with current archery only area regulation in effect for these Units, would not occur.

**PROPOSED BY:** Austin Manelick (EG-F19-066)  
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