PROPOSAL 112

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

Establish a general sheep hunting season, open for take by bow and arrow only in Unit 15 Remainder as follows:

General Season

15

Unit 15. Remainder

Nonresidents

Bag limit: One ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years

Season dates: Aug. 10 – Sept. 20

<u>OR</u>

One ram with full-curl horn or larger by bow and arrow only every four regulatory years Season dates: Sept. 21 – Oct. 5

Hunt requires harvest ticket General Season

15

Unit 15, Remainder

Residents only

Bag limit: One ram with full-curl horn or larger

Season dates: Aug 10 – Sept 20

OR

One ram with full-curl horn or larger by bow and arrow only every four regulatory years Season dates: Sept. 21 – Oct. 5

Hunt requires harvest ticket

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Adding additional hunting days to the general season and restricting them to archery equipment would greatly add to hunter opportunity, while also keeping the impact on the resource to a minimum. Harvest rates for bowhunters are much lower than those who use firearms, which creates a valuable opportunity for hunters to enjoy more time in the field without necessarily expecting to take an animal. This hunt would proceed the current general season which, combined with the already existing full curl requirements and limits of archery equipment, would add to the difficulty in harvest and limit impact on sheep populations. This hunt would most likely only result in the taking of a couple of rams per year if any at all.